

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3806**  
**ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

**Third Language in NEP**

3806. Shri Matheswaran V S:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 it is mandatory for the States to have third language who have Hindi as their First Language, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of options of third language in the States like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
**(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)**

(a) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, *inter-alia*, at para 4.13, provides that the three-language formula will continue to be implemented while keeping in mind the Constitutional provisions, aspirations of the people, regions, and the Union, and the need to promote multilingualism as well as promote national unity. However, there will be a greater flexibility in the three-language formula, and no language will be imposed on any State. The three languages learned by children will be the choices of States, regions, and of course the students themselves, so long as at least two of the three languages are native to India. In particular, students who wish to change one or more of the three languages they are studying may do so in Grade 6 or 7, as long as they are able to demonstrate basic proficiency in three languages (including one language of India at the literature level) by the end of secondary school.

(b) The details of third language in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are as under:

Sl.No.	States	Third Language
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Urdu/Sanskrit
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Sanskrit, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi or Marathi
3.	Bihar	Urdu/Sanskrit

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