

LANGUAGE POLICY FOR ASSIGNING ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND PROMOTING REGIONAL LANGUAGE AS A COMPULSORY SUBJECT IN ACADEMICS TO PRESERVE A COUNTRY'S ETHNICITY

Samarpan Deb Majumder,
Nikunj Verma,
Sahil Sonkar,
Shubham Kumar
B.Tech Third Year
Institute of Engineering & Management, Kolkata

Abstract:

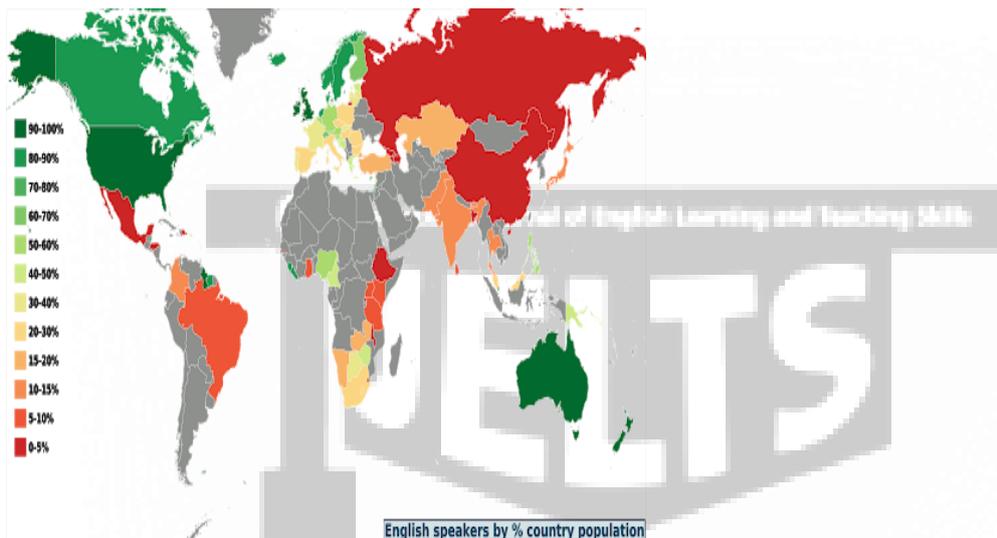
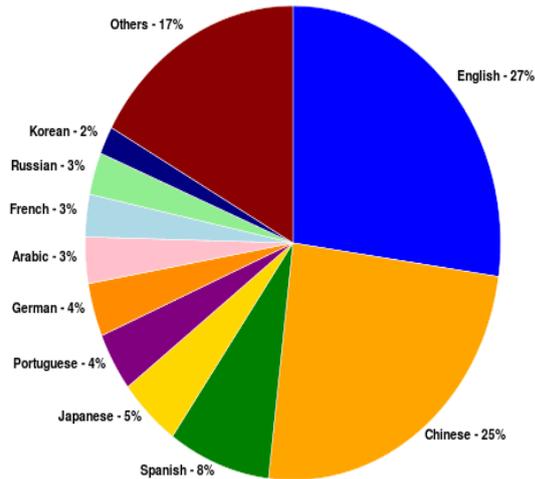
This paper entails both costs and boons: costs because it requires fixed investment for proper mechanisms such as selection and mediation of language professionals and benefits because it includes all parties to decision making, supports programme delivery and aids dissemination of results. English as a language should be accepted world-wide so as to breach the communication gap between the people only acting as the medium through which professional activities should take place such as requirement of certain degree of familiarity with English language during admission of students in a particular college or hiring professionals in a company. The regional languages should however be regularly practiced so as to preserve a country's ethnicity. It can be implemented either as a compulsory subject in school or as a separate leisure time compulsory course for employees of an organization. The above also aid in favoring social justice and cuts-off estrangements and builds trust between the public and the central government of the respective state.

Keywords: Ethnicity, regional language, language policy, estrangement and trust.

Introduction And Analysis:

Many countries have a language policy designed to favor or discourage the use of a particular language or set of languages. Although nations historically have used language policies most often to promote one official language at the expense of others, many countries have policies designed to protect and promote regional languages to keep them vivacious. Out of 7.6 Billion people on earth, almost 1.5 billion people speak English.

Again, out of this 7.6 Billion people only a fair amount of 59.7% is employed. The figures here show us a simple study where we can directly conclude that not even half the population employed speak English. All people living in a democratic society have the right to education, employment, to social services, and to equal protection under the law. No one should be denied these or any civil rights because of linguistic differences. The language policy enables everyone to respect both the languages: English as well as the regional language that contribute to our rich cultural heritage. National Language Policy supports English as the language of wider communication; it protects the civil rights of speakers of all languages and language varieties, in the hope of contributing to greater linguistic, ethnic, and racial respect and justice in our multi-ethnic multicultural society.



Studies and analysis have shown that only a minimal amount of 27 percent of people is eloquent in English. This has occurred due to some fundamental problems like:

1. Lack of Government involvement in changing the rules and guidelines of standards of language followed by schools in all over the world.
2. Students have not been given an international outreach so as to make them aware of the difficulties in the professional life for not being accustomed to English language.
3. Though English has been promoted as a subject, many countries undermine its importance and therefore assign it as an optional academic subject.
4. The importance of speaking and practicing in English at school and government institutions have also degraded manifold over a period of 10 years.

Methodology:

The policy will serve three main categories:

1. To provide resources to enable native and non-native speakers to achieve oral and literate competence in English, the language of wider communication.
2. To support programs that assert the legitimacy of native languages and dialects and ensure that proficiency in one's mother tongue will not be lost.

3. To impart the teaching of languages other than English so that the native speakers of English will rediscover the language of their heritage or learn a second language. The regional language can be imparted as a subject in the academics in school or college.

Discussions of declaring English as the official language is centuries old. For example, in the nineteenth century, the government of US established boarding schools to inculcate English language at the expense of its native culture. In India, Sanskrit is in the verge of extinction as most of the people in India are now familiar with English but not their native language. These two cases show us the dark side of the language policy that our constitution had set. In order to make sure that both the languages are respected, it is to be made sure by the government and the education minister of the respective country to set certain rules and guidelines.

The rules and guidelines are mentioned below:

1. To practice native language speaking among the native and non-native speakers.
2. To establish the native language as a compulsory subject along with English as the first language in school and colleges.
3. To establish English speaking sessions in school and colleges across the globe so that the people are not rejected for employment due to unfamiliarity with the English language.
4. Government and private organizations should set rules and regulations to maintain a certain degree of familiarity with English language during the hiring of employees so to eradicate workplace tensions among employees.
5. The government should set rules to establish regular classes for a limited period of time for the native as well as the non-native employees so as to make sure that the regional languages are not endangered.

These rules must be imparted at each and every country in the world so as to make sure that unemployment is reduced widely solely due to linguistic differences. These laws declare that official government business must be conducted only in the English language. International normative instruments such as conventions, treaties or recommendations can be reinforced at the national level if comprehensive language policies are developed, concrete measures are introduced, resources are allocated, and effective tools are used by all stakeholders concerned. However, due to misconceptions people have been treating English as an official language as a source of racism and violence between native and non- native speakers.

This can be described below as:

1. **It's unnecessary** - English, the global *lingua franca* and the language of wider communication in this country, is not threatened. For two centuries, most immigrants learned English within a generation without any laws compelling them.
2. **It's dangerous and unfair** - When we pass laws that forbid health and safety information, street signs, court trials, and marriage ceremonies in languages people can understand, we deny them legal protection and social services. Further, it can deny individuals employment opportunities.

3. **It's oppressive and dehumanizing** - English-Only policies both reflect and promote language prejudice. This dehumanizes people and creates a hostile climate that can, in turn, promote further violence.
4. **It's unconstitutional** - English-Only policies violate these Constitutional rights, especially when the public mistakenly believes that an official English law requires that English be spoken at all times.
5. **It's educationally unsound** - English-Only opposes bilingual and similar programs that help students build on their linguistic skills. When students cannot use their strengths, they experience alienation and failure.

Amidst of all such oppositions, English language as an official language will be productive and will have major boons if:

1. Strive to include all citizens of all language communities in the positive development of our daily activities.
2. Teach children and others—in schools, communities, and workplaces—that language differences are opportunities to learn and benefit from each other in a global society.
3. Advocate education, social services, legal services, medical services, and protective signing for linguistic minorities in their own languages so that basic human rights are preserved.
4. Emphasize the importance of all Americans learning second and third languages so that we can participate more effectively in worldwide activities.
5. Remain vigilant and united to protect the civil rights of all language minorities worldwide.
6. Encourage immigrants to retain their first languages, to pass them on to their children, and to celebrate the life-supporting customs of their parents.

To make sure that the activities of maintaining the language policy is done properly and in an organized way, factors mentioned below should be checked by the government of the respective states regularly:

1. Proportion of speakers within the total population.
2. Absolute number of speakers.
3. Availability of materials for language education and literacy.
4. Response to new domains and media.
5. Governmental and institutional language attitude and policies including official status and people.
6. Amount and quality of documentation.

Thus by maintaining a proper balance between English and the regional languages internal tensions in the state between native and non-native people, workplace discrimination and unemployment can be avoided.

Conclusion:

Overall, English and regional languages should be practiced under one umbrella having a tantamount. The revolutionary step will allow students as well as professionals to face minimal problems while communicating with the rest of the population of the world.

References:

1. Grit, Guts and Gumption by Rajesh Chakrabarti.
2. The Black Board Jungle by Evan Hunter.
3. Why Don't Students Like School? by Daniel T. Willingham.
4. <https://www.google.co.in/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=http://www.cal.org/areas-of-impact/language-planning-policy&ved=0ahUKEwjn5pLDvqvcAhWHN48KHW6FB9gQFggyMAI&usg=AOvVaw3IwVrHsHjkwH-CA9je82a3>

