

On cleric's call, MSY OKs Urdu in schools

Pankaj Shah | TNN

Lucknow: Urdu may make its presence felt as a compulsory subject in government-run schools, if Samajwadi Party top leadership has its way. Sources said that SP chief Mulayam Singh Yadav has conceded to the demand of Shia cleric Kalbe Jawad of bringing Urdu at par with Sanskrit as a compulsory subject in government-run schools. Once implemented, the students would have to opt between Urdu and Sanskrit in their secondary classes.

Sources also stated that Mulayam has decided to send a proposal to the state government for getting the cleric's demand examined. SP spokesperson, Rajendra Chaudhary confirmed that the demand put forth by Jawad has been accepted and will be assessed by the respective department. Jawad has demanded that students may be given a choice between Urdu and Sanskrit as a compulsory subject in the government-run schools. "It is only after the state government takes up the issue that we will be able to say anything on this," Chaudhary said.

The computers, laptops and tablet PCs to be distributed too are proposed to have software to enable them to be operated in Urdu. Mulayam had also said that the SP government will decide on an education model for Urdu, so that more and more people can be given employment.

Tot, N.D. 01/10/2012 Pg#19