

**Title:** Demand for inclusion and recognition of the Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): I would like to raise a very important matter. More than three crore population of our country belong to the Santhal community. Irrespective of the State in which they reside, be it West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar or Madhya Pradesh, this three crore tribal population speak Santhali. This language has its own script called Ulchiki which was discovered long back by Pandit Raghunath Murmu. In the year 1980, this particular script was recognised by the Government of West Bengal. There is a persistent demand from this section of the population that Santhali language should be recognised and should be included in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution, just like other languages. I demand that the Constitution should be accordingly amended to enable the inclusion of Santhali language in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Murmu, you can associate yourself with what has been said by Shri Acharia.

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श्री रूपचन्द मुर्मू (झाड़ग्राम) : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, संथाली भाषा में बोलने वाले लोगों की संख्या देश में चार करोड़ से ज्यादा है। केवल संथाल कम्युनिटी के लोग ही नहीं बल्कि अन्य कम्युनिटी के लोग भी इस भाषा में बोलते हैं, समझते हैं। यह भाषा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय भाषा भी है। देश के बाहर बंगलादेश, भूटान और नेपाल में भी संथाल कम्युनिटी के लोग हैं और वहां भी संथाली भाषा बोली और समझी जाती है। आल इंडिया लैबल में इस भाषा की पोनीशन १८ है। इसके साथ इस भाषा का साइंटिफिक डे वलप स्क्रिप्ट भी है जिसको ऊलचीकी कहा जाता है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस भाषा को संविधान के आठवें शैड्यूल में शामिल किया जाये।

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">(Interruptions)

">MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am going according to the list.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): I would also like to associate myself with Shri Acharia and say that it should be included in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution.... (Interruptions)