

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2554
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
INCLUSION OF LANGUAGES
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the languages which have been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;
- (b) the criteria adopted by the Government for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule;
- (c) the details of the proposals/requests and representations received from the States and various Organizations for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution along with the response of the Government thereto, State and language- wise; and
- (d) the time by which such languages are likely to be included in the Eighth Schedule along with the reasons for pendency?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a): The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution consists of the following 22 languages:-

(1) Assamese, (2) Bengali, (3) Gujarati, (4) Hindi, (5) Kannada, (6) Kashmiri, (7) Konkani, (8) Malayalam, (9) Manipuri, (10) Marathi, (11) Nepali, (12) Oriya, (13) Punjabi, (14) Sanskrit, (15) Sindhi, (16) Tamil, (17) Telugu, (18) Urdu, (19) Bodo, (20) Santhali, (21) Maithili and (22) Dogri.

(b) to (d): At present there are demands for 38 more languages for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. These are:

(1) Angika, (2) Banjara, (3) Bazika, (4) Bhojpuri, (5) Bhoti, (6) Bhotia, (7) Bundelkhandi, (8) Chhattisgarhi, (9) Dhatki, (10) English, (11) Garhwali (Pahari), (12) Gondi, (13) Gujjar/ Gujjari (14) Ho, (15) Kachachhi, (16) Kamtapuri, (17) Karbi, (18) Khasi, (19) Kodava (Coorg), (20) Kok Barak, (21) Kumaoni (Pahari), (22) Kurukh, (23) Kurmali, (24) Lepcha, (25) Limbu, (26) Mizo (Lushai), (27) Magahi, (28) Mundari, (29) Nagpuri, (30) Nicobarese, (31) Pahari (Himachali), (32) Pali, (33) Rajasthani, (34) Sambalpuri/Kosali, (35) Shaurseni (Prakrit), (36) Siraiki, (37) Tenyidi and (38) Tulu.

There is no established set of objective criteria for inclusion of languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution and as such no time-frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.