

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5018**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST APRIL, 2025/ CHAITRA 11, 1947 (SAKA)

INCLUSION OF LANGUAGES

†5018. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include Bhojpuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution on the lines of Maithili language being included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether Bhojpuri language is spoken not only in the country but also abroad; and

(c) the time by which Bhojpuri language is taken to be Eighth Schedule of the Constitution?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c): There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages, including Bhojpuri, in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. However, there are no fixed criteria for consideration of any language for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. As the evolution of dialects and languages is a dynamic process, influenced by socio-cultural, economic and political developments, it is difficult to fix any criterion for languages for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The earlier attempts, through the Pahwa (1996) and

Sitakant Mohapatra (2003) Committees, to evolve such fixed criteria have been inconclusive. The Government is conscious of the sentiments and requirements for inclusion of other languages in the Eighth Schedule. Such requests have to be considered keeping in mind these sentiments, and the other relevant considerations.

According to the information available, Bhojpuri is also spoken in other countries besides India.

Since at present, there are no fixed criteria for any language to be considered for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, no time-frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

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