O.M. No. 12015/18/90-OL(T.C.), dated 25.5.1990

Subject:— Mechanical aids in Devanagari— Follow up action on the decisions taken on the Report (Part-II) of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language.

The undersigned is directed to say that the Committee of Parliament on Official Language, constituted under Section 4(1) of the Official Languages Act, 1963, submitted its report regarding the use of mechanical aids in Devanagari in Government Offices to the President in July, 1987. The decisions taken on the recommendations made therein, after taking into consideration the views of various Central Ministries/Departments and States/Union Territories, were forwarded to all the Ministries/Departments for information and necessary action *vide* this Department's Resolution No. 12015/34/87-OL(TC) dated 29th March, 1990.

2. Attention of the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and their attached and subordinate offices, public sector undertakings, nationalised banks etc. is invited once again to some of the decisions, with which they are all concerned, for taking action as follows:—

Electronic Typewriters:

(1) Regarding the electronic typewriters, the Committee of Parliament on Official Langauge is of the view that till such time as only Devanagari electronic typewriters are manufactured, all the offices should purchase only those electronic typewriters which have the facility of Devanagari typing along with Roman. In this regard orders were issued by the Department of Official Language *vide* O.M. No. 12015/20/87-OL(TC) dated 15.6.1987 that all the offices of the Central Government should purchase only bilingual electronic typewriters. All the Ministries/Departments are requested to ensure that these orders are implemented strictly.

Teleprinters/Telex:

(2) Instruction regarding bilingual teleprinters/telex were issued *vide* Department of Official Language O.M. No. 12015/9/88-OL(TC) dated 28.3.1988. Since the bilingual electronic telex machines have been developed and these machines are also being produced on commercial basis, as already requested in the above O.M., all the Ministries/Departments are requested that in future they should purchase or take on lease only bilingual (Hindi-English) teleprinter/telex machines. The offices having Roman teleprinters/telex on lease at present should immediately request the Department of Telecommunications to install bilingual electronic teleprinter/telex in place of these machines.

Computers:

(3) As intimated *vide* this Department's O.M. No. 12015/12/84-OL(TC) dated 30.5.1985, all the offices of the Central Government should purchase only bilingual (Hindi-English) computers, word processors and teleprinters. The Administration Division of every Ministry/Department has been made a check point for ensuring strict compliance of the instructions regarding the purchase of computers, word processors etc. and the Department of Telecommunications has been made a check-point for the purchase of telex/teleprinters. Any machine which does not have bilingual capability should not be purchased without prior approval of the Department of Official Language.

(b) The Committee of Parliament on Official Language has recommended that the Devanagari terminals should be installed with all the computers available in different Government offices, which have the facility of working in Roman only. The recommendation of the Committee has been accepted. Therefore, all the Ministries/Departments may review the position of computers available at present and ensure that Devanagari terminal or card is provided on all the computers. It may be stated that it is now possible to provide bilingual capability on IBM-PC and multi-user systems by using "GIST" Card or "GIST" Terminal respectively. Detailed information regarding this technology is given in **Annexure-1**. All the Ministries/Departments are accordingly requested to review the position in this regard and to modify their existing systems by installing the "GIST" Card or "GIST" Terminal, so that the facility of working in Hindi is available on them. In this regard a time bound programme may be prepared and implemented in every office.

In addition to above, in the Ministries/Departments, offices, undertakings etc. where there are old computers on which bilingual capability cannot be provided due to technical reasons, it would be more useful in terms of costs to replace them by latest bilingual computers. Therefore, all the Ministries/Departments may install latest bilingual computers in place of the old systems after reviewing the position.

(c) The Committee of Parliament on Official Language has recommended that Devanagari characters should also be engraved on the key boards of word processors and electronic typewriters and commands in Devanagari should also be engraved on the command keys. This recommendation has been accepted. All the Ministries/Departments are requested to ensure that they purchase only such computers, word processors and electronic typewriters which have all the characters/commands on their key boards in bilingual form.

(d) All the Ministries/Departments had been requested *vide* Department of Official Language O.M. No. 12015/12/84-OL(TC) dated 31.8.1987 that they should install only such computer systems, as have the facility of entering data and generating report etc. in both Hindi and English languages. All the Ministries/Departments are requested to ensure strict compliance with these orders. It is also requested that information regarding the computers installed in different offices may be sent to this Department latest by 30th June, 1990 in the enclosed proforma at **Annexure-2**.

Use of Bilingual Equipment:

(4) Orders regarding purchase of a certain percentage of Devanagari typewriters in different regions and provision of at least one Devanagari typewriter in each office as well as purchase of only those electronic devices/equipments that are capable of giving output in both Hindi and English languages have been issued by the Department of Official Language from time to time. According to the report of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language, proper compliance of these orders has not been ensured by various Ministries/Departments, offices and undertakings etc., thereby hampering the pace of use of Hindi as the official language and promoting the use of English language. The Committee has recommended that in terms of Rule 12 of the Official Languages Rules, strict action be taken against the Heads of Departments, who have failed to properly comply with the orders on the subject issued by the Department of Official Language.

Accordingly, the attention of all the Ministries/Departments is specially invited to the above recommendation with the request to ensure strict compliance of the orders issued from time to time in this regard by the Department of Official Language.

(5) The Committee of Parliament on Official Language has also recommended that in regions "A" and "B" where bilingual equipments are installed, these should be used mainly for doing work in Hindi in accordance with the rules regarding official language. Strict and effective check point should be prescribed for this purpose and provision should be made for action against those violating these instructions.

All the Ministries/Departments are requested to ensure appropriate action as per the above recommendation.

3. All the Ministries/Departments are requested to take suitable action on the above instructions and bring these to the notice of their attached and subordinate offices and undertakings, nationalised banks etc. owned and controlled by them and ensure compliance thereof.

AVAILABILITY AND APPLICATIONS OF THE "GIST" CARD/TERMINAL

Previously, the capability of Devanagari on computers used to be provided by external software. This system had some drawbacks *viz;*

(1) Separate Devanagari software was used for every package.

(2) The machine used to slow down, and

(3) Popular and standardized packages could not work in Devanagari.

2. The arrival of "GIST" technology has solved these problems to a large extent. "GIST" card is a device which can be fitted in any IBM- PC and with its help, the existing software itself can be run in Devanagari and other Indian scripts. Natural transliteration from one Indian script to another is also possible. The machine also does not slow down as the card has its own processor.

3. Machines, which do not belong to the IBM-PC category eg. multi-user systems etc., can also be made capable of working bilingually or multilingually with the help of "GIST" terminal. The Department of Official Language has prepared a useful software package for the users of "GIST" card, which can convert the Roman data (names, addresses etc.) already entered to Devanagari and any other Indian script. This saves the labour of re-entering this data in Devanagari. This package is available free of cost from the Department of Official Language to the users of the "GIST" card. The names and addresses of the manufacturers of the "GIST" card/terminal are as follows:—

(1) M/s Applied Electromagnetics Pvt. Ltd.,
36-37, New Okhla Industrial Complex,
Phase I, New Delhi-110020.

(2) M/s Blue Star Limited,
13, Community Centre, New Friends Colony,
New Delhi-110065.

(3) M/s Quark Computers Pvt. Ltd.,
C-31, Sarvodaya Nagar,
Kanpur-208005.

(4) M/s National Information Technologies Ltd.,
PTI Building, Parliament Street,
New Delhi-110001.

Annexure-2

Information about the computers installed in the Ministry/Department of-----------------------

	Mini		Super AT		PC	Others
	Systems	Terminals	Systems	Terminals		
Total Nos.						
How many have the facility of entering data and generating reports in Hindi						