

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2016**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025/ PHALGUNA 20, 1946 (SAKA)**

**INCLUSION OF 'HO' LANGUAGE IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE**

**†2016. SMT. JOBA MAJHI:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has any proposal to inclusion of 'Ho' language in the Eighth schedule of the Constitution;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof and time by which it is likely to be included and if not, the reasons therefor;**

**(c) whether the Government has received recommendation from the Odisha and Jharkhand Governments for this purpose as the People of the Ho community have been demanding this for many years; and**

**(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be included and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d): There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages, including Ho, 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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