

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4979
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010
LINGUISTIC MINORITY IN INDIA
Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of linguistic minority in the country;
- (b) the names of the languages, the speakers of which have been kept under the said category;
- (c) the State-wise, population of the speakers of the these languages; and
- (d) the details of the development schemes for these linguistic minorities and the achievement made therein?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SALMAN KHURSHID)

- (a) `Linguistic Minority` is a State-based concept. The speakers of all languages other than the main official language(s) are linguistic minorities in the State concerned. There are approximately 20,19,95,866 (Twenty crore Nineteen lakh Ninety Five thousand Eight hundred Sixty six) linguistic minorities in the country as per Census 2001.
- (b) The names of 122 identified Indian languages (22 Scheduled and 100 Non Scheduled languages, having a population of 10,000 or more speakers, as per the Census 2001) which constitute linguistic minority in one or more states, are at Annex-I.
- (c) State-wise population of speakers of these languages is given at Col. 4 of Annex-I I.
- (d) A new scheme for creating awareness of Constitutional safeguards had been posed to the competent authority.