

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4268  
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011  
DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL LANGUAGES  
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan for the development of tribal languages like Santhali, Mundari, Ho and Kurankh etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor including the reasons for not including these languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b) Santhali language was included in the Curriculum of the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CILL), Mysore, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Human Resource Development by way of teaching Santhali to the non-Santhali speakers. Side by side, development of teaching materials and research on the languages were also taken up by the CILL. Mundari, Ho and Kurukh are covered by the Centre for Tribal and Endangered Languages in CILL. Primers, Dictionaries, Grammers and Materials for teaching the primary level were developed by the CILL.

(c) Santhali Language has already been included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India. A Committee was constituted in 2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri Sitakant Mohapatra to evolve a set of objective criteria with reference to which all proposals/representations for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule could be examined and finally disposed of. The Committee submitted its report and made certain recommendations. In a reference, Department of Personnel & Training has informed that UPSC is already facing problems in conducting the examinations in some of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule and they have constituted a High Level Standing committee to examine the modalities for implementing the recommendations of the Parliamentary Resolution in a manner consistent with the high standards of UPSC, for the existing languages in the Eighth Schedule. In view of this, it has been decided to await the report of the High Level Standing Committee and Government decision to be taken thereon after which a fresh assessment of the demands of inclusion of more languages including Mundari, Ho and Kurak will be made and a decision on Dr. Sitakant Mohapatra Committee's Report taken.