

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *133

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 28th JULY, 2023

PROMOTION OF HINDI IN SC AND HCs

†*133. **SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI :**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:-

- a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to promote the use of Hindi in the High Courts (HCs) and the Supreme Court (SC);
- b) the details of various instructions issued by the Government for the use of Hindi in issuing judicial decisions and the number of decisions given by the Courts in Hindi during the last five years;
- c) whether despite so many instructions of the Government, Hindi has not got the desired place in the High Courts and other courts; and
- d) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY
OF CULTURE

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *133 DUE FOR ANSWER ON
28.07.2023.**

(a) & (b): Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution of India states that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court, shall be in English language. Article 348 (2) of the Constitution of India states that the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of Hindi Language, or any other language used for any official purposes of the State, in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State.

Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963 states that the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of Hindi or the official language of the State, in addition to the English Language, for the purposes of any judgment, decree or order passed or made by the High Court for that State and where any judgment, decree or order is passed or made in any such language (other than the English Language), it shall be accompanied by a translation of the same in the English Language issued under the authority of the High Court.

The details of number of judgements given in Hindi is not maintained centrally.

(c) & (d):The Cabinet Committee's decision dated 21.05.1965 has stipulated that consent of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India be obtained on any proposal relating to use of a language other than English in the High Court.

The use of Hindi in the proceedings of High Court of Rajasthan was authorized under Article 348(2) of the Constitution in 1950. After the Cabinet Committee's decision dated 21.05.1965 as mentioned above, the use of Hindi was authorized in the High Courts of Uttar Pradesh (1969), Madhya Pradesh (1971) and Bihar (1972) in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
