

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2749

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016

Development of Sanskrit

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has sought suggestion from Universities regarding development and spread of Sanskrit and Hindi in secondary and higher education and if so, the details thereof including the purpose behind the move and the response of each University in this regard;
- (b) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;
- (c) whether the University Grants Commission has asked the Universities in the States/UTs to prepare a database of teachers engaged in the teaching of Sanskrit to promote the subject and make tests available online and if so, the details and objectives thereof;
- (d) whether the New Education Policy, 1986 underlined the importance of Sanskrit and Hindi and recommended the bridging of gaps between the existing formal educational process and rich Indian culture and if so, the steps being taken by the Government for widespread propagation of Sanskrit and Hindi; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage the study of Sanskrit and Hindi at first and second degree levels in subjects such as Ancient Indian History, Modern Indian Languages, Indology and Indian philosophy?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that it has requested, on 6th January, 2016, the Vice-Chancellors of 18 universities for suggestions and views regarding development and spread of Sanskrit right from the school up to the higher education levels. The UGC letter is at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/2168590_UGC-Notice-regSanskrit0001.pdf. The letter was issued by the UGC in the context of the Ministry setting up an Expert Committee to prepare a road map for wide spread propagation and promotion of Sanskrit for ensuring the development of Sanskrit in the ensuing ten years. The Committee has submitted its report recently.

(c): Yes, Madam. The UGC has informed that it had sought information from Vice Chancellor/Directors of all universities, where Sanskrit Teaching exists, for further development and promotion of Sanskrit teaching and learning in the country. The details of the letter are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/5819537_Sanskrit.pdf.

(d) & (e): The National Policy on Education, 1986, regarding Sanskrit and Hindi, emphasizes development of Hindi as the link language, as provided for in Article 351 of the Constitution and teaching of Sanskrit at the university stage as part of certain courses like Indology, Indian History, Archaeology etc.

The UGC provides assistance for establishment and development of Hindi Departments in Universities. The guidelines of the UGC scheme are at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/2836102_Final-guidelines-for-Hindi-Department.pdf. The UGC has further informed that it has been providing development assistance to Sanskrit universities and colleges. The Commission also provides assistance to other universities which are having the Department of Sanskrit.

Under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) the UGC has given the option to the universities to change the syllabus to the extent of 30% keeping in view the expertise of the universities in a subject domain.

Central Hindi Directorate, a subordinate organisation under this Ministry, has been engaged in propagation of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States by implementing various schemes. Further, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (KHS), an autonomous body under this Ministry, promotes & propagates the teaching and training of Hindi nationwide as per the provisions of the Article 351 of the Constitution of India. KHS, having its Headquarter at Agra, and through its 8 Regional Centers established at Delhi, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Shillong, Mysore, Dimapur, Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad, is working to improve the standard of teaching Hindi at various levels, to train Hindi Teachers, to provide avenues for the advance study and comparative linguistics related to different Indian languages, to organize research, to formulate, undertake

and facilitate such courses.
