

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2473**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 19, 1946  
(SAKA)**

**INCLUSION OF LANGUAGES IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE**

**2473. SHRI MOHMAD HANEEFA:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the inclusion of Bhoti and Purik languages in the Eighth Schedule of Indian Constitution, has been a very long pending and genuine demand of the people of Ladakh:**

**(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to include Bhoti and Purik, two important languages of Ladakh, in the eighth Schedule any time soon; and**

**(c) If so, the time by which the said languages are likely to be included in the eighth Schedule?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c): There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages, including Bhoti, in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. However, there are no fixed criteria for consideration of any language for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. 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 earlier attempts, through the Pahwa (1996) and Sitakant Mohapatra (2003) Committees, to evolve such fixed criteria have been inconclusive. 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. Since at present there are no fixed criteria for any language to be considered for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, no time-frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.**

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