

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2020

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012

HINDI LANGUAGE IN COURTS

Choudhary Shri Harish;Gorakhnath Shri ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Rama Devi Smt. ;Ramshankar Dr.

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to amend the Constitution of India so as to ensure the working/proceeding of courts,including the decree/judgement/orders by the Supreme Court, High Courts in Hindi only;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to promote Hindi language in the Supreme/High Courts?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) : No, Madam.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) : Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides. Under Article 348(2), the Governor of the State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State, provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English.

Under Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to the English language may be authorized, with the consent of the President of India, by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgments etc. made by the High Court for that State.

No law has since been made in this regard by the Parliament. Therefore, English continues to be the language for all the proceedings of the Supreme Court. However, Registries of the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court have been requested from time to time to encourage use of Hindi in the administrative work.