

O.M. No. I/15016/4/97-O.L. (P-1), dated 9.6.1998

Subject:— Use of Official Language Hindi in international conferences/functions.

References: (a) O.M. No. I/14034/7/79-OL (A-1), Dt. 27.07.1979.

(b) O.M. No. I/14034/6/85-OL (A-1), Dt. 28.01.1986.

(c) O.M. No. I/12024/6/87-OL (B-2), Dt. 20.04.1987.

(d) O.M. No. I/14013/8/94-OL (A-1), Dt. 24.05.1994.

Government have issued instructions from time to time in the past *vide* references mentioned above regarding the use of official language Hindi in international conferences/functions etc.

2. The matter of review of old instructions had been engaging attention of the Government for quite some time.

After

due consideration, it has now been decided that in supersession of all past instructions on the subject, new comprehensive

guidelines be issued on this subject.

3. The undersigned is, therefore, directed to state that the previous instructions issued by the Department, as referred to supra, are hereby withdrawn with immediate effect and new guidelines, as per the following paras, be now followed:—

(i) Conferences/meetings organized by UN Bodies and Bodies affiliated to it: The leader of Indian delegation will get his speech/address circulated in bilingual (Hindi/English) form and will also deliver his speech/address in Hindi, if he knows Hindi, provided that services of the interpreter have been arranged as required.

(ii) Conferences/meetings organized formally by Global or Regional Organisations: If the conference/meeting is being organized in India and is being hosted by Government of India, the additional steps to be insured, besides those mentioned in para 3(1) supra, are use of both Hindi and English languages in banners, badges, name-plates, notice boards, etc.

If there is no formal and legal bar in this respect, the literature, circulars, agenda, minutes, press notes etc. should also

be in bilingual (Hindi/English) form.

(iii) Conferences/meetings of International Associations/Organisations and Bodies in which India is a participating member: The leader of Indian delegation will get his speech/address circulated in bilingual (Hindi/English) form and will also deliver his speech/address in Hindi, if he knows Hindi, provided that services of interpreter have been arranged as required.

If the conference/meeting is being organised in India and is being hosted by Government of India, the additional steps to be ensured are use of both Hindi and English languages in banners, badges, nameplates, notice boards etc.

If there is no formal and legal bar in this respect, the literature, circulars, agenda, minutes, press notes etc. should also be in bilingual (Hindi and English) form.

(iv) Bilateral meetings/talks/negotiations etc. with other countries: The instructions as stated in paras 3(i) and 3(ii) supra should be followed, as applicable. Besides this, the bilateral agreements should be prepared and signed in bilingual form (Hindi and English).

4. The members of Indian delegation should, as far as feasible, use Hindi in conversation with their colleagues and counterparts during such events.

5. The Press conferences during the conferences/meetings being hosted by India should be addressed in Hindi and English.

6. All the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are requested to render all necessary secretarial assistance

and make arrangements like translators, interpreters etc. according to the above mentioned guidelines.

7. This O.M. may please be acknowledged.