



## Expansion of Indian Sign Language (ISL)

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Recently, India added some **2,500 new terms** including words in **English and Hindi** to the [Indian Sign Language \(ISL\) dictionary](#) e.g., [Aadhaar card](#), [Blockchain](#), [Ursa Nebula](#) etc.

- New terms were added during the celebration of [International Day of Sign Languages 2024](#) with the theme “**Sign up for Sign Language Rights**”.
  - The [UN General Assembly](#) has proclaimed **23rd September** as the International Day of Sign Languages in **2017** and it was **first celebrated in 2018**.
  - The [World Federation of the Deaf \(WFD\)](#) was established on **23rd September 1951**.
- Expansion of the ISL facilitated the **deaf community’s engagement** particularly in **scientific, cultural, and internet** related contexts.
- The expansion of the ISL dictionary was spearheaded by the [Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre \(ISLRTC\)](#).
  - ISLRTC is an **autonomous organisation** established under [Societies Registration Act, 1860](#) and functions under the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**.
  - It is dedicated to researching, fostering educational access and **promoting Indian sign language** as a linguistic system.

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