

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *118**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025/ MAGHA 22, 1946 (SAKA)

INCLUSION OF LANGUAGES IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE

***118. SHRI BALRAM NAIK PORIKA:
SMT. MAHIMA KUMARI MEWAR:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to include more languages in the Eighth Schedule and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to include Gorboli and Rajasthani languages in the eighth Schedule; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *118 FOR 11.02.2025

(a) to (c): At present, 22 languages are included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. These are: (1) Assamese, (2) Bengali, (3) Gujarati, (4) Hindi, (5) Kannada, (6) Kashmiri, (7) Konkani, (8) Malayalam, (9) Manipuri, (10) Marathi, (11) Nepali, (12) Oriya, (13) Punjabi, (14) Sanskrit, (15) Sindhi, (16) Tamil, (17) Telugu, (18) Urdu (19) Bodo, (20) Santhali, (21) Maithili and (22) Dogri.

There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages, including Gorboli and Rajasthani, 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.
