

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2045**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST AUGUST, 2023/ SRAVANA 10, 1945 (SAKA)

INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE

2045. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the people and the Government of Meghalaya has demanded that the Khasi language be included in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution and if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to include more languages in the Eight Schedule and if so, the details and the number of languages; and

(c) the number of citizens speaking Mizo language?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) and (b): There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several Indian languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution including Khasi. However, there are no fixed criteria for consideration of any language for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The attempt to fix such criteria through Pahwa and Sitakant Mohapatra Committees have remained inconclusive. As the evolution of dialects and languages is a dynamic process, influenced by socio-cultural, economic and political developments, it is difficult to fix any criterion for languages

for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The Government is conscious of the sentiments and requirements for inclusion of other languages in the Eighth Schedule. Such requests have to be considered keeping in mind these sentiments, and the other relevant considerations.

(c): As per available information in the 2011 census report, the total number of Mizo speaking people in India are 8,30,846.
