

O.M. No. I/14034/02/98-O.L (Policy), dated 20.7.1998

Subject:— Hindi Fortnight, 1998.

With a view to creating awareness in regard to the use of Official Language Hindi in official work as well as to accelerate the pace of its progressive use, Central Government Offices/Undertakings/Banks/Corporations etc. have been organising Hindi Day/Hindi Week/Hindi Fortnight. Likewise, in previous years, this year Hindi Fortnight is to be observed from 1st September to 15th September, 1998. The outlines of activities to be observed by the Central Government offices during this period are as follows :—

- (a) Hindi Fortnight may be organised from 1st September to 15th September (15 days). An office may effect a change in these dates according to its convenience but, in any case, the main function be invariably organised on 14th September, 1998.
- (b) The message of Hon'ble Home Minister must be read out in all Ministries/Departments/Offices on the date of main function, a copy of which will be communicated to them in due course.
- (c) It should be organised mainly as a "Day of Harmony among all Indian Languages".
- (d) As far as possible, on the day of main function, cent percent attendance in offices may be ensured.
- (e) All the Ministries/Departments must also ensure that by 14th September, all prescribed number of meetings of the Hindi Salahkar Samitis and Official Language Implementation Committees are convened and arrears are cleared.
- (f) 'In House Magazine' etc. to be published during this fortnight, should bring out their "Special Issue on Official Language".
- (g) The contribution of Hindi & non-Hindi speaking individuals who have contributed substantially towards the development of Hindi & other Indian languages should be highlighted. Programmes, discussions, workshops etc. may be organised for this purpose.
- (h) Competitions pertaining to the official language may be organised during this fortnight as usual and official language awards be distributed. A decision can be taken at its own level by the respective Ministries/Departments in respect of the amount of the awards to be distributed according to their financial resources.
- (i) These programmes should be organised throughout the fortnight instead of restricting them to any single day. Association of Ministers and senior officers of Ministries/Departments with these programmes should be ensured.

It is also requested that these programmes be widely publicised in the secretariat of each Ministry/Department, its attached/subordinate offices and undertakings and detailed report on the observing of 'Hindi Fortnight' may please be made available to the Director (Research), Department of Official Language.