

CHAPTER – 3

NINTH PART OF THE REPORT

3.1 As described in detail in Chapter-2, the Committee of Parliament on Official Language was constituted in 1976 as per the provisions of section 4 (1) of the Official Language Act, 1963, wherein the Committee has been assigned the duty to review the progress made in use of Hindi for official purposes of the Union and submit its report to the President making recommendations thereon. Since then the Committee, in discharge of its statutory obligation has submitted eight parts of its Report to the President. Presidential Orders have been issued from time to time on the various recommendations of the Committee. Recommendations of the Committee and the orders passed by the President thereon have been published by the Committee Secretariat in a consolidated form and the publication is known as “Compilation of orders of the President on the eight Parts of the Report of the Committee”. Brief chart giving information in respect of the eight parts submitted to the President is available at Annexure-1.

3.2 The Committee is of the view that the recommendations made by it from time to time have gone a long way in removing the hurdles obstructing effective implementation of the various provisions of the Official Language Act, 1963 and the Official Language Rules, 1976. The Committee has found that the use of Hindi in Govt. Offices has gained momentum with the implementation of the Presidential Orders.

3.3 To ensure the progressive use of Hindi in the official work of the Union besides the Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Official Language there are various other Committees who also extend their cooperation in this task. But the Committee of Parliament on Official Language distinctively looks at the progress of Official Language in a comprehensive perspective. The Committee takes into account all the dimensions of the propagation of Hindi, whether it is related to the Hindi/Non-Hindi knowing people, Hindi and non-Hindi regions, nature of work, whether the situations/conditions are favourable/unfavourable. All these factors are analyzed very minutely and then attempt is made to find the solutions to the specific problem. The Committee, thereafter, presents the same to the President in the form of recommendations. In addition, the Committee holds discussion with the senior officers in the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Official Language to find solution to immediate problems.

3.4 While preparing the report to be presented to the President, the Committee adopts various devices to review the progress of the use of the Official Language. For example, the Committee of Parliament of Official Language, through its three sub-committees undertakes on the spot inspections of the offices/undertaking/banks/corporations/institutes spread throughout the country. The Committee, in addition to the above, obtains Oral Evidences of the Secretaries/Heads of the various Ministries/Depts. Of the Central Government, Chancellors of the Universities, Chief Ministers of the States, Governors and eminent personalities from the field of education. These personalities, through their valuable suggestions, contribute to the cause of the Official Language. The third device adopted by the Committee is through its policy making sub-committee i.e. Drafting & Evidence Sub-Committee which holds Discussion Programmes with the Chairmen and various member offices of the Town Official Language Implementation Committees spread throughout the country with regard to the progress of Official Language in that city. The three Sub-Committees of the Committee of Parliament of Official Language have inspected 2093 offices of 49 Ministries from 01 April 2005 to 30 September, 2010. If viewed region-wise during the said period the Committee has inspected 882 Central Government offices located in the region “A”, 342 offices in region “B” and 836 offices in region “C”. The Committee has held Oral

Evidence programmes with 7 Ministries during the year 2006 to 2010 namely Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Information & Technology, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension. The Secretaries and Heads of Offices of 46 subordinate offices of the Ministries took part in these programmes. For this programme the Committee prepared special Questionnaires for each office invited for Oral Evidence. During the said period the Drafting & Evidence Sub-Committee has also held discussion programmes with 81 Town Official Language Implementation Committees. During the discussion programme many points were discussed and the committee came up with the solutions to these problems.

3.5 In order to prepare this part of the Report, information was collected through the questionnaires meant for inspection and the Drafting and Evidence sub-committee undertook discussion programmes with the Chairmen of Town Official Language Implementation Committees and obtained proposals and suggestions from them. On the basis the Committee collected the Ministry-wise and Region-wise information and analyzed the same. The Committee has prepared a statistical chart after analyzing ministry-wise data which facilitates the assessment of the situation regarding implementation of the Official Language.

3.6 Drafting & Evidence sub Committee of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language held a meeting of its members on 16.11.2010 to discuss the preparation of 9th Part of its report. It was pointed out in the meeting that current issues should be touched and the recommendations be sent to the President to make the progressive use of Hindi more effective and useful. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, Chairman, Drafting and Evidence sub-committee, Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya, Convenor, Third sub-committee, Dr. Nirmal Khatri, the then Convenor, Second sub-committee attended the meeting. Smt. Veena Upadhyay, Secretary, Department of Language also participated in the meeting. The members took note of the issues to be presented in this part and gave their valuable suggestions on the outline of the draft of the ninth part of the report. The members were unanimous on this fact that the Conclusions & Recommendations contained in all the chapters would go a long way in the implementation of the official language policy.

3.7 The Ninth Part of the report consists of four sections. After the introductory part in Section-1, Section-2 contains a Ministry-wise and Region-wise review of the use of Hindi, which is based on the inspections carried out by the Committee of Parliament of Official Language from 01 April, 2005 to 30 September, 2010. Of these, 869 offices were inspected for the first time and 236 offices were re-inspected after 10 years and a special review of the progressive use of Hindi in these offices has been presented. On the basis of these inspections, an analysis of the facts and other relevant information has been presented. In the third Section of the Report, the Committee based on its experience, has presented a review of the following subjects:-

1. Problems faced by Town Official Language Implementation Committees and suggestions for their better implementation.
2. Availability of new technologies of computers and it's role in the usage, learning and training etc. of Official Language and translation. (Review on the basis of the Oral Evidence Programme of Secretary, Information and Broadcasting conducted on 31 August, 2006 by the Committee)
3. Position of Hindi in the fields of Education and Technology (Review on the basis of the Oral Evidence Programme of Ministry of Human Resource Development conducted on 31 August, 2006 by the Committee)
4. The necessity of knowledge of Hindi for the Central Government Employees before joining the service.

5. Usage of Hindi language in the advertisements released by the Central Government.
6. Objectives of purchase of Books and publishing magazines.
7. Review of information received during Oral evidence programme conducted by the Committee.

3.8 The general & specific conclusions arrived at by the in-depth analysis of the various chapters of the Report form the basis on which the recommendations have been made. These recommendations form section 4 of this report entitled “Conclusions & Recommendations”. This Part contains 15 chapters and on this basis the Committee has made 117 recommendations.

3.9 The Committee hopes that the various issues contained in the Report and Conclusions and Recommendations put forward in this regard will undoubtedly prove useful for furthering the progressive use of Hindi in the offices of the Union Government and the recommendations will be helpful in playing an active and meaningful role in the effective implementation of the Official Language policy. The Committee is of the opinion that strict compliance should be ensured on the Presidential orders and Resolutions passed on the Committee’s earlier reports. These should be complied with solemnly by all the Ministries/Departments and Offices and the work pertaining to Hindi training, Hindi Typing, Hindi Stenography training, and training to work on computers in Hindi should also be completed within the prescribed time frame.

3.10 While preparing this part, the Committee felt there was a need to assess the position regarding the implementation of recommendations contained in the previous eight parts. They were of the view that there is a need to review the previous recommendations to find out how many and up to what extent these recommendations are useful and relevant in the present circumstances. There has been no action on some of the previous recommendations; therefore there is a need to re-issue the Presidential orders on them. The Committee was of the view that the work is still lagging behind the laid down targets in many areas. It is, therefore, pertinent to continue the inspections & discussion programmes so as to obtain the information on the impediments in the way of achieving the targets and their remedial measures as well. In this connection, Oral Evidence are to be convened with important Ministries/Depts and discussions be made on the facts received.

3.11 Here it is also pertinent to mention that in the present scenario of economic liberalisation and globalization many offices/undertaking/banks are expanding their activities to foreign countries. There are 175 Indian Government Offices/Embassies in the major cities of the world and with the time the numbers of Offices/Embassies are increasing. It is necessary to review the position of implementation of Official Language Policy in these offices. Many Embassies, High Commissions are to be inspected with regard to Official Language implementation. It is pertinent to mention here that the progress made in usage of Hindi in Central Government offices located abroad could not be discussed because the information and data regarding the same are not available with the Committee. Some time in future the Committee would like to make factual recommendations regarding the use of Hindi after the completion of the inspection of offices located abroad. Besides, keeping in view the present scenario of globalisation and effect of world market, the Committee would like to give its recommendation regarding ways to make Hindi the seventh official language of the United Nation Organisation.

3.12 There are many educational institutes and training centres in the country where inspections are to be carried out. The question as to how the Official Language Hindi, can be made the medium of instruction in academic and training institutions and how it can be accepted as the original language in technical and research organizations, requires in-depth consideration.

Inspections regarding the advertisement policy of the Govt. of India were taken up only in September, 2004. As such, more information is yet to be obtained and the Committee could not arrive at any concrete conclusion on the advertisement policy of the government. More work is still required as many aspects still remain untouched.

3.13 While accepting the important role played by the eight Regional Implementation Offices under the control of Department of Official Language to ensure proper compliance of the implementation of the Official Language Policy in Central Government offices in the whole country, the Committee would like to make a regular review of the work done by all the Regional Implementation Offices. For this purpose, a special inspection of these Regional Implementation Offices is to be conducted by the Committee.

3.14 The Committee feels that it is essential to evaluate the effect of the incentive schemes that are adopted by the Government in achieving the aim of encouraging the progressive use of Official Language/Hindi in all the Ministries/Departments/Offices etc of the Central Government. This evaluation is necessary to encourage all the officers/ employees to do their official work more in Hindi and consequently increasing the usage of Hindi in all offices.

3.15 The use of Official Language in various international and national events/conferences/seminars etc organised by the Government may be ensured. For example, the invitation regarding the programme may be printed in Hindi, speech in opening ceremony, etc may be given in Hindi and Hindi may be used for the comparing of programmes.

3.16 Thus, in view of the above facts it is essential to continue the Oral Evidence programmes and inspections etc because still recommendations are yet to be made by the Committee. In view of the above reasons the continuation of the Committee and put up recommendations on these points in the next part of the report are essential.
