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: 2012-10-9

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Associated Change request number : 2013-015 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : xis (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:
      Kisan
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Mirdha, Kunha, Kunhar, Kunuk, Kunna, Kuda, Kora, Koda, Kola, Morva, Birhor in Orissa and Nageswar, Nagesia in Jharkhand.
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      The term 'Kisan is a Hindi word which means a peasant - cultivator. It is assumed that that this name might have been given to them by their Hindi speaking neighbors for their efficiency in agriculture.
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      357,948 according to scheduled tribe census of India, 2001.
   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
      X 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%2D3/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:
   The Kisan people inhabit in three states of India; Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal. In Orissa, they are mainly concentrated in Sambalpur district and in the Sundargarh districts. In Jharkhand they are in Palamu district. They are also found in Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts of West Bengal.

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    ☒ Spoken    □ Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Dravidian, Central Dravidian Group

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:
   Kurux [kru]

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   Nothing is 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 as a language by Government. But, materials for multi lingual education (MLE) had been prepared in Kisan, and also it is been taught in 20 schools in Sambalpur district.
c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Kisan was considered as a dialect of Kurux [kru]. Based on the research, majority of the
Kisan people are bilingual in Oriya, but they speak their language in home and among
themselves. They believe that their children will learn their language first and it will continue
to use in the next generation.
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:
   Alex Mathew, director of Wycliffe India Translators requested for the iso regestration. They are doing a scripture translation project in this language.

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: