



# Three language policy at secondary level adds to CBSE's students worries

## 'Kids Will Have To Switch Tracks After Years Of Learning Foreign Language'

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**Kolkata:** CBSE's recent mandate requiring a third language at the secondary level has triggered concern among parents, students and school administrators, particularly over mid-session implementation and the impact on those who have been studying a foreign language as their second language.

The revised policy states that students must study three languages at the secondary level, with at least two being native Indian languages, including options such as Hindi and Sanskrit. Families said the change increases curriculum burden and forces many children to switch tracks after years of learning a foreign language.

Parents argued that the transition is especially difficult for students who have limited grounding in Hindi or another Indian language at

**EFFECTIVE FROM JULY 1**

- The study of three languages shall be compulsory with at least two languages being native Indian languages
- This will be effective from July 1
- CBSE has prepared a list of 19 native Indian languages
- If students wish to study foreign languages such as French or German as the third language.

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the level expected in classes 9 and 10. A parent from a prominent city school said, "This policy makes children more confused and the learning doesn't happen organically like it is supposed to. Kids hardly know the basics of Hindi and now they are expected to understand stories and literature, which is quite difficult for them."

Some parents said they are exploring legal options, noting that a PIL has already been filed in the Supreme Court and that a section of parents in Kolkata are considering filing another petition.

Students also described disrupt-

the first two have to be Indian languages. Otherwise the foreign language can only be taken as an additional fourth language

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tions to long-term academic plans. Rivansh Agarwal, a class 9 student from Mahadevi Birla World Academy, said, "I studied German in class 6 as I hoped to go abroad in the future, but since I had to take Bengali due to a third language from class 7, I could not pursue German further." Others said the additional subject compresses time for core subjects.

The Newtown School director, Sunil Agarwal, said, "We offer foreign languages as a second language, and many students are deeply concerned because, at this stage, they would be required to begin learning a new language from scratch. We ha-

ve received numerous emails from parents who chose our school specifically because of this facility, and they are now left confused. We, too, are uncertain about how the new mandate will be implemented."

Parents of younger students also raised continuity concerns. Paulomi Roy said, "My child, who is in class 5, has been studying French since class I as her second language, her third language was Hindi, which she started last year, now that will become her second language and she will have to skip understanding of the last four classes to come to CBSE standards! Also she would have to take up Bengali as the 3rd language whereas my husband has a transferable job!"

Some students and parents however, supported the move while asking for flexibility. Anintika Choudhury, a class 9 student, said, "I don't feel any extra academic pressure as it is the same subjects I have learned in class 8." A class 10 student Ira Shraff said, "I think it's a great opportunity for students to finally take languages seriously instead of being happy with average marks."

All India Save Education Committee have firmly demanded that the Union Govt immediately revoke the imposition of the three-language formula by withdrawing the circular.

## Rising anxiety over portal glitches

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kolkata:** Class XII CBSE students reported rising anxiety and confusion while applying for reassessment, alleging the online portal malfunctioned despite the deadline being extended to Sunday after technical glitches.

Students and parents said the site frequently shows er-

### REASSESSMENT

rors, loads slowly and fails during submission, forcing repeated attempts and leaving applicants uncertain whether requests were recorded.

Several families said they received no confirmation after payment or upload steps, increasing fears of missing the cut-off.

Some urged CBSE to extend the deadline again, issue clear advisories and stabilise the portal immediately.