

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF NCPUL HELD: SHRI KAPIL
SIBAL CALLS FOR NEW VISION & STRATEGY FOR PROMOTION
OF URDU LANGUAGE**

New Delhi: October 3, 2011

Shri Kapil Sibal, Union Minister for Human Resource Development has mooted that there be an annual Urdu heritage/literary event, coordinated by NCPUL. This annual event could be held in different parts of the country every year so that a greater number of people can be reached out to. This was stated by the Minister at the Annual General Body Meeting of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) here today. He said that a new vision and a national strategy is needed in order to preserve the rich cultural heritage of India reflected in the Urdu, Arabic and Persian languages. He also underlined the need of protecting and preserving the art forms like Calligraphy, Ghazalas, Islamic architecture and sculpture etc. through developing human resource in these areas.

In order to develop a road map for the promotion of these languages in the 12th Plan, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) was asked by the Ministry of HRD to hold discussions with eminent people and experts and prepare an 'Approach Paper' and submit it to the Ministry. Accordingly, three interactive sessions were held with eminent personalities connected with Urdu language, literature and culture which were presided over by **Shri K. Rahman Khan**, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 12th March, 2010, **Prof. Shamsur Rehman Faruqi**, noted scholar on 2nd August, 2010 and **Dr. Syeda Saiyidain Hameed**, Member, Planning Commission on 28th December, 2010.

The road map suggests that in order to create a new thrust in the 12th Plan, it is necessary to re-visit the mandate of NCPUL and vest it with powers to register, examine and certify learners upto pre-degree level in language and vocational courses traditionally related to these languages. These courses will be identified under National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF).

MV/GK