

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4227
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
HINDI LANGUAGE IN COURTS
Gorakhnath Shri

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

- (a) whether Hindi is not used in High Courts despite being declared the Official Language;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Hindi Salahkar Samiti had decided last year that Hindi or the official language of the State concerned should be used in district and lower courts; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (d) : In pursuance of the provision under Article 348(2) of the Constitution of India, the Governors of four States, namely, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have authorized the use of Hindi in the High Courts of their States.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution, administration of justice is a State subject and the State Government in consultation with its concerned High Court decides all matters concerning operations and setting up of courts including use of Hindi/regional languages in the proceedings of the courts. Generally Hindi and other regional languages are being used in the proceedings of lower courts in the States.

In the meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti, Ministry of Law and Justice, held on 12.09.2011, among other issues, the issue of language used in courts was discussed. Some members had suggested that use of Hindi/Regional languages in all High Courts and subordinate courts should be implemented. But there is no decision to this effect. Moreover, the 18th Law Commission of India in its 216th Report on 'Non-Feasibility of Introduction of Hindi as Compulsory Language in the Supreme Court of India' has, inter-alia, recommended that the higher judiciary should not be subjected to any kind of even persuasive change in the present societal context. The Government in the Department of Official Language, have accepted the recommendation.