



# AIPPM

**All India Political Parties Meet**

**Safeguarding Linguistic  
Diversity and Ensuring Equitable  
Language policies in Federal  
Democracies**

# Letter from the Secretary General

*In the absence of concord, cataclysm is inevitable.*

When understanding falters, consequences escalate. At RKCMUN'26, let wisdom guide us before crisis defines us

Distinguished Delegates, welcome to RKCMUN'26, a conference not merely of speeches, but of substance; not merely of debate, but of direction. Over the next few days, these committees will transform into arenas of intellect, negotiation, and strategy. Ideas will collide, policies will be defended, and perspectives will be challenged. But above all, character will be revealed.

Our guiding philosophy this year is simple, yet profound: यत्र संवादः तत्र सौहार्दम् (Yatra Samvaadah Tatra Sauhaardam) Where there is dialogue, there is harmony.

The word Yatra reminds us that harmony is conditional. It does not appear by chance; it emerges where patience prevails over pride, where listening matches speaking, and where disagreement is handled with dignity. For these days, that “where” is RKCMUN'26. It is in these rooms, through your words and your restraint, that harmony will either falter or flourish.

Model United Nations is not about being the loudest voice in the room. It is about being the most prepared mind. It is about understanding that diplomacy is strength controlled, not power displayed. Debate passionately, but responsibly. Negotiate boldly, but ethically. Build alliances thoughtfully, not impulsively. The true measure of a delegate is not applause after a speech, but the impact left on a resolution.

As Secretary-General, my commitment is to uphold a conference defined by integrity, fairness, and intellectual rigor. I encourage you to enjoy the intensity, the strategy, the fast-paced negotiations but never forget the responsibility that comes with representing a nation. If discussions grow heated, let dialogue steady them. If opinions diverge sharply, let respect guide them. If conflict arises, let maturity resolve it.

Let RKCMUN'26 not simply be another entry on your résumé, but an experience that refines your confidence, sharpens your intellect, and strengthens your leadership. Speak with clarity. Listen with intent. Lead with integrity.

*The floor is yours.*

*With conviction and confidence,*

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**Secretary-General**

**RKCMUN'26**

## Letter From the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

It is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to the All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) at this conference. As representatives of India's diverse political leadership, you enter a committee that reflects the very essence of the nation's democratic character—dynamic debate, ideological diversity, and spirited political engagement. The AIPPM is not merely a forum for discussion; it is a simulation of India's vibrant political landscape where differing visions for the nation converge, clash, and ultimately strive toward consensus.

India stands as one of the most linguistically diverse nations in the world. With hundreds of languages and dialects spoken across its vast geographical expanse, language has always been a powerful marker of identity, culture, and regional pride. At the same time, linguistic diversity has presented unique challenges for governance, administration, education, and national integration. The balance between preserving linguistic heritage and fostering unity within a multilingual society remains a complex and evolving issue within the Indian political sphere.

As members of the Executive Board, we encourage you to engage deeply with the agenda, understand the political positions of your assigned parties, and approach discussions with both conviction and open-mindedness. This committee is designed to challenge your analytical abilities, political awareness, and diplomatic skills, while also offering an opportunity to experience the complexities of policymaking in a diverse democracy.

We look forward to witnessing insightful arguments, spirited debate, and thoughtful collaboration as you navigate this important issue. We hope that your participation in this committee will not only enhance your understanding of India's political dynamics but also inspire meaningful dialogue on one of the country's most defining characteristics, its linguistic diversity.

We wish you the very best for the committee sessions ahead and look forward to a stimulating and productive debate.

Warm Regards,

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## Introduction to the Committee

The All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) is one of the most dynamic and politically engaging committees, designed to replicate the vibrant and often intense nature of India's political discourse. It brings together representatives from across the nation's political spectrum, creating a platform where leaders from different parties convene to deliberate, debate, and negotiate on matters that hold significance for the country. In a democracy as vast and diverse as India, such a forum reflects the reality of governance where multiple ideologies, regional priorities, and political interests intersect.

The AIPPM provides a space where political representatives articulate their party's vision, defend their ideological positions, and challenge the perspectives of their counterparts. Unlike traditional policy-driven committees, the AIPPM thrives on political strategy, persuasive debate, and the art of negotiation. Delegates are expected to strongly represent the stance of their assigned political party while simultaneously navigating alliances, opposition, and compromises that define the functioning of democratic politics.

At its core, the committee mirrors the essence of India's parliamentary and political culture where debate and dissent coexist with dialogue and consensus-building. Delegates must understand not only their party's ideology and priorities but also the broader political landscape within which they operate. The ability to respond to evolving situations, form strategic collaborations, and engage in constructive confrontation becomes essential in shaping the direction of discussions within the committee.

Furthermore, the AIPPM encourages participants to explore the complexities of leadership, governance, and political responsibility. Delegates are expected to balance assertive political advocacy with pragmatic decision-making, recognizing that meaningful outcomes often emerge through dialogue and cooperation. The committee therefore serves as both a platform for ideological expression and a space for strategic engagement, reflecting the dynamic nature of democratic policymaking.

Ultimately, the All India Political Parties Meet is more than a forum for debate; it is a simulation of India's political ecosystem, where diverse voices converge to shape the direction of national discourse. Through rigorous discussion, negotiation, and collaboration, the AIPPM highlights the importance of dialogue in sustaining a healthy democracy and reinforces the principle that even amidst political rivalry, collective engagement remains essential for national progress

## Committee Mandate

The All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) serves as a simulated platform where representatives of major political parties deliberate upon pressing national issues affecting the Republic of India. The committee aims to replicate the dynamics of domestic political discourse by bringing together diverse political ideologies, regional interests, and policy perspectives within a structured forum.

The primary mandate of the AIPPM is to facilitate dialogue, negotiation, and consensus-building among political parties on matters of national significance. Unlike legislative bodies that focus solely on lawmaking, this forum encourages broader political consultation, enabling parties to present their viewpoints, defend policy positions, critique opposing ideologies, and work towards common solutions that serve the national interest.

The committee also aims to analyze government policies, address internal political challenges, and deliberate upon socio-economic, security, and governance issues affecting the nation. Through this process, participants simulate real political decision-making, balancing party ideologies with pragmatic governance.

Additionally, AIPPM seeks to promote political awareness, strategic thinking, and leadership skills among participants by exposing them to the complexities of coalition politics, policy formulation, and political negotiations within the democratic framework of India.

Ultimately, the mandate of the committee is to provide a realistic representation of India's pluralistic political landscape, encouraging constructive discussion, policy innovation, and responsible political engagement.

## Introduction to Agenda

### *Safeguarding Linguistic Diversity and Ensuring Equitable Language Policies in Federal Democracies*

Language has always been one of the most defining elements of identity, culture, and political expression within a nation. In a country as vast and diverse as India, linguistic plurality is not merely a cultural characteristic but a foundational aspect of its social and political fabric. Hundreds of languages and dialects are spoken across the nation, each carrying with it centuries of heritage, literature, traditions, and regional pride. This linguistic diversity reflects the historical evolution of the country and continues to shape its regional identities and political discourse.

The constitutional framework of India acknowledges this diversity through various provisions that recognize multiple languages and protect linguistic rights. The federal structure allows states significant autonomy in determining their official languages, while national institutions maintain systems that attempt to balance administrative efficiency with cultural representation. Such arrangements were designed to preserve unity while respecting the linguistic identities of different regions.

However, linguistic diversity in a federal democracy also introduces complex governance challenges. Language policies often influence education systems, government administration, access to public services, and employment opportunities.

Political movements and regional sentiments throughout the history of India have demonstrated that language can become a powerful mobilizing force.

At the same time, globalization, technological change, and economic mobility have introduced new dimensions to the discussion. The growing influence of global languages, the role of language in digital spaces, and the need for linguistic accessibility in education and governance all present new policy considerations. Ensuring that linguistic diversity remains protected while enabling citizens to participate effectively in national and global systems is an ongoing challenge.

In this context, the issue of linguistic diversity becomes not only a cultural matter but also a question of governance, representation, and equitable opportunity. Policymakers must navigate competing priorities reserving linguistic heritage, maintaining administrative efficiency, and fostering national unity while ensuring that no linguistic community feels marginalized within the democratic framework.

## **Re-evaluating the Eighth Schedule: Expansion and Criteria**

Linguistic diversity forms a fundamental pillar of the constitutional and cultural framework of India. The country's multilingual character reflects centuries of historical evolution, regional identities, and rich literary traditions. Recognizing the importance of language in shaping cultural and political identity, the Constitution of India established mechanisms to acknowledge and promote major languages through the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

The Eighth Schedule functions as a constitutional recognition of languages that hold significant cultural, demographic, and literary importance. Languages included in the schedule receive institutional support from the Union government, which may include promotion through educational policies, encouragement of literary development, and representation in national administrative frameworks. The schedule therefore serves not only as a symbolic acknowledgment of linguistic identity but also as a policy instrument for preserving and strengthening linguistic heritage within the broader federal structure.

### **Constitutional Provisions and Institutional Mechanisms**

Key constitutional provisions related to the Eighth Schedule are contained in Article 344(1) and Article 351. Article 344(1) provides for the establishment of a commission by the President at periodic intervals to review the progress of the use of languages for official purposes of the Union and to recommend necessary measures regarding language policy. These commissions are expected to represent various linguistic groups listed in the Eighth Schedule, ensuring that multiple linguistic perspectives are considered in national policy discussions.

Article 351 further outlines the responsibility of the Union to promote the development of Hindi while allowing it to evolve through the assimilation of elements from other Indian languages. The provision emphasizes that linguistic development should not occur in isolation but should draw from the collective cultural and linguistic traditions of the country. In this manner, the constitutional framework attempts to balance the promotion of a widely used language with the recognition and enrichment of other languages within the national linguistic ecosystem.

## **Evolution and Expansion of the Eighth Schedule**

At the time of the adoption of the Constitution in 1950, the Eighth Schedule included 14 languages. Over the decades, the schedule has expanded in response to social, political, and cultural demands for greater linguistic recognition. The number of recognized languages has gradually increased to 22, reflecting the evolving linguistic realities of the country.

Several languages were added through constitutional amendments to accommodate the aspirations of linguistic communities. Sindhi was incorporated in 1967, followed by Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali in 1992. Later, Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali were included in 2004. These additions demonstrate how linguistic recognition has been shaped by political negotiations, cultural movements, and demands for greater representation within the constitutional framework.

Despite these expansions, many linguistic communities continue to advocate for the inclusion of their languages in the schedule. Languages such as Bhojpuri, Rajasthani, Tulu, Garhwali, Gondi, and Khasi are frequently cited in public and political discussions regarding future inclusion.

## **Challenges in Determining Criteria for Inclusion**

One of the central challenges surrounding the expansion of the Eighth Schedule lies in the absence of clearly defined criteria for recognizing languages at the constitutional level. Linguistic identity in India often exists along a spectrum where dialects, regional variants, and standardized languages overlap. Distinguishing between these categories is therefore not always straightforward.

Attempts have been made in the past to develop objective parameters for inclusion. The Pahwa Committee (1996) and the Sitakant Mohapatra Committee (2003) were tasked with exploring possible criteria for recognizing languages in the Eighth Schedule. These committees examined several factors such as the number of speakers, literary tradition, geographical distribution, cultural significance, and the extent of linguistic standardization.

However, given the vast linguistic diversity of the country and the dynamic evolution of languages over time, these committees were unable to establish universally acceptable criteria. As a result, decisions regarding inclusion have largely remained political and policy-driven rather than strictly based on fixed linguistic benchmarks.

## **Administrative and Policy Considerations**

Expanding the Eighth Schedule has implications beyond symbolic recognition. Each additional language requires significant administrative and institutional support. This includes translation of official documents, development of educational materials, promotion of language research, and representation in national examinations and government communication.

As the number of recognized languages grows, ensuring equal support and development for each language becomes increasingly complex. Policymakers must therefore balance the aspirations of linguistic communities with the practical challenges of governance, resource allocation, and administrative efficiency.

## **Relevance to Linguistic Equity in Federal Democracies**

The debate surrounding the Eighth Schedule highlights broader questions about linguistic equity and representation within federal democracies. In a multilingual society like India, language policies must reconcile multiple objectives—preserving cultural heritage, ensuring administrative functionality, and maintaining national cohesion.

Recognition through constitutional frameworks can play an important role in protecting linguistic identities and preventing the marginalization of regional languages. At the same time, policymakers must explore complementary strategies such as regional language preservation initiatives, educational reforms, and cultural programs that support linguistic diversity beyond constitutional recognition alone.

Consequently, the ongoing discussions regarding the Eighth Schedule represent a broader effort to address how democratic systems can effectively safeguard linguistic diversity while maintaining equitable and inclusive language policies across diverse regions and communities.

## **The Three-Language Formula and NEP 2020 Implementation**

Education plays a crucial role in shaping the intellectual, social, and cultural development of a nation. In a diverse and multilingual country such as India, language within the education system holds particular importance as it influences accessibility, inclusivity, and the preservation of cultural heritage. Educational policies must therefore ensure that linguistic diversity is respected while also equipping students with the skills required to participate in a rapidly evolving global environment.

The National Education Policy 2020 was introduced as a comprehensive reform of the education system aimed at aligning India's educational framework with the demands of the twenty-first century. The policy emphasizes equitable access to quality education, multidisciplinary learning, and the holistic development of students. At the same time, it recognizes the importance of preserving India's cultural and linguistic heritage through inclusive language policies that support both national integration and regional linguistic identities.

Within this broader framework, language education occupies a central position. The policy acknowledges that multilingualism enhances cognitive development, cultural understanding, and communication skills among learners. It encourages the use of mother tongue or regional languages in the early years of education while also promoting the learning of multiple languages to strengthen national unity and global competitiveness.

In this context, the implementation of the Three-Language Formula under the National Education Policy 2020 aims to balance linguistic diversity with educational accessibility. The approach seeks to encourage students to learn multiple languages while respecting regional linguistic preferences and cultural contexts, thereby supporting both educational development and the broader goal of safeguarding linguistic diversity within the federal structure of India.

### **Policy Background and Contemporary Context**

Language policy in education has long been one of the most debated issues in the governance structure of India. The relationship between linguistic identity, regional autonomy, and national integration has frequently shaped educational reforms and political discourse. In recent years, discussions surrounding the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 have reignited debates on language education,

particularly regarding the adoption of the Three-Language Formula across different states.

A notable policy dispute has emerged between the Union government and the state government of Tamil Nadu. The Union government reportedly withheld funds allocated under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, a centrally sponsored program designed to improve school education across the country, citing the state's refusal to fully implement provisions of the National Education Policy 2020, including the Three-Language Formula. The state government has continued to follow its long-standing two-language policy, which prioritizes Tamil and English in the school curriculum.

This disagreement reflects deeper historical and political sensitivities regarding language policy, particularly concerns in several non-Hindi-speaking regions that language mandates could undermine regional linguistic identity.

### **Origins and Evolution of the Three-Language Formula**

The Three-Language Formula was originally introduced in the National Education Policy 1968 as a strategy to promote multilingualism and strengthen national integration. The framework attempted to balance linguistic diversity while encouraging communication and cultural exchange among different regions of the country.

Under the original formulation:

- Hindi-speaking states were expected to teach:
  - Hindi
  - English
  - One modern Indian language, preferably a South Indian language
- Non-Hindi-speaking states were expected to teach:
  - The regional language
  - Hindi
  - English

The objective was to create a system where students across the country could develop familiarity with multiple Indian languages, thereby fostering interregional understanding.

The National Education Policy 2020 retains the core concept of the Three-Language Formula but introduces greater flexibility. The policy states that states, regions, and students may choose the three languages, provided that at least two of them are native

to India. This provision was intended to reduce concerns about linguistic imposition while maintaining the goal of multilingual education.

Additionally, the policy encourages the use of mother tongue or home language as the medium of instruction in early education, particularly until at least Grade 5 and preferably until Grade 8. The policy also gives special emphasis to Sanskrit as an optional language that may be offered at various stages of education.

## **Educational and Social Significance of the Three-Language Formula**

The Three-Language Formula is often viewed as a key policy tool for promoting multilingual proficiency and strengthening cultural exchange across the country.

### **Promotion of Multilingualism**

Learning multiple languages has been shown to enhance cognitive development, improve problem-solving abilities, and strengthen communication skills. Multilingual education can also help students develop a broader cultural perspective and greater adaptability in diverse social settings.

### **Strengthening National Integration**

By encouraging students to learn languages from different regions, the policy aims to reduce linguistic barriers between communities. In theory, exposure to multiple Indian languages fosters greater mutual understanding between northern and southern states and strengthens the sense of national unity.

### **Expanding Employment and Mobility Opportunities**

In a country with high internal migration for employment and higher education, linguistic familiarity can provide practical advantages. Knowledge of additional languages can facilitate communication in different regions, improve job prospects, and make it easier for individuals to pursue opportunities across state boundaries.

### **Preservation of Regional Languages**

The policy also emphasizes the importance of protecting India's linguistic heritage. By encouraging the use of regional languages and mother tongues in education, the formula seeks to ensure that smaller linguistic traditions remain vibrant within modern educational systems.

## **Concerns and Criticisms**

Despite its intended benefits, the Three-Language Formula has faced significant criticism and political opposition in several regions.

### **Perception of Linguistic Imposition**

One of the most prominent criticisms comes from non-Hindi-speaking states such as Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Karnataka. Political leaders and cultural groups in these regions have often argued that the formula could indirectly promote the dominance of Hindi, thereby threatening regional linguistic identities.

### **Implementation Challenges**

Many educational institutions, particularly in rural areas, face practical difficulties in implementing multilingual education. Schools often lack trained teachers capable of teaching additional languages, and developing appropriate curriculum materials can place additional demands on educational resources.

### **Increased Academic Burden on Students**

Some educators and parents argue that requiring students to learn three languages may increase academic pressure, especially for younger learners who may already face challenges in mastering foundational subjects.

### **Debate Over Global Language Education**

Another concern raised by critics is that the emphasis on learning an additional Indian language may limit opportunities for students to study widely used international languages such as French, German, or Mandarin. Advocates of global language education argue that exposure to these languages may better prepare students for international academic and professional opportunities.

### **Relevance to Linguistic Policy Debates**

The discussion surrounding the Three-Language Formula highlights the broader challenge of balancing linguistic diversity, educational policy, and political sensitivities within a federal democracy. While the policy aims to promote multilingual competence and national integration, its implementation must account for regional linguistic aspirations and historical concerns about language dominance.

## Digitizing the "Bhasha": AI and Linguistic Inclusion

India's linguistic landscape is among the richest and most complex in the world. According to the 2011 Census of India, the country records over 19,500 mother tongues, which are further grouped into 121 languages spoken by more than 10,000 people each. Despite this remarkable diversity, only 22 languages currently receive constitutional recognition under the Eighth Schedule, leaving hundreds of languages and dialects outside the formal policy framework. This imbalance often translates into unequal representation in governance, education, media, and technology. In a federal democracy where language is closely linked to cultural identity, political participation, and regional autonomy, ensuring linguistic inclusion is both a cultural responsibility and a democratic necessity.

Globally, linguistic diversity faces significant threats. UNESCO estimates that nearly 40% of the world's approximately 7,000 languages are endangered, and India is home to many of these vulnerable languages. Studies suggest that around 197 Indian languages are considered endangered, with several tribal and indigenous languages witnessing a rapid decline in native speakers. Urbanization, migration, the dominance of a few official languages, and the limited presence of regional languages in education and digital spaces have accelerated this decline. If not adequately preserved and promoted, many of these languages risk disappearing within a few generations, resulting in the irreversible loss of cultural heritage, oral traditions, and indigenous knowledge systems.

The challenge becomes even more pronounced in the digital era. The internet and modern technological platforms have historically been dominated by a limited number of languages, particularly English. However, the demographic reality of India tells a different story. Reports indicate that over 90% of new internet users in India prefer to access digital content in Indian languages, and the number of Indian language internet users has grown significantly in recent years. In fact, Indian language internet users are estimated to outnumber English-language internet users in the country, highlighting a substantial gap between digital infrastructure and linguistic accessibility. Bridging this gap requires innovative technological solutions capable of supporting multilingual communication on a massive scale.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as one of the most promising tools for addressing this challenge. Through advancements in Natural Language Processing (NLP), machine translation, speech recognition, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and text-to-speech technologies, AI is enabling the integration of regional languages into digital platforms. NLP systems allow computers to understand, process, and

generate human language, making it possible to develop applications such as automated translation services, multilingual chatbots, and voice-based digital assistants. These technologies enable users to interact with digital services in their native languages, thereby reducing linguistic barriers in accessing information, governance, and economic opportunities.

Speech recognition and voice technologies have particularly transformative implications for a country like India, where linguistic diversity intersects with varying literacy levels. AI-powered voice interfaces allow individuals to interact with smartphones, digital payment systems, and government services using spoken commands in their local languages. Similarly, OCR technologies enable the digitization of printed and handwritten texts in diverse scripts, facilitating the preservation of historical manuscripts, literature, and administrative records. Text-to-speech systems further enhance accessibility by converting written content into natural speech, allowing visually impaired individuals and those with limited literacy to access digital information.

Recognizing the strategic importance of linguistic digitization, governments and institutions have begun investing in AI-driven language initiatives. In India, the Bhashini platform under the National Language Translation Mission aims to build AI-powered translation and speech services for numerous Indian languages, enabling multilingual access to government services and digital platforms. Such initiatives are aligned with broader national programs such as Digital India, which seeks to expand digital infrastructure while ensuring inclusive access for citizens across linguistic and regional divides. By integrating language technologies into public services, these initiatives aim to create a digital ecosystem where language no longer acts as a barrier to participation.

Beyond accessibility, AI-driven language technologies also play a crucial role in the digital preservation of endangered languages. Linguists and researchers can now use AI tools to create digital dictionaries, speech databases, and annotated corpora for lesser-known languages. These resources help document pronunciation patterns, grammatical structures, and vocabulary, ensuring that linguistic knowledge is preserved even if speaker populations decline. Digital archives, language-learning applications, and collaborative online lexicons further allow communities to actively participate in preserving and promoting their linguistic heritage.

However, the process of digitizing languages also presents significant challenges. Many Indian languages lack large digital datasets required to train advanced AI models, resulting in technological biases that favor widely spoken languages. Script diversity

ranging from Devanagari and Tamil to Bengali and Gurmukhi adds another layer of complexity to computational processing. Furthermore, ensuring equitable representation of all linguistic communities in technological systems requires coordinated policy frameworks, institutional collaboration, and sustained investment in research and development.

In this context, the intersection of artificial intelligence and linguistic diversity represents both a challenge and an opportunity for federal democracies. By leveraging AI to digitize, preserve, and promote regional languages, governments can strengthen cultural heritage while expanding digital participation. The integration of language technologies into education, governance, and digital platforms has the potential to empower millions of citizens, ensuring that linguistic identity remains a source of inclusion rather than exclusion in the rapidly evolving digital age.



## Rights of Linguistic Minorities and Inter-State Migration

India's federal democracy is deeply shaped by linguistic diversity and internal mobility. According to the Census of India 2011, the country records over 19,500 mother tongues, which are grouped into 121 languages spoken by more than 10,000 people each. Language in India is not merely a tool of communication; it represents cultural identity, regional pride, and historical continuity. However, increasing inter-state migration driven by economic opportunities, education, and urbanization has created new linguistic realities, where millions of individuals live in states where their native language is not the dominant one. This has led to the formation of large linguistic minority communities across India's urban and industrial regions.

India also experiences one of the largest internal migration movements in the world. According to the Census of India 2011, there are approximately 456 million internal migrants, representing nearly 37% of India's population. This is a major increase from 315 million migrants in 2001, indicating the rapid movement of people across districts and states. While the majority migrate within the same state, a significant portion move across state borders, bringing their languages, cultural traditions, and identities into new linguistic environments.

### Scale of Inter-State Migration in India

Internal migration in India is primarily driven by economic and social factors such as employment opportunities, industrial development, and urban growth.

Key statistics highlight the magnitude of migration:

- Total internal migrants (Census 2011): ~456 million
- Migrants in 2001: ~315 million
- Increase over a decade: more than 140 million additional migrants
- Migrants moving for work or employment: about 41 million
- Economic migrants overall: over 45 million

Inter-state migration specifically has also increased.

- Inter-state migrants in 2001: about 17 million
- Inter-state migrants in 2011: about 21.9 million
- Growth rate: roughly 29% increase in a decade

These figures illustrate how economic development and labor demand continue to encourage population movement across linguistic boundaries.

### **Major Source and Destination States**

Migration patterns across India reveal distinct geographic trends. Certain states consistently send large numbers of workers to other regions due to limited employment opportunities and high population densities.

Major source states for migrants include:

- Uttar Pradesh
- Bihar
- Rajasthan
- West Bengal
- Odisha

For example:

- Uttar Pradesh records more than 3.4 million net out-migrants.
- Bihar records approximately 2.7 million net out-migrants.

These migrants frequently move toward states with stronger economic growth and industrial development.

Major destination states include:

- Maharashtra
- Gujarat
- Karnataka
- Tamil Nadu
- Delhi

Cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad have therefore become highly multilingual urban centers where dozens of languages coexist.

### **Linguistic Minorities in Migrant Communities**

Inter-state migration naturally creates linguistic minority populations. A linguistic minority refers to a group whose mother tongue differs from the dominant language spoken in the region where they reside.

Examples include:

- Hindi-speaking migrants in Tamil Nadu or Maharashtra
- Odia workers in Gujarat
- Bengali migrants in Delhi
- Malayalam speakers in Karnataka

Studies based on census data indicate that more than 30 million Hindi speakers live outside the Hindi-speaking states, accounting for roughly 6–7% of the total Hindi-speaking population.

As migration continues, major metropolitan regions are increasingly becoming multilingual societies, where linguistic minorities form an integral part of the workforce and urban culture.

### **Constitutional Safeguards for Linguistic Minorities**

The Constitution of India provides several legal protections for linguistic minorities to ensure that migration does not lead to cultural or linguistic marginalization.

#### **Freedom of Movement and Residence**

Articles 19(1)(d) and 19(1)(e) guarantee every citizen the right to move freely across India and reside in any part of the country. These provisions ensure that citizens cannot be restricted from settling in another state based on language or regional identity.

#### **Cultural and Educational Rights**

Article 29 protects the right of any group of citizens to conserve their language, script, and culture. Article 30 grants linguistic minorities the right to establish and administer their own educational institutions.

#### **Mother-Tongue Education**

Article 350A directs state governments to provide primary education in the mother tongue of children belonging to linguistic minorities, wherever feasible.

#### **Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities**

Article 350B establishes the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, responsible for investigating complaints and reporting to the President regarding the implementation of linguistic safeguards.

## **Language Barriers and Access to Public Services**

Despite constitutional protections, linguistic minorities often face difficulties in everyday governance and administration. Many government services operate primarily in the dominant regional language, which can create barriers for migrants.

Common challenges include:

- Difficulty understanding official documents
- Limited access to legal and administrative information
- Barriers in healthcare and public welfare systems
- Communication challenges with local authorities

These issues can restrict migrants' ability to fully exercise their rights and participate in civic life.

## **Discrimination and Regionalism**

Migration has occasionally led to social tensions in certain regions. Some political movements emphasize protecting regional employment opportunities and cultural identity, sometimes referred to as “sons of the soil” movements.

While these movements aim to safeguard local interests, they can also lead to:

- Linguistic discrimination in employment
- Social hostility toward migrants
- Cultural exclusion of minority communities

Large metropolitan cities with high migration rates often experience debates about balancing regional identity with national integration.

## **Educational Challenges for Migrant Children**

Language differences often affect the education of migrant families. When children move to a state where the medium of instruction differs from their mother tongue, they may struggle academically.

Key issues include:

- Lack of teaching materials in migrant languages
- Difficulty understanding classroom instruction
- Frequent relocation of migrant families
- Higher risk of school dropouts

Ensuring multilingual education systems remains an important challenge for policymakers.

### **Economic Vulnerability of Migrant Communities**

A large share of interstate migrants work in informal sectors such as construction, manufacturing, domestic work, and agriculture. These sectors often provide limited labor protections.

Research indicates that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are disproportionately represented among short-term migrant workers, reflecting how linguistic marginalization may intersect with broader socio-economic inequalities.

### **Migration and Multilingual Urbanization**

Inter-state migration has transformed many Indian cities into highly diverse linguistic environments. For example:

- Mumbai hosts speakers of Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Telugu, and several other languages.
- Delhi contains large populations speaking Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali, Bhojpuri, and Urdu.
- Bengaluru includes Kannada speakers alongside large migrant populations speaking Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Hindi.

This linguistic diversity contributes significantly to economic dynamism but also requires policies that accommodate multilingual populations.

## Policy Challenges in Federal Democracies

Balancing migration and linguistic rights presents complex policy questions for federal democracies like India. Governments must simultaneously protect regional languages while ensuring that migrants are not excluded from public life.

Important policy considerations include:

- Expanding multilingual public services
- Ensuring equal access to education for migrant children
- Preventing discrimination based on language or regional origin
- Promoting national integration while respecting regional linguistic identities



## **Official Language Policy and Parliamentary Procedure**

India's linguistic framework is governed by a carefully balanced official language policy designed to accommodate the country's vast multilingual diversity. At the Union level, language use in governance, legislation, and parliamentary functioning is guided by constitutional provisions, statutory laws, and administrative rules. The policy attempts to promote Hindi as the official language of the Union while simultaneously retaining English and protecting the linguistic rights of other languages, thereby maintaining administrative efficiency and national unity.

The language policy of India is primarily derived from Part XVII of the Constitution, along with the Official Languages Act, 1963 and the Official Language Rules, 1976, which collectively regulate the use of languages in government communication, parliamentary proceedings, and official documentation.

### **Constitutional Framework of Official Languages**

The Constitution establishes the legal foundation for the use of languages in the Union government and Parliament.

Article 343 declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union, while specifying that the international form of Indian numerals shall be used for official purposes. However, recognizing administrative and linguistic realities, the Constitution allowed English to continue for official purposes for a transitional period, which was later extended through legislation.

India does not have a "national language". Instead, it recognizes multiple languages under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, which currently contains 22 languages including Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, and others.

These languages receive constitutional recognition for purposes such as representation in language commissions, development initiatives, and cultural preservation.

### **The Official Languages Act, 1963**

The Official Languages Act, 1963 plays a central role in regulating language use in government administration and Parliament. The Act was enacted to clarify language arrangements after the constitutional transition period for replacing English with Hindi ended in 1965.

The Act provides that:

- English may continue to be used along with Hindi for official purposes of the Union.
- Both languages may be used for communication between the Union and states, particularly where states do not use Hindi as their official language.
- Parliamentary proceedings, official documents, and legislation may be produced in both Hindi and English.

The law therefore established a bilingual administrative system, ensuring that linguistic diversity would not disrupt governance or intergovernmental communication.

### **Parliamentary Procedure and Language Use**

Language use within Parliament is governed by constitutional provisions and parliamentary rules to ensure inclusivity and accessibility.

Under Article 120 of the Constitution, the business of Parliament may be conducted in either Hindi or English. Members who are not proficient in these languages may also address the House in their mother tongue, subject to permission from the Speaker of the Lok Sabha or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

In such cases, translation services are provided to ensure that all members can understand the proceedings. Parliamentary debates, bills, and official records are therefore typically available in both Hindi and English, reflecting the bilingual framework established by law.

### **Parliamentary Committee on Official Language**

To monitor the implementation of the official language policy, Parliament established the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language under the Official Languages Act, 1963.

Key features of the committee include:

- The committee consists of 30 Members of Parliament.
- 20 members are drawn from the Lok Sabha, and 10 members from the Rajya Sabha.
- Its primary responsibility is to review the progress of Hindi in official government work and recommend measures for its wider use.

- The committee submits reports to the President of India, who may issue directions to improve implementation.

Through periodic inspections and reports, the committee ensures that the official language policy is implemented gradually and without disrupting administrative efficiency.

## **Official Language Rules and Administrative Implementation**

The Official Language Rules, 1976 further detail how languages should be used in government communication and administration. These rules classify different regions of India based on their linguistic composition and prescribe how Hindi and English should be used in official correspondence between central government offices and state governments.

The rules also guide the use of language in:

- Official documents and government notifications
- Communication between ministries and departments
- Public sector enterprises and government corporations
- Administrative reports and official forms

The objective is to ensure the progressive use of Hindi while maintaining practical flexibility for English and regional languages.

## **Balancing Linguistic Diversity in Governance**

India's official language policy reflects the complex challenge of balancing national administrative cohesion with linguistic diversity. While Hindi is promoted for official purposes, the continued use of English and the recognition of 22 scheduled languages demonstrate the country's commitment to multilingual governance.

This policy framework ensures that parliamentary procedures, legislation, and administrative communication remain accessible to representatives and citizens from different linguistic backgrounds. At the same time, it reinforces the constitutional principle that India's linguistic diversity should be accommodated rather than suppressed within its federal democratic structure.

## Conclusion

Language in India is far more than a medium of communication; it represents identity, culture, history, and democratic participation. In a country with extraordinary linguistic diversity, language policy plays a crucial role in balancing cultural preservation with administrative efficiency. The discussions surrounding linguistic diversity highlight the importance of ensuring that all linguistic communities feel represented and respected within the national framework. Protecting linguistic heritage while maintaining unity is therefore essential to strengthening India's democratic structure.

India's constitutional framework reflects a conscious effort to safeguard this diversity. Provisions such as the Eighth Schedule, cultural and educational rights for linguistic minorities, and the official language policy demonstrate the state's commitment to recognizing multiple linguistic identities. These measures reinforce the idea that linguistic pluralism is not a challenge to governance but rather a defining strength of the Indian democratic system. By creating institutional mechanisms for linguistic representation, the Constitution ensures that diverse voices remain a part of the national discourse.

However, the evolution of language policy also reveals the complexities involved in managing such diversity. Debates regarding the expansion of the Eighth Schedule, the implementation of the Three-Language Formula, and the role of regional languages in governance show how linguistic identity intersects with political and administrative considerations. Policymakers must carefully balance the aspirations of linguistic communities with the practical realities of governance, ensuring fairness while maintaining institutional efficiency.

The rise of technology has introduced new dimensions to linguistic inclusion. With the rapid growth of the digital economy, language accessibility has become increasingly important in ensuring equal access to information and services. Historically, the digital world has been dominated by a few global languages, limiting participation for many regional language speakers. However, advancements in artificial intelligence, translation systems, and digital platforms are gradually bridging this gap by enabling the integration of regional languages into digital spaces.

Migration and urbanization further shape the linguistic landscape of modern India. Cities are becoming multilingual environments where people from different linguistic backgrounds live and work together. While this diversity enriches cultural life, it also creates challenges in areas such as education, governance, and public service delivery.

Protecting the rights of linguistic minorities and ensuring multilingual accessibility in public institutions are therefore vital steps toward inclusive development.

India's official language policy and parliamentary procedures demonstrate how democratic institutions can accommodate linguistic diversity. The use of multiple languages in parliamentary debates, official documentation, and translation systems ensures that language does not become a barrier to political participation. Allowing representatives to express themselves in their mother tongues strengthens democratic representation and reflects the inclusive nature of India's political system.

Looking ahead, the challenge lies in balancing globalization with the preservation of linguistic heritage. While international languages create opportunities for global engagement, regional languages remain central to cultural identity and social cohesion. Investments in multilingual education, digital language technologies, and cultural initiatives will be essential in ensuring that linguistic diversity continues to thrive in the modern era.

Ultimately, linguistic diversity should be viewed as a national strength rather than a challenge. By promoting inclusive language policies, protecting minority linguistic rights, and embracing technological innovation, India can ensure that every language and community continues to contribute to the nation's democratic and cultural development.



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# Documentation Guide

## 1. Position Paper



**Committee:** All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM)

**Agenda:** Deliberation on the Implementation of a Uniform Civil Code in India

**Portfolio:** Amit Shah

**Party:** Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

India is a civilization that has thrived on diversity for thousands of years, with numerous religions, cultures, and traditions coexisting within a single democratic framework. However, the Constitution of India envisions a nation where every citizen is equal before the law. As the Union Home Minister and a representative of the Bharatiya Janata Party, I strongly believe that the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is an essential step toward achieving the constitutional goal of equality in civil laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption. Article 44 of the Directive Principles clearly encourages the State to strive for a Uniform Civil Code to ensure legal uniformity and justice for all citizens.

At present, India follows different personal laws for different religious communities. While these systems were historically intended to respect cultural and religious diversity, they have also resulted in legal inequalities in several areas, particularly affecting women and vulnerable sections of society. The principle of “one nation, equal rights for all citizens” must guide our approach toward civil legislation. A Uniform Civil Code would ensure that every Indian citizen, regardless of religion or

background, is governed by the same civil legal framework, thereby strengthening the idea of equality before law.

The Government led by Narendra Modi has consistently taken steps to promote social justice and constitutional reform. A significant example of this commitment was the enactment of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, which abolished the practice of instant triple talaq and protected the rights and dignity of Muslim women. This reform demonstrated that the government stands firmly for gender justice and constitutional equality while respecting the spirit of democratic dialogue.

From my perspective, the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code must be approached with sensitivity, consultation, and respect for India's cultural diversity. The objective is not to interfere with religious practices but to establish equal civil rights and legal clarity for all citizens. Through discussions with states, legal experts, and community leaders, a balanced and inclusive framework can be developed that reflects both constitutional values and social harmony.

In conclusion, the Uniform Civil Code represents a step toward strengthening national integration, gender justice, and equality before the law. By encouraging constructive dialogue and democratic consensus, India can move closer to fulfilling the constitutional vision of a fair and uniform civil legal system that serves every citizen equally while preserving the country's rich cultural diversity.

***Jai Hind***

Home Minister of India  
Amit Shah



गृह मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
**HOME AFFAIRS**

## 1. Press Release

### Press Release 1.0

**Committee:** All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM)

**Agenda:** Deliberation on the Implementation of a Uniform Civil Code in India

**Portfolio:** Amit Shah

**Party:** Bharatiya Janata Party

The Delegate of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Amit Shah, strongly reiterates the commitment of the Government of India towards establishing equality before law through the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC). India, as a sovereign democratic republic, functions on the foundational principle that every citizen must be guaranteed equal rights and equal protection under the law, irrespective of religion, caste, or community.

The Constitution of India, under Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy, encourages the State to endeavor toward the adoption of a Uniform Civil Code for all citizens. This constitutional vision aims to bring uniformity in civil matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption, thereby ensuring that no citizen faces discrimination due to differences in personal laws. The implementation of UCC is therefore not merely a legislative reform but a step toward fulfilling a long-standing constitutional aspiration.

The Government under the leadership of Narendra Modi has consistently prioritized social justice and gender equality. A clear demonstration of this commitment was the enactment of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, which abolished the practice of instant triple talaq and safeguarded the dignity and rights of Muslim women. Such reforms highlight the government's dedication to protecting fundamental rights while promoting progressive social change.

The delegate emphasizes that the objective of the Uniform Civil Code is not to undermine religious freedom but to ensure legal equality and fairness for all citizens. India's diversity remains its greatest strength, and any legislative framework must respect cultural traditions while upholding constitutional values.

Constructive dialogue among political parties, legal experts, and community representatives will be essential in developing a balanced and inclusive approach toward implementing the UCC.

In conclusion, the Bharatiya Janata Party firmly believes that the adoption of a Uniform Civil Code will strengthen national integration, promote gender justice, and reinforce the principle of equality before law. The delegate urges all members of the committee to engage in thoughtful discussion and cooperative policymaking to advance a legal framework that reflects the spirit of the Constitution and the aspirations of the people of India.

### 3. AIPPM Bill

#### A Bill

to provide for the simultaneous conduct of elections to the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

#### Authors

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## **Preamble**

Whereas free and fair elections are the bedrock of democracy;

And whereas frequent elections lead to policy paralysis, disruption in governance, massive public expenditure, and enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct at regular intervals;

And whereas it is expedient to ensure administrative stability and cost efficiency by synchronizing elections;

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-Sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

## **Chapter I – Preliminary**

### **1. Short title, extent and commencement**

(1) This Act may be called the One Nation, One Election Act, 2025.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

## **Chapter II – Definitions**

### **2. Definitions**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires

(a) “House of the People” means the Lok Sabha;

- (b) “Legislative Assembly” means the State Legislative Assemblies;
- (c) “Election Commission” means the Election Commission of India constituted under Article 324 of the Constitution;
- (d) “Simultaneous Elections” means elections held concurrently for Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies across the country.

## **Chapter III – Provisions for Simultaneous Elections**

### **3. Synchronization of Electoral Cycles**

- (1) The terms of all State Legislative Assemblies and the House of the People shall be aligned such that elections are held together every five years.
- (2) For the purpose of alignment, early dissolution or extension of terms (not exceeding six months) may be permitted, subject to constitutional provisions and under the supervision of the Election Commission.

### **4. Conduct of Simultaneous Elections**

- (1) The Election Commission shall make all arrangements to ensure that elections to the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies are held concurrently.
- (2) Separate ballot units or Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) shall be used for each level of election.

## **Chapter IV – Contingencies and By-elections**

### **5. Mid-term Dissolution**

In case of premature dissolution of either Lok Sabha or a State Assembly—

- (a) Fresh elections shall be held for the remaining term;
- (b) The new House/Assembly shall continue only till the next scheduled simultaneous

election.

## **6. By-elections**

By-elections shall be held as per current provisions and shall not affect the synchronized cycle.

## **Chapter V – Constitutional and Legal Amendments**

### **7. Constitutional Amendments Required**

(1) Articles 83, 172, 324, 356 and other relevant provisions of the Constitution shall be suitably amended to facilitate simultaneous elections.

(2) The Representation of the People Act, 1951, and related electoral laws shall be amended accordingly.

## **Chapter VI – Miscellaneous**

### **8. Power to Make Rules**

The Central Government may, in consultation with the Election Commission, make rules for the effective implementation of this Act.

### **Statement of Objects and Reasons**

The present electoral calendar leads to a cycle of continuous elections, frequent imposition of Model Code of Conduct, increased public expenditure, and administrative inefficiency. The 170th Report of the Law Commission (1999), NITI Aayog's draft discussion paper (2017), and the 22nd Law Commission Report (2024) have supported the feasibility of simultaneous elections. This Bill seeks to restore electoral stability and reduce fiscal and governance burdens on the nation.

## Financial Memorandum

The implementation of simultaneous elections may require an initial investment for procurement of additional EVMs/VVPATs and training of personnel. However, this will lead to long-term savings on election-related expenditures, which stood at ₹8,000 crore for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections alone.

## Annexures

- Law Commission 170th Report (1999)
- NITI Aayog Discussion Paper (2017)
- Election Commission submissions (2018)
- 22nd Law Commission Consultation Summary (2024)



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## Questions a Resolution Must Answer

1. What specific linguistic challenge or policy gap in India is the resolution addressing (such as issues related to the Eighth Schedule, language education, or linguistic minorities)?
2. How does the resolution aim to balance linguistic diversity with national unity and administrative efficiency?
3. What reforms or recommendations does the resolution propose regarding the expansion or evaluation of the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution?
4. How should the Three-Language Formula and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 be implemented or modified to ensure fairness and inclusivity for different linguistic communities?
5. What measures can be introduced to protect and promote the rights of linguistic minorities, particularly in multilingual states and urban areas experiencing migration?
6. How can regional and minority languages be integrated into digital platforms, artificial intelligence, and government services to improve linguistic accessibility?
7. What role should central and state governments play in implementing policies related to linguistic inclusion and language preservation?

8. How will the proposed policies ensure equal access to education, governance, and public services for speakers of different languages?
9. What institutional mechanisms, committees, or bodies will be responsible for monitoring and implementing linguistic policies and reforms?
10. How can India promote multilingualism while preserving cultural identity and ensuring effective communication in governance and public administration?



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