

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2590
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006
PROMOTION OF LANGUAGES
Appadurai Shri M.;Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to include Awadhi Language in the eight schedule;
- (b) if so, the measures taken/being taken by the government to promote Awadhi as well as Tribal Languages;
- (c) whether the committee set up to evolve criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule has given its report;
- (d) if so, the details of the report;
- (e) whether the Government also propose to subsidy production of feature film in Tribal Languages as a means of protecting the language; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): A Committee was set up under Shri Sitakant Mohapatra to evolve a set of objective criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule. The Committee has submitted its report and recommended the following criteria :-

- (i) whether the language concerned is spoken by a substantial number of speakers with the number increasing decennially;
- (ii) whether it is already in use as a Medium of Instruction in at least up to school education and preferably in the Universities.
- (iii) whether it has been put to writing for a period of 50 years or more - whatever be the script, its own or the regional language script or the Devanagari etc;
- (iv) whether the Sahitya Akademi promotes literary activities in the language.
- (v) whether it is spoken in a geographically contiguous area where it also acts as a link language evidenced by its place in the Census bilingualism table as a second language.

The Committee also recommended that the Eighth Schedule be frozen for at least a period of thirty years from now and all representations be considered only after the first Census report after the year, 2035 is available. A view on the recommendations is yet to be taken and accordingly decision on the pending demands for inclusion of languages in the Eighth Schedule, including Awadhi, will be taken thereafter.

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore, undertakes several programmes for the promotion of Indian Languages. The Institute has not undertaken any work on Awadhi Language so far. The Institute has studied the tribal & border languages in the country and based on linguistic studies, material such as grammar, dictionary, phonetic reader, report on dialect survey, instruction material, teacher's handbook and video taped teaching/learning material are developed.

(e) & (f) : The National Film Development Corporation, inter alia, finances films in various languages after examining the scripts. However, there is no specific Scheme for subsidizing production of films in any language.