

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1596

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021

Promotion of Hindi Language in Courts

+1596. SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:

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

- (a) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to promote Hindi in the Courts;
- (b) the guidelines laid down by the Government to promote Hindi as the local language in the functioning of the courts;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make the judgements issued by the High Courts and the Supreme Court mandatory available in local and Hindi language; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) and (b): Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Use of regional language in lower courts is a subject matter of States.

Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution states that proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court, shall be in English language. Clause (2) of the Article 348 of the Constitution states that notwithstanding anything in sub-clause (a) of clause (1), the Governor of a State may, with the previous

consent of the President, authorize the use of the 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.

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 proceedings in the High Court of Rajasthan was authorized under clause (2) of Article 348 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.

(c) and (d): At present, judgments in twelve vernacular languages are being translated and uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court of India. The twelve languages are: Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Nepali, Malyalam and Punjabi. The translation of judgments relates to cases arising under the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India in relation to the following subject categories:

1. Labour matters;
2. Rent Act matters;
3. Land Acquisition and Requisition matters;
4. Service matters;
5. Compensation matters;
6. Criminal matters;
7. Family Law matters;
8. Ordinary Civil matters;
9. Personal Law matters;
10. Religious and Charitable Endowments matters;
11. Simple money and Mortgage Matters;
12. Eviction under the Public Premises (Eviction) Act matters;
13. Land Laws and Agriculture Tenancies; and
14. Matters relating to Consumer Protection.

