GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2239
ANSWERED ON - 05/08/2024

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTIONS IN INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

✝ 2239 Shri Ajay Bhatt:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medium of instructions in most of the higher education courses are in English, due to which rural students are deprived of higher and technical education and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of courses of higher education in which the medium of instructions are Hindi and regional languages;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to make the Hindi and regional languages medium in medical colleges and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs); and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d) : The National Education Policy, 2020 lays lot of stress on promoting multilingualism and making efforts to keep Indian languages vibrant. NEP provides, wherever possible, for medium of instruction to be in the home language/ mother tongue/ local language/ regional language upto at least class 5 and preferably upto class 8. The policy also provides for making available high quality text books in home language/ mother tongue and encouraging teachers to use bilingual approach while teaching. In order to achieve this objective the Government is integrating multilingualism at school and higher education levels by providing reading materials in Indian languages so that students have the

choice to study in their mother tongue/local language. NEP-2020 places strong emphasis leveraging technology for strengthening various facets of education including preserving and promoting the nation's diverse linguistic heritage/diversity. Higher Educational Institutions are free to impart education through any language as per needs and local condition. For leveraging technology for Bharatiya Bhashas, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is running a Bhasha Sangam programme as also a Machine Translation Cell which is translating various books into the scheduled languages. Course material including text books and teaching resource are available on Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) portal in 33 Indian Languages. In order to further facilitate education through Indian languages, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has also asked its affiliated schools to consider using Indian languages, as enumerated in the Schedule 8 of the Indian Constitution, as the medium of instruction from Foundational state till end of Secondary stage i.e. from pre-primary classes till class XII as an optional medium in addition to other existing options. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and University Grants Commission (UGC) have leveraged Anuvadini App to translate books for Under Graduate and Post Graduate courses and Technical books like engineering and law in multiple Indian languages. The translated books are available on e-KUMBH portal. UGC and AICTE have issued guidelines for preparation of text books and supporting the teaching-learning process in the mother tongue/local languages. Technical education is being imparted in certain AICTE approved institutions in various languages which is at Annexure. ASMITA (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing) is a new initiative by University Grants Commission (UGC) towards promotion of Indian languages in Higher Educational Institutions.   National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) has been conducted in 13 languages. Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) is now conducted in 13 languages.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) has launched Mission Digital India Bhashini in the year 2022 to develop core language technologies for speech and text translation for 22 Scheduled Indian languages in the open source. The Bhashini open Application Programming Interface (APIs) for language translation in text and voice have been listed on API Setu (https://apisetu.gov.in). Bhashini APIs are available for anyone to integrate with any application.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2239 ANSWERED ON 5.8.2024 ASKED BY SHRI AJAY BHATT, HON'BLE M.P. REGARDING "MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTIONS IN INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION"

Technical Education imparted in AICTE Institutions in various languages: -

Languages	ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY			MANAGEMENT			MCA	Total
	DIPLOMA	UNDER GRADUATE	Total	POST GRADUATE	UNDER GRADUATE	Total	UNDER GRADUATE	
Gujarati		1	1					1
Hindi	1	16	17				2	19
Kannada		2	2		1	1	1	4
Marathi	3	4	7	1		1		8
Tamil	7	2	9					9
Telugu		2	2				1	3
Total	11	27	38	1	1	2	4	44