Government of India Ministry of Law & Justice Department of Legal Affairs

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 449 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 21st JULY, 2023

Use of Hindi and Regional languages in Legal Education

449. Shri Unmesh Bhaiyyasaheb Patil:

Dr.Heena Vijaykumar Gavit:

Dr. Sujay Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil:

Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi:

Dr. Krishna Pal Singh Yadav:

Dr.Shrikant Eknath Shinde:

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

- a) whether the Government proposes to undertake any steps to promote the use of Hindi and other regional languages in legal education;
- b) if so, the details of the progress on the digitization of a legal glossary in various Indian languages;
- c) the details of the progress on the Government's initiative to identify frequently used words in the legal documents and creating a transitive vocabulary/common core vocabulary by coining words from common roots which would be adaptable by all the Indian languages; and
- d) whether the Government plans to employ institutes and professionals to translate legal terminology into regional languages and if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b): The Department of Higher Education has informed that the National Education Policy, 2020 in its para 20.4 *inter-alia* states that the curricula for legal studies must reflect socio-cultural contexts along with, in an evidence-based manner, the history

of legal thinking, principles of justice, the practice of jurisprudence, and other related content appropriately and adequately. State institutions offering law education must consider offering bilingual education for future lawyers and judges - in English and in the language of the State in which the institution is situated. In this regard, a committee under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Justice of India (Retd.) Shri S.A. Bobde has also been constituted by the Bar Council of India (BCI) to recommend measures to enhance the use of Hindi and other Regional languages in legal education.

Also, the Ministry of Law and Justice is promoting use of Hindi and other regional languages. A glossary of 65000 legal terms in Hindi has been compiled and is available to the public in a searchable format on an online platform.

(c) and (d): The Ministry of Law and Justice has in addition put on its website a translation of newly added words and expressions, besides glossary related to custom and excise duties, words used in jurisprudence. To simplify the ease of understanding of Arabic and Persian words used in Indian laws, the Ministry has also placed on its website Hindi equivalents of such words, besides Latin-Hindi glossary of words with English translation, used in law.