

The Use of Hindi in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and its Organizations are making continuous efforts for increasing the use of Official Language of Hindi in their Official Works. The Official Languages Act and Official Languages Rules are being implemented in the Ministry and its Organizations.

Hindi Advisory Committee

There is a Hindi Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in the Ministry for the purpose of advising proper implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Government of India. The Committee has been re-constituted on 13.05.2013.

Meeting of the Official Language Implementation Committee

An Official Language Implementation Committee under the Chairmanship of the Economic Adviser is functioning in the Ministry. All Section Officers, Under Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries in the Ministry and the Head of the Organizations of the Ministry, located in Delhi are the members of this Committee. The function of this Committee is to review the progress made in the use of Official Language Hindi in the Ministry and its Organizations. Four meetings of this Committee are organized every year. The comparative review of the status of the usage of Hindi is made in the meetings of the Committee and the necessary actions are taken on the suggestions given in the meetings of the Committee. Apart from this, all organizations of the Ministry have their own Official Language Implementation Committee. The Head of the respective Organization is the Chairman of this Committee.

The Compliance of the Official Languages Acts and Rules

The Section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 is being strictly complied with in the Ministry and its Organizations. All types of Notifications, General Orders etc. are being issued bilingually and all papers are being laid bilingually in the Parliament. The letters received in Hindi are being replied in Hindi only. As far as possible, the correspondence with the Government Offices located in 'A' and 'B' regions are being made in Hindi. The necessary steps are being taken to achieve the targets laid in the Annual Programme issued by the Department of Official Language. All the standard Drafts used in the Ministry and its Organizations have also been prepared in Hindi and they are being used properly.

More than 80% of the Officers and employees of the Ministry and all its Organizations have attained the working knowledge in Hindi. The Ministry and its Organizations have, therefore, already been notified under Rule 10(4) of the Official Languages Rule, 1976. The officers / employees, who have proficiency in Hindi, have been issued orders individually under the Rule 8(4) of Official Languages Rule, 1976 to perform their official work in Hindi. All the Organizations of the Ministry have also issued this order to their officers and employees.

Hindi Workshops

Hindi Workshops are conducted regularly in the Ministry in order to encourage the officers and employees to work in Hindi. In these Workshops, the officers / employees are specially taught the Official Language Policy of the Government and trained how simple Hindi should be used in official work. Similarly, almost all the offices of the Ministry organize such Workshops. The officers / employees of the Organizations, who are so far unable to learn Hindi, are being nominated for training in Hindi under the Hindi Teaching Scheme of Department of Official Language.

Inspections

The different Sections in the Ministry as well as the Offices located in Delhi or outside Delhi are inspected regularly by the Officers of the Ministry to monitor the proper implementation of the official language policy of the Union. The shortcomings observed during the inspections are pointed to them, so that these may be removed.

Hindi Fortnight

'Hindi Fortnight' is organized every year in the month of September as per the orders of the Department of Official Language. The Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, the Hon'ble Minister of state for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, and Secretary, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation issue an appeal/message during Hindi Fortnight, wherein the officers / employees are requested to ensure the full compliance of Official Language Rules and progressive use of Hindi in their Official Work. In addition to this, Hindi Poetry recitation, Hindi Debates, Hindi Quiz, Hindi Noting & Drafting, Hindi Essay, Hindi Typing Competitions are organized in the Ministry during Hindi Fortnight. The First, Second, Third and the Consolation Prize winners are given Cash Prizes of Rs. 4000/-, Rs. 2500/-, Rs. 1500/- and Rs. 1000/- (Four) respectively. Similarly, Hindi Fortnight is also celebrated in the Subordinate Offices of the Ministry.

Inspection by the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language

The Second Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language inspects the Subordinate Offices of the Ministry. The Officers of the Ministry also participate in the inspection meetings. The follow up actions on the assurance given to the Committee are taken up by the concerned Offices.

Incentive Schemes

There is an incentive scheme for Noting & Drafting in Hindi in the Ministry. The Officers / Employees who prepare more Notes and Drafts in Hindi in a year as per the guidelines under this scheme are given cash prizes. Under this Scheme, the First, Second and Third Prize winners are given cash prize of Rs. 2000/- (Two), Rs. 1200/- (Three) and Rs. 600/- (Five) respectively. For creating a competitive atmosphere in order to do more and more work in Hindi, there is a "Rajbhasha Shield Scheme" in the Ministry for its Organizations. Under this scheme, the Offices which performed the best in Hindi are given Shield and Certificate. The Offices obtaining Second and Third position are given Cups and Certificates. The Rajbhasha-in-Charge and Rajbhasha Officer of the prize winning Offices are also given Certificates.
