

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2142
ANSWERED ON - 09/12/2024

PROMOTION OF INDIAN LANGUAGES

† 2142 Shri Chavda Vinod Lakhmshi:
Shri Jugal Kishore:
Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey :
Shri Shankar Lalwani :
Shri Janardan Mishra :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken by the Government to ensure effective utilization of capacity building funds by different Ministries for promotion of Indian languages; and
- (b) the special programmes or partnerships launched/established by the Government to support the creation of literature and educational material in different Indian languages?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) & (b): The National Education Policy, 2020 mandates promotion of multilingualism and making efforts to keep Indian languages vibrant. NEP focuses on the promotion of all scheduled and non-scheduled Indian Languages and provides, wherever possible, for medium of instruction to be in the home language/mother tongue/local language up to at least class 5 and preferably up to 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 pursuance of recommendations of NEP, various stakeholders including University Grants Commission (UGC), All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) have been instructed, for creation of literature and education materials in different languages for medium of instructions in mother tongue/Indian Languages. Various Central Government Ministries and their autonomous bodies have been suggested to explore the possibilities of using their capacity building funds for promotion of

Indian languages in their respective domains to create Indian language driven ecosystem for youth to transition from education space to work place and from there to the realisation of their aspirations.

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is running a Bhasha Sangam programme as also Machine Translation cell which is translating various books into the scheduled 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 stage 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 including technical books in multiple Indian languages. The translated books are available on e-KUMBH portal. National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) and Common University Entrance Test (CUET) have been conducted in 13 languages. Engineering education is being imparted in certain AICTE approved institutions in 8 regional languages. Course material including text books and teaching resources are available on Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) portal in 33 Indian 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.
