

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1109
ANSWERED ON - 10/02/2025

SAURASHTRA LANGUAGE IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES

1109. Dr. Ganapathy Rajkumar P :

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Centre for Excellence for Saurashtra language in any Central University;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to develop linguistic minority languages in the centre; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : There is no proposal to set up Centre of Excellence for Saurashtra language in any central Universities, at present. As per census, Saurashtra/ Saurashtri is a mother tongue grouped under the language name Gujarati. The policy of the Government of India is to promote all languages including Saurashtra language. 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. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru which works for all Scheduled/ Non-Scheduled languages uploaded Tamil-Saurashtri materials in its Bharatavani portal.
