

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3002  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003  
PROPAGATION OF INDIAN LANGUAGES ABROAD  
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

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

- (a) whether the South African Government is planning to remove Indian languages viz., Tamil, Telugu, Gujarati etc. from the curriculum as reported in the Hindu dated June 25, 2003;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the matter has been taken up with the concerned authorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government propose to take effective steps for the propagation of Indian languages abroad particularly where PIOs live in large number; and
- (f) if so, the details in this regard ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) South Africa has officially announced that due to low enrolment rates and inadequate funding, some languages like Urdu, Tamil, Gujarati, Hindi and Hebrew may be discontinued from the curriculum.
- (c) & (d) Currently concerned organisation of persons of Indian Origin in South Africa and the South African Government are discussing how to support continued teaching of Indian Languages.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) Central Board of Secondary Education has set up an International Cell and decided to start accreditation courses in selected Indian languages and Indian Culture specifically designed for the Indian Diaspora. Makhan Lal Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita Vishwa Vidyalaya has offered to explore the possibility of establishing their campuses in Africa and South East Asia for the Diaspora in Language Study and Communication.