ISO 639-3 Registration Authority
Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code” form

Date: 2011-8-31

Name of Primary Requester: Shinu PR

E-mail address: shinu underscore pr at nlfe dot in

Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:
NLCI, Logos Centre, Horamavu Agara, Hennur Road, Bangalore, India - 560043

Associated Change request number : 2011-166 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : sgj (completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION
   a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
      Surgujia
   
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Surgujia-Chhattisgarhi, Surguja, Suraji, Surgujia, Surjugia
   
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      Though Grierson consider that these two varieties as sub-dialects of the Chhattisgarhi language (1906: VI, 24), people call their language Surgujia.
   
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      1, 458,53 in 2001. The population was 3,093 in 1961. (it was listed under Hindi related languages)
   
   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available:
      Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION
   a) Is this a
      
      ☒ Living language
      ☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
      ☐ Recently extinct language
      ☐ Historical language
      ☐ Ancient language
      ☐ Artificially constructed language

Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
   India

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS
coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
   Chhattigarh [Surguja, Jashpur and Korea districts]. It is also spoken in the border areas of
   Raigarh and Korba districts, adjoining with the Surguja district. Surguja district is the main
   area of concentration for this language.

d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language,
give the approximate date of the last known user’s death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION
   a) This language is: [ ] Signed  [X] Spoken  [ ] Attested only in writings

   b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
      It is not classified.

   c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or
      proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or
      spoken languages:
      Linguistically it is close to Chhattisgarhi [hne] language. Researchers could collect
      wordlists from Surgujia and it showed 71% to 76% lexical similarity with Chhattisgarhi
      wordlists.

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE
   a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers,
      radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
      No written literature is available in this language. Many christian audio recordings are
      available in this language. There is no radio, television programs available in this language.

   b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal
      education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
      It is not officially recognized by Government. It also not used in formal education as a
      language of instruction and not been taught in school.
c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Surgujia is a regional language and spoken by many communities like Agariya, Barahar, Bhuyhar, Basor, Bhangi, Baiga, Chikwa, Dom, Brahmin, Dhobi, Gonds, Ghasi, Kawar, Majhi, Majhwar, Maar, Nagesia, Panika, Sendooriya, Yadav etc. Among these communities some of them have their own language and for them Surgujia is been used as second language. They Surgujia language is actively used in almost all the domains like home, village, friends, religious ceremony, marriage ceremony, government office etc. Language is very vital and the speakers have positive attitude towards its development.
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):

Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
Email: iso639-3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers: