

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1572
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
USE OF HINDI IN COURTS
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to use Hindi for hearing in the High Courts and Supreme Court;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS

(SHRI RAM JETHMALANI)

(a) to (c):

Article 348(1) of the Constitution provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English until Parliament by law otherwise provides. No law to provide otherwise has been made by the Parliament and all proceeding in the High Courts and in the Supreme Court of India are held in English. Under article 348(2), the Governor of a State may with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of Hindi or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in the State, provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by the High Court shall be in English. Under Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or the official language of a State in addition to English may be authorised with the consent of the President of India by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgements etc. made for the High Courts for that State. The Governors of four States namely; Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorised the use of Hindi in addition to to English language for the High Courts of their States.