
UNIT 5 FIELDS OF TRANSLATION

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5.0 OBJECTIVES

If you read this Unit carefully, you should be able to:

- name the different fields of translation;
- define the principles that guide translation practice in different fields;
- decide on the kind of translation a text requires;
- decide on the area of translation best suited to your interest.

5.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous Block, we discussed the nature and types of translation as well as the relationship between language, linguistics and society. We also discussed the process of translating, which as you know, is crucial to our actual translation practice. In the final unit, we have seen the importance of translation in the contemporary world.

We already know that there are various types of translation: word-for-word, literal, free, conceptual, back-translation, abridged, elaborate and machine translation. In this Unit, we shall discuss the various fields of translation and the different types of translation suitable for these fields. For example, we need one type of translation for poetry and another type for an official letter. While in literary translation we will need to rely mainly on free translation, in the translation of an official letter we will normally use literal translation. So you can see how different fields of translation require different types of translation, a point we shall discuss more extensively in the course of this Unit. The aim of this Unit is to give you an introduction and exposure to some of the different fields of translation. Most of these fields will be discussed at greater length in the subsequent Blocks of this course.

What are the different fields that we will discuss in this Unit? We shall take up the following:

- 1) **Literary Texts:** This includes all original writing with a strong subjective element – texts such as poetry, prose and drama, to name some. These texts have

some special problems of translation such as : what is being said, how it is being said and to what effect.

- 2) **Science and technology:** These are text-books, scientific papers and reports. They deal with topics of knowledge and information. Here the problem is that of new coinage. With the rapid advance in computer technology, you have seen that new words are being added to our vocabulary all the time. How do we keep pace with these new coinages in translation?
- 3) **Mass-communication:** We know that newspapers, magazines, radio and television reach out to a large section of society. The aim is not only to inform but also to entertain.
- 4) **Official Letters and Documents:** We know that the language of official letters is very different from that of personal letters. It is more formal. How do we translate these?

Each of these different areas of translation require a different type of translation. Sometimes a combination of different types is required. This decision to adopt a type/s is guided by the following factors:

All translators start with the SL text but adopt different approaches and styles guided by the following factors:

- the nature of the subject matter being translated – literary, scientific, official, and so on;
- the purpose of translation – texts for schools or universities, conferences or seminars, popular consumption etc.;
- the age, interests and educational background of the readers;
- the distance between SL and TL cultures; and
- the usefulness of the SL text.

Let us first take up the area of literary translation.

5.2 LITERATURE

Communication depends on how the meaning of the message is understood. We have already discussed in Units 1 and 3 of the previous Block, that words have a denotative as well as a connotative meaning. When a word **denotes** a meaning it points directly to the object it represents. This is the preferred use of words in scientific texts and official documents or letters. **Connotative** meaning explores the wealth of meaning inherent in a word and its context. It extends from the object referred to, to its image-making, symbolic and metaphorical potential. This is the sphere of literary writing. An understanding of these two major uses of language is essential for translation practice.

Generally, then literary writing is centred around the thoughts, feelings, ideas and emotions of the writer. Scientific writing is centred around concepts. In literary translation aspects that need to be considered are:

- the language, styles and genres of SL literary writing;
- the relationship of the SL text to its cultural context: stated or implied;
- the kinds of problems that arise in literary translation.

5.2.1 Text and Context

The translator should consider the SL text in its two broad contexts:

- 1) the development of meaning within the text – the linguistic context;
 - 2) the development of meaning through a grasp of the cultural context of the SL text and the manner in which it is transferred to the TL text.
- 1) The precise meaning of a unit of text will emerge only when it is placed in the context of the larger units of the SL text. So many times we find that we have not understood a sentence. But when we read the whole paragraph once again the

meaning becomes clear within its context. Words have multiple meanings – the most appropriate meaning can be understood only with reference to the topic of the text: in English, even words having the same spelling, grammatical value and pronunciation will convey different meanings depending on the context e.g. ‘branch’, ‘bank’, are nouns with multiple meanings. A Bank can have a branch and so can a tree. Similarly, a river can have a bank.

- 2) Equally importantly, the translator should be aware of the
- cultural context of the SL literary text – its historical, religious, mythological, social, racial, and political references. These may be explicit or implicit in the text;
 - cultural context of the time in which the translation is being done;
 - literary culture of the time: innovations in genres, language usage, vocabulary, etc.;
 - fact that an SL text is part of a larger literary heritage. Its writer has been influenced, directly or indirectly, by his/her literary environment;
 - fact that the larger the cultural distance between the SL and TL, the more difficult it will be to translate.;
 - fact that the culture factor is evident in both the grammar and lexis of a language. For instance several terms for rice preparations in Hindi do not have equivalents in English which have then to be transliterated as pullau, khichri, kheer etc. Similarly, idioms, figurative expressions, rhetorical devices offer culturally biased challenges to the translator.

The knowledge of both the SL and TL cultures is certainly desirable in translators of literary texts.

5.2.2 Literary Language

The statement that no perfect translation is possible and hence all that a translator can do is to achieve the highest possible level of equivalence is most true of literary writing. Transference of meaning from SL text to TL text, unlike a scientific text, becomes complex because of the nature of literary language.

A literary text gains in meaning and significance through interpretation. This language communicates the explicit meaning as well as the implied meaning of the “hidden” SL text. That is, the translator must also “read between the lines” for a satisfactory interpretation. S/he next tries to accommodate his/her understanding of the SL text into the TL.

The literary translator must judge what can be translated from one language to another so that the original images should suffer no loss. What cannot be translated can be transliterated or explained. You have already been told that fidelity to the language of the SL text is essential to all translation. Besides this

- in literary writing the translator should be faithful to the form, content and style of the SL text. Every writer has a style or manner of communicating his/her thoughts, feelings and emotions. The style sets the tone of the literary writing. The tone can be prosaic, dramatic, romantic, satirical, lyrical, ironic and so on. The TL text should be able to communicate to the TL reader the tone of the SL text. If the style alters, the meaning also changes. Let us take up an example from Premchand’s “Shatranj Ke Khilari”

बाज़ी बिछी हुई थी। दोनों बादशाह अपने-अपने सिंहासन पर बैठे हुए थे मानों इन दोनों की मृत्यु पर रो रहे हों।

There is a suggestion of irony in this sentence, when towards the end, the two players challenge and kill each other because of a quarrel. How can this irony be captured in translation? Let us look at the translated versions.

- TV 1. The chess-board was set. The two kings of the chess-board sat, as it were, weeping at the fate of the two warriors.
- TV 2. The chess-board surveys the scene; the two chess kings, ensconced in their thrones, silently mourn the passing away of these two flowers of Mughal

Which version captures the irony? You will notice that the first is a fairly literal translation whereas the second uses flowery language. Both miss the irony.

- Apart from the tone, the translator may have to make choices of register and varieties of language to communicate the feel of the SL text. In most modern literature, writers consciously use dialect to give a local colour and create an authentic environment. The translator cannot translate such texts into standard language. S/he should be familiar with SL dialects and be able to give equivalents in the TL. For example, Vishnu Khare recently translated the Finnish epic *Kalevala* into Hindi. He realized that a great folk epic of one of the richest cultures of Europe – the Finno-Ugrian with its influence on languages from Lapland and the Baltic in the west to the Urals in the east – could be captured in Hindi only through the powerful medium of folk dialects. As such he draws freely from Bundelkhandi, Bhojpuri, Malwi and Awadhi.
- Another aspect the translator should be able to tackle is code-mixing. What is code-mixing? Often a writer deliberately uses words from different languages in the same text. For example:

माया को माया मिले कर-कर लम्बे हाथ
तुलसी गरीब की कोई न पूछे बात।

These two lines from Tulsidas juxtapose the Urdu word गरीब with the Sanskrit-derived Hindi word 'maya'. However, any effort to Sanskritize गरीब with its many meanings of poverty (economic, social, spiritual) would destroy the essence of the couplet.

- A translator should take note of shifts of style within a piece of writing. A writer can change from formal to informal and vice versa according to the development of the theme, as, for instance, a shift from narration to dialogue in fiction or poetry.
- Again the impact of literary writing derives from the symbolic use of language. The connotative meaning of literary writing is conjured through the use of idiomatic expressions and literary devices (similes, metaphor, alliteration, rhetorical questions etc.). Such expressions and devices are largely culture specific. The translator has to find equivalent proverbs, idioms, literary devices, etc. in the TL so that the translation reads naturally and is easy to comprehend.

There is the often repeated example of the simile "white as snow" being literally translated for an audience which has no experience of snow – people living in a desert or tropical environment. The translator would have to seek an equivalent image. In our own culture, where milk is important we can say 'दूध सा सफेद'.

A literary translator says:

The translator's first duty, I have come to believe, along with us as much faithfulness to the original text, is fidelity to what make sense and sounds good. (emphasis mine)

5.2.3 Translating Fiction, Poetry and Drama

The major forms of literary writing which come under the heading of literature are fiction, drama and poetry. Such texts are not valued for the 'truth' value of the facts they contain. They are valued more for

- entertainment
- their capacity to stimulate the imagination and emotions
- revealing the 'truth' of life by authentic and original portrayals of human existence
- aesthetic 'use' of language

Aesthetically, the pleasure of such language is in its

- appeal to the senses through the use of sound and imagery
- use of words to generate layers of meaning

- capacity to give concrete shape to abstract and conceptual statements through the original use of figures of speech.

In each of the genres mentioned there are limitations of style and usage. Hence, translation within each genre becomes a specialised undertaking. We shall deal with literary translation in greater detail in subsequent units. Here we shall only map the field.

Poetry

In poetry, since sound is also used to convey meaning, the translator should have a command of the metre and rhyme schemes, besides a grasp of word and sentence stress and intonation patterns of the SL. He/she should be able to analyse a poem at its basic word and sound units: the phoneme and morpheme; and then find equivalents in the TL.

Poetry is the most personal form of literature. Every 'word' is important and conveys meaning. In his/her choice of words/phrases the translator should try several alternatives to achieve faithfulness not only to the original meaning but also to its tone and rhythm.

The meaning of each line and the punctuation within a poem all project a single unified whole which is "more than the sum of its parts". The translator should try to stay close to the original text in observing the line pattern and punctuation. S/he should try to reproduce the original imagery and metaphor even if it is not common in the TL. It should, however, be presented in such a way so that the meaning is clear enough to arouse the interest and curiosity of the TL reader. For instance, in these lines from Shakespeare's sonnet

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.

The comparison of womanly beauty to a summer's day may not have the same cultural connotations in translation for us as it does for people in England where summers are balmy and pleasant. But if the metaphor makes a reference so local that it fails in translation, the translator should try to create a culturally equivalent metaphor/simile/image. How, for example, will we translate the following?

और हुक्का किसी प्रेमी के हृदय की भाँति नित्य जलता ही रहता था।

This simile from Prem Chand's 'Shatranj Ke Khilari' if translated as it is into English, (As for the hubble-bubble, it was aflame all the time like the heart of a lover! Gargesh *IJT* Vol. 1, No. 1) would fail to convey the cultural and emotional significance to an audience not accustomed to the culture of the East.

How then do we translate poetry? Much depends on the particular poem and the translator's understanding of it and what importance s/he attaches to form, content, metre, rhyme, sound and metaphor. The translator may have to roughly decide between remaining faithful to SL images and metaphors or composing the poem as an aesthetic whole. In this case s/he should be willing to change individual aspects of the SL text such as the form, or the less important metaphors etc. to conform to TL resources.

Fiction

Translating a short story can be said to be easier than translating poetry because here the translator is no longer concerned with rhyme, metre and sound effects. Neither does s/he have to worry about the length of a line (syllable, etc.) and punctuation. S/he can make the translation longer than the original without loss of impact. S/he can explain cultural idioms and features within the text. In drama and poetry s/he would have to place such explanations in footnotes.

However, the strength of a short story, unlike a novel, is in the rapid and forceful development of the theme; this gives unity and coherence to the story. The translator should note those aspects of the story which will enable him/her to retain its pattern in the TL.

Location of key words in a short story will guide the translator in his/her task. The words used often and are central to the story should be identified so that the focus of the original remains intact. Key words that describe the main characters should be repeated in the translation and given a central position. Characters also get identified by the repetition of phrases in their dialogue. These too, the translator should note. Another

kind of key word/phrase/image that explains a text is one that is frequently used by a writer when commenting, remarking, describing or narrating. For instance, any translation of V.S. Naipaul's fiction would lose the power of the original if the word 'entrapped' or the image of the 'tramp' was overlooked.

As for poetry, there are no fixed rules for translating novels. In each case the translator has to make decisions about relating the text to the larger problems of the style, method, manner, historical and cultural context as well as literary conventions.

Drama

Unlike poetry or the short story, the translator can practice greater freedom in translating drama. A translated play is more often an adaptation than a translation. However, the translator should be careful not to deviate too much from the original. In addition, s/he should remember that the text s/he translates will impress the theatre audience only through the spoken word and the visual presentation.

Translation of dialogue is very important. Puns, ambiguities, cultural references, (idioms, proverbs, sayings) suggest a dialogue which has more than one meaning. There is the surface meaning and the hidden meaning. This meaning has to come through in the translation without the translator introducing lengthy explanations.

In translating historical plays the translator faces the further challenge that s/he should make it meaningful to a modern TL audience without letting it become a free translation. In order to convey the historical sense s/he should be able to convey the differences of register, social class, education, temperament of the SL characters in TL. The flavour of the period language, tone and style of the SL text must be captured in the TL.

Exercise I

We have given you 3 different kinds of literary writing in Hindi (a) verse, (b) prose and (c) drama. Translate all three into English. Even if some of it may seem difficult, do try and see how you get on:

- a) शीत लौटा है, गीत लौटा है,
द्वार खोलो मीत लौटा है।

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- b) यद्यपि 1942 के जन-आन्दोलन के समय इस गाँव में न तो फौजियों का कोई उत्पात हुआ था और न आन्दोलन की कहर ही इस गाँव तक पहुँच पाई थी; किन्तु जिले-भर की घटनाओं की खबर अफवाहों के रूप में यहां तक ज़रूर पहुँची थी।...मौगलाही टीशन पर गोरे सिपाही एक मोदी की बेटी को उठाकर ले गये। इसी को लेकर सिख और गोरे सिपाहियों में लड़ाई हो गई, गोली चल गयी। (मैला आँचल; फणीश्वर नाथ 'रेणु')

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- c) **राखी का मूल्य**
प्रथम दृश्य

चित्तौड़ के भीतरी भाग में महाराणा सांगा की पत्नियाँ — कर्मवती, जवाहरबाई तथा अन्य क्षत्राणियाँ थालियों में राखी सजाए खड़ी हैं। बहनें टीका करके भाइयों को राखी पहनाती हैं और तलवारें देती हैं।

कर्मवती : मेवाड़ में ऐसी रंगीन श्रावणी कभी नहीं आई होगी। भाइयो क्षत्राणियों की राखी सस्ती नहीं होती। ब्राह्मणों की तरह हम पैसे लेकर राखी नहीं बांधती, राखी के तारों का प्रतिदान सर्वस्व बलिदान है, जिन्हें प्राण देने का चाव हो, वे ही ये राखियां स्वीकार करें।

एक क्षत्रिय : मेवाड़ के क्षत्रियों को यह बात नए सिरे से न समझनी होगी मां। हम लोग सदियों से हंसते-हंसते प्राण देते आए हैं।

कर्मवती : धन्य हो वीरो। तुमसे यही आशा थी। अच्छा आओ, राखी की इस मर्यादा में बंधकर प्रतिज्ञा करो कि प्राण रहते मेवाड़ की पताका को झुकने न देंगे।

सब : यही होगा मां, यही होगा....

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5.3 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Scientific and technical writing is 'informative' in nature. It defines, describes and explains concepts, objects of the physical world and their applications. Scientific language, unlike literary language, is not subject to cultural variations. Its terms, symbols and statements do not change from culture to culture or country to country. It is understood by all members familiar with the language of science across the world. The typical style is straightforward and plain without the use of rhetorical and literary devices. It uses the third person impersonal sentence structure, tenses which describe action, passives, simple present, terminology and arrangement of subject matter in a sequence following some logical order.

As this area of knowledge grows by leaps and bounds, a translator needs to remain up-to-date. S/he should be in touch with journals, latest editions of texts, reference books, data banks, government and other translation bureaus which develop bilingual dictionaries etc. Besides this, a translator should, wherever possible, take refresher courses, attend conferences, tour plants/factories and seek information from Research Divisions of firms. With so much information at his/her fingertips the translator should be careful not to slip into translationese that is, the use of technical terms and scholarly language to such an extent that the content of the text cannot be easily grasped.

It is obvious then that translation of scientific and technological texts is not merely transfer of information from SL to TL. It requires knowledge of the subject, research capability, besides command of the SL and TL. It is now a fairly common practice for the translator to work as a member of a team with subject experts and TL experts.

We will now acquaint you with the three major aspects of language use in the translation of such texts:

- i) competence in the scientific technological register
- ii) command of terminology
- iii) communicative use of grammar.

5.3.1 Scientific Register

As you are aware, register refers to the social use of language. People use typical

words/phrases/sentences etc. in social exchange. This communication pattern or register is decided by the social roles and positions of the participants. As we all know, doctors have their own jargon of medical terms which is quite different from that of an engineer. Besides creating a professional community, this simplifies communication amongst its members.

The scientific and technological register is distinguished by its use of terminology. This includes not only single words, but collocations, phrases, commonly used idioms and metaphors – ways of giving measurements, stating the time of day, the date, giving directions, etc. – which are accepted as standard. The effort is always to standardize the meaning of any item of information so that it may be widely understood. Hence we have the language of weather reports, recipes, sports, company reports and accounts, medical reports. These are understood only because they are standardized.

Within a register a word/phrase has a single meaning which remains the same. For translation practice the implication is that a translation as close (literal) as possible to the SL text will be accurate. Most often the SL register will have equivalent terms in the TL register. The translator should not only know the corresponding technical terms but should also be aware of the typical phrases, idioms, sentence structures used frequently within a register. For instance, in medical language the patient's 'admission' and 'discharge' convey a particular meaning which is different from other meanings of the word ('admission' as used in education; 'discharge' as in Defence terminology).

Within a particular scientific and technical register the style will vary depending on whether a text is to be abridged, adapted, summarized or retained as it is. The purpose of translation and the level of the readership will modify the style.

The level of style within a register can usually be decided in the following manner. After reading through the text, the translator should

- identify the primary focus: is it to inform (as in a research paper) or to persuade (as in a popular article say on forest conservation)?
- judge the degree of formality of the language and presentation
- assess the cultural and professional difference between the SL readership and the TL one
- give it a recognized format or housestyle, i.e. write a technical report according to the demands of the client or adopt the style of the periodical or journal for which the translation is being done. If the title of the article is difficult to understand or has no equivalent in the TL then the translator can give a descriptive title naming the subject and its purpose.

Within the register, with proper use of terms, phrases and grammatical structures – the aim of the translator should be to write a text in a language that is natural to the TL reader. S/he should not hesitate to write a preface and notes to discuss SL usage and the changes made in translation.

5.3.2 Terminology

Technical translation is distinguished by its use of terminology. It is the special or standardized language which expresses the concepts and assumptions of a particular discipline and is referred to as jargon. The translator should not try to create terms in the TL to replace SL terms but should attempt to find accepted equivalents in the TL.

Terminology includes not only words but idioms, phrases, collocations, etc. used habitually when describing a topic. A particular term has only one meaning within a register. This can make matters easy as well as difficult for the translator. If the scientific register is equally developed in the TL there will most often be equivalent terms. In the case of third world countries, where science and technology lags behind western development, such knowledge is derived from western research and application. Therefore, a major problem in translation has been this lack of terminology in the national and regional languages.

Assuming that the translator is familiar with the scientific and technological register of SL, how should s/he deal with the problem of terminology? S/he can begin by underlining the difficult words and phrases. From these s/he selects those which are

frequently used and are central to the text. S/he should tackle these first and leave the less important words for later. S/he should distinguish between technical and descriptive words and phrases and translate accordingly. Translation of technical words by descriptive terms should be avoided. But you will notice in the following examples, that the translator has no choice but to do so:

- i) 'chronic relapsing malaria' is technical but is translated descriptively as मलेरिया का बार बार होना
- ii) 'chronic malaria' becomes in translation पुराना मलेरिया and
- iii) 'blood transfusion' is translated as रक्त का चढ़ाना

The translator should be familiar with the ways in which SL terms are derived before s/he undertakes to translate them. English terms are formed in 4 major ways:

- 1) borrowing from other languages, particularly Latin and Greek e.g. biology (जीव विज्ञान), psychology (मनोविज्ञान), physician (चिकित्सक, वैद्य, डाक्टर). These are standard terms and have equivalents in major languages.
- 2) neologisms are newly coined words or old words which have been given new meanings. In science and technology such words are being created all the time and often have not been standardized. Such a word should not be reproduced in the TL as it can have more than one meaning in the SL. SL neologisms are better described in the TL. For instance the word 'gay' for homosexuals has not yet been standardized though it is widely understood. Terms such as 'high-speed train', 'community physician', 'quality control', 'listed building', 'open-shop', 'high-rise', are technical enough in English but may not be directly reproduced in the TL and may need to be transcribed or explained in a footnote or glossary. Neologisms may be transferred with the use of inverted commas as in the case of new drug names, new disciplines, etc. such as "chronopharmacology", etc.
- 3) The translator should examine the suffixes, prefixes and compounding of words to try and get their meaning before translating terms descriptively. For example:

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| green-eyed | : | ईर्ष्यालु |
| quality control | : | कोटि नियंत्रण, |
| machine-made | : | यन्त्र निर्मित, मशीनी |
| goods train | : | मालगाड़ी |
| good breeding | : | शिष्टाचार, भद्रता |
| open market | : | खुला बाजार |
| high rise | : | गगन चुम्बी भवन |

- 4) The translator also needs to analyse collocations (words that are used together as a matter of habit). These combinations usually have a grammatical base which must be understood e.g.

runaway inflation (adjective + noun)
 criterion reference testing (noun + verb)
 nerve cell (noun + noun).

The translator has to see whether the collocation has an equivalent in TL or if translated literally, will make sense. If not, s/he has to study the context and intention of the SL collocation in order to communicate the meaning in the TL.

The descriptive translation of neologisms and collocations should be guided by the practice of 'naturalness' and usage of TL.

Terminology can be developed in the following ways:

- New terms are generated in the TL. In Indian languages new terms are generated from Sanskrit/regional languages:

programme : कार्यक्रम

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| journal | : | पत्रिका |
| parasite | : | परजीविका |
| cosmos | : | ब्रह्माण्ड |
| eclipse | : | ग्रहण |

- borrowing from SL – for instance names of chemical compounds, flora, fauna, symbolic notations in algebra, geometry etc.

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|---------------|---|------------|
| vitamin | : | विटामिन |
| afforestation | : | एफॉरस्टेशन |

- explaining and describing SL term in the TL

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|----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| tax provision | : | करों के लिए व्यवस्था |
| year end inventories | : | वर्ष के अन्त में माल सूची |

- identify existing terms in the TL used more colloquially but still having communication values

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|---------------|---|----------|
| smallpox | : | माता |
| cholera | : | हैज़ा |
| postage stamp | : | डाक टिकट |

5.3.3 Grammar

We have just said that register and terminology make it easy for us to differentiate between one area of science and another. That is, the central ideas of any discipline are contained in its terminology. But it is grammar which makes clear the relationships of the terms used. It is grammar which tells us whether the communication is a statement, a question, a command or an instruction. It is the use of grammar which helps a writer to develop the logical order of thought and information in the texts.

The golden rule in translation is never to play around with terminology. In the interest of clarity, if any changes have to be made, then the structure of the sentence, the word order, can be changed. Grammar controls the meaning from the smallest unit of translation to the whole text. The translator's task is to use grammar to make the translation more natural, readable and comprehensible. What generally happens is that either the translation is too literal or it uses too much jargon. In both cases the translated text becomes artificial and difficult to understand.

A translator may make sentences shorter, transpose clauses, convert verbs to nouns, convert passive to active to make the TL text more readable.

- To begin with, the translator should study the relationship of the verb to the other parts of the sentence – subject, object, agent etc. In other words the translator should identify the verb or the word or group of words which have the force of a verb in a sentence and translate from this base to ensure accuracy. For example:

- i) several kinds of insects ... cause immense damage to crops both **in the field and in storage**
- ii) खेतों तथा खलिहानों में अनाज को कीड़े.....विशेष हानि पहुँचाते हैं।

In the translated text the point being made in (i) is in bold.

- In a TL text the purpose of the text should be stated in the beginning even though it may not be as explicit in the SL text.
- i) **Having explained** the function of the nervous system, we will deal with the psychological aspects of behaviour
- ii) तंत्रिका तंत्र का काम समझाने के बाद हम व्यवहार के मनोवैज्ञानिक पहलुओं का जिक्र भी करेंगे।
- The verb 'having explained' becomes समझाने के बाद because the 'ing' form is not available in Hindi.

- A translator might have to make some grammatical changes as follows:

i) the use of the 3rd person pronouns 'one', 'it' in the English SL text. For example:

one is able to make astronomical observations from satellites;

उपग्रह की सहायता से खगोलीय अवलोकन किया जा सकता है।

It is a law of nature that whatever is born also dies.

प्रकृति का यह नियम है कि जो वस्तु जन्म लेती है वह मरती भी है।

ii) translation from singular to plural and vice-versa.

Possibility of space travel led to **experiments** with human beings in space.

- when SL grammatical structure does not exist in the TL

i) the 'ing' ending to a verb in English is non-existent in Hindi

Knocking on the door, he entered.

ii) the neutral beginning of a sentence in English:

This is to certify ... प्रमाणित किया जाता है

As a result of के फलस्वरूप

Submitted for information सूचनार्थ प्रस्तुत

It may further be added यह भी बताया जाता है

iii) breakup of a complex sentence into a co-ordinate one or two simple sentences.

Example: In 1809, renamed as the Bank of Bengal, the earliest Presidency Bank, it continued in the same building till it moved into more spacious premises on Strand Road in 1818.

This sentence has been translated into three short ones as follows

वर्ष 1809 में उसका नया नाम बैंक ऑफ बंगाल रखा गया। यह सबसे पहला प्रेसीडेन्सी बैंक था। बाद में स्ट्रैंड रोड के अपेक्षाकृत अपने अधिक बड़े स्थल पर होने के पूर्व यह बैंक 1818 तक उसी भवन में काम करता रहा।

Exercise II

a) This exercise will show you the importance of a bilingual dictionary of scientific and technical terms.

You are given 12 Hindi terms. You are asked to give the possible source language and the English equivalent;

| Hindi term | possible source language | English term |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| हैज़ा | arabic | cholera |
| तपेदिक | | |
| कुष्ठ रोग | | |
| कृमि | | |
| मलेरिया | | |
| श्वेत रक्त कोशिका | | |
| ब्रान्काईटिस | | |
| प्रोटीन | | |
| खनिज लवण | | |
| बायोटेक्नोलोजी | | |
| अनुवांशिक इंजीनियरी | | |
| नाइट्रोजन योगिकीकरण | | |
| बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियां | | |

b) The following passage has been taken from a journal on nutrition. Translate it into Hindi to make it suitable for a school text-book for classes 6 or 7.

We normally associate eating food with something which is indulged in by an individual to satisfy hunger. But there is more to it than just a response to a state of hunger. Scientists have come out with specific observations as to how food consumption is often modified by various socio-cultural and behavioural factors other than **hunger** or **appetite**. A good understanding of these influencing factors is no doubt important too. Comprehend the observed attitudes or practices of individuals or communities towards food and its consumption.

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5.4 MASS COMMUNICATION

In order to communicate with the masses, governments and societies have always had to rely on a system which has a wide reach and is cheap. Up to medieval times the town-crier दूतोरची was a government official. He announced, messages declaring emergency, war, royal births, marriages, deaths, etc. Tribals still use drum beats, which echo over vast forest stretches, to send messages of a public nature: to hold meetings, to attack a common enemy, to celebrate a festival and so on. After the invention of the printing press, the printed text became the most popular means of public communication – leaflets and pamphlets preceding newspapers. Today mass communication means the use of modern media (print and electronic) to reach wide and varied audiences in order to inform, entertain, educate and to arouse public awareness on matters of national/international interest.

In India translation is especially relevant to the field of mass communication. How else would one reach out to the various regions with their different languages?

5.4.1 Print Media

The printing press and newspapers came to India from Britain. The first press was established in Calcutta in 1780 and the first newspaper was published in English – “Calcutta General Advertiser” or “Hickey’s Gazette”. Gradually newspapers in regional languages were also published. Though local news as written in regional languages, a major portion of the information was also translated from the English newspapers and magazines. In fact, native language newspapers experienced the peculiar phenomenon of news provided in the local language, translated into English for the English dailies. And then translated back into Hindi or other regional languages for the native papers.

Translation practice always owed an intense loyalty to the English text – its grammar and vocabulary. As a consequence even though the original news was provided in the local language, the translated text was most often stiff, artificial and uninteresting. If the practitioners were too conscious of the need to maintain the purity of the TL, the text was often beyond the understanding of the average reader. In fact, till very recently, the job of a regional language paper reporter or journalist was largely that of a translator.

The dominance of English in the print media continues. 90% of the news is still in English. Selected items, partly or wholly, are translated into Hindi and the regional languages. News in English is provided by international agencies, such as Reuter and Associated Press, national news agencies such as the Press Trust of India (PTI) and

United News of India (UNI). These national agencies have sister services in Hindi and some regional languages. But even these receive information in English which is then translated into Hindi/regional languages. News from abroad is in English as well as press notices are written in English and their translations are sent to newspapers. Information sent to the press from commercial and other sources is usually supplied in English, sometimes with a Hindi translation. Reports from Central Government offices are written in English. These are also given in Hindi but are often hard to understand without reference to the original English.

The translator in this field will need to have:

- fluency in TL usage; this alone will enable him/her to translate with speed. This is important because often deadlines have to be met;
- S/he should be familiar with the target group of the publication: rural/urban, business/professional, young/old, men/women, etc.

The editor will normally select the articles for translation. This selection will be influenced by cultural, economic, social, political and geographical values of the regions of circulation of the newspaper. For instance, Hindi and regional language papers would cater to a small town and rural population. English language papers have a large circulation in urban areas. Hence only items suited for the changed readership are selected for translation. A translator would have to suitably modify the translation. For instance the same news item would be translated differently for 'Samachar', 'Punjab Kesari', 'Hindi Tribune', 'Jansatta', 'Aaj', etc. It might be given fully in one paper but only partly in others. For example, let us look at the translation of the following news item:

China is optimistic on Solving Border Issue

Beijing, Nov. 2 (PTI). China has said it is not difficult to solve the Sino-Indian boundary issue "given good faith, a realistic attitude, adherence to the five principles of peaceful coexistence and continued, patient and unrelenting efforts on both sides."

Translation:

बीजिंग, 2 नवम्बर (प्रेस. टि.) चीन का विचार है कि यदि आपसी सद्भाव के साथ यथार्थवादी दृष्टिकोण तथा शान्तिपूर्ण सहअस्तित्व के पाँच सिद्धान्तों को अपनाते हुये दोनों देश सतत तथा गंभीर प्रयास करें तो भारत चीन सीमा विवाद को सुलझाना कठिन नहीं होगा।

As you can see the translated version is quite highflown and not likely to be understood by small town/rural readers. Such a translation is unsuitable for a semi-literate readership.

The translator should also have knowledge of the standard vocabulary in the fields of translation (literary, scientific, technical, etc.) and use it accordingly. Difficult terms can be explained but free translation of standard terms should not be attempted. Wherever standard terms from English are regularly transcribed into the TL, these should be observed in translation. For instance

Publisher प्रकाशक (translation)
 Copy or manuscript पांडुलिपि (translation)
 bulletin बुलेटिन (transcription)
 feature फीचर (transcription)

Example: भारतीय गोल रक्षक रोमियो जोस ने अगर उत्तरार्द्ध के छठे मिनट में मिले पेनल्टी स्ट्रोक को अपनी समझ-बूझ से नहीं रोका होता तो भारत को आज भी कल की तरह बराबरी पर रहने पर मजबूर होना पड़ता।

Goal keeper गोल रक्षक
 Penalty stroke पेनल्टी स्ट्रोक
 However परंतु
 first half उत्तरार्द्ध

a draw बराबरी पर रहने

The translator should also know the standard practice in the translation of abbreviations and how they are formed. Dictionaries and reference books are a must.

Example

A.D. इस्वी
 disco (discotheque) डिस्को
 ibid (ibidem) वही, यथोक्त
 RSVP उत्तरापेक्षी
 km किलोमीटर, कि. मि.
 CPI भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी
 भा क पा

Titles of books, names of international organizations, business and industrial firms, are usually transcribed and retained as they are.

What then are some of the basic requirements of a translator of print media? Clearly s/he needs to have a knowledge of the conventions of journalism as well as a grasp of the SL and TL. S/he should be able to translate in a language suitable to the genre and format. For instance a biographical sketch can be a feature or in the style of an interview. It should be simple and idiomatic. Sentences should be brief, repetition should be avoided and vocabulary within the reach of the common reader. The translator would need to organize and edit the material according to the house style of the publication for which s/he is translating.

Let us now turn to another powerful medium of mass communication.

5.4.2 Broadcast Media

The scope of freelance translation for broadcast media – Radio and TV – as compared to that for print media, is limited. All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan have their own translation cells with regular posts for translators. Most of the translation is in the area of news broadcasts. In fact the post of newsreader in Hindi and regional languages is often combined with that of translator. That is, s/he translates from the English script, prepares it for regional audiences and also broadcasts it, if need be. Two other areas in which AIR uses the services of translators are the external services division and the monitoring service. The former broadcasts programmes outside India and translators proficient in foreign languages are required. The monitoring service monitors broadcasts from all over the world and records them. These may be translated as and when required for government or other approved agencies; but these are not meant for public consumption. Translations and adaptations of dramas, stories, etc. from English into Hindi/regional languages are popular broadcast material. Such writing is normally freelance. Other programmes such as documentaries, talks, commentaries, magazine programmes, (also plays, stories, poems etc.) are prepared directly for broadcast in the language concerned and do not involve much translation. However, an area which is gaining in significance is the use of broadcast for education. Appropriate Radio Lessons are already translated into Hindi and such services are likely to increase rapidly with a wider coverage in the near future. Wherever broadcast media is controlled by government all writing/translation, internal as well as freelance, is subject to scrutiny, selection and editing to meet the requirements and standards of broadcast.

Other items that are regularly featured in English and translated into Hindi for the national network and in regional languages for the regional network are: the speeches of the President of India, the Prime Minister, Parliament news (Sansad Samachar), reports of cultural festivals and employment news. News of international events and dubbing of feature films (international and regional) require translation.

Broadcast media receive news pool copy (from international and national news agencies) in English. This is written in a style suitable for print. Hence the translator has to perform two functions before it is suitable for broadcast. Firstly, it is rewritten in a style suitable for broadcast and then translated. This work is done simultaneously under

great pressure of time. Hence, the translator must be fluent in SL and TL in order to translate with speed and naturalness. Also, many times news reports are not given in complete detail, so the translator has to prepare an abridged translation. For instance, the same news item differs in print, radio and TV.

From a Hindi daily

भारत-सोवियत वार्ता: तेल क्षेत्र में व्यापक सहयोग का करार नई दिल्ली, 30 नवम्बर। भारत और सोवियत संघ के बीच आज यहाँ तेल के क्षेत्र में सहयोग के एक व्यापक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किये गये, जिसके अंतर्गत भारत में तेल की खोज, खुदाई, तकनीकी सहायता.....

The same news over AIR:

भारत और सोवियत संघ ने आज नई दिल्ली में भारत में तेल की खोज और विकास और उसका उत्पादन बढ़ाने के क्षेत्र में सहयोग के एक व्यापक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किये हैं।

The same news over Doordarshan:

आज नई दिल्ली में भारत और सोवियत संघ ने एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किये, जिसके अंतर्गत तेल-क्षेत्रों के विकास, कुओं की खुदाई, तकनीकी सहायता.....

It will be seen that in the broadcast news the first sentence presents the news item in the active voice. The newspaper account approaches the point indirectly and in a passive construction.

Some changes that a newsreader/translator has to make in a newsreport to prepare it for translation are as follows:

- Broadcast news cannot be given a heading as in print.
- Nor is there scope for an introduction. In print the initial para of 30-40 words, sometimes in a bolder or larger print than the rest, aims to arouse the curiosity of the reader.
- The opening sentence of the broadcast script acts as the heading. It separates the current news item from the preceding one. It should arrest the attention of the listener/viewer.
- Sentences for broadcast should be small—capable of being read with ease in a single breath. A translator may have to rewrite a long sentence in two or three short ones.
- The sentence should be in direct, simple, spoken language. If this is kept in mind then the tendency to write sentences with multiple clauses and then rewrite in simple terms will be checked. The translator will naturally think in spoken language. And what s/he writes will not read like a translation but like an original piece of writing. For example:

the following sentence needs to be broken up and rewritten.

आज कलकत्ता में बंगाल नेशनल चैम्बर ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्रीज़ के विशेष अधिवेशन में बोलते हुए श्रीमती गांधी ने खेद प्रकट किया कि निजी उद्योग क्षेत्र को जो वित्तीय रियायतें दी गई हैं उनका लाभ उपभोक्ता तक नहीं पहुंचा है.....

This sounds better

श्रीमती गांधी आज कलकत्ता में बंगाल नेशनल चैम्बर ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्रीज़ के विशेष अधिवेशन को संबोधित कर रही थीं। उन्होंने खेद प्रकट किया कि निजी उद्योग क्षेत्र को जो रियायतें दी गई हैं उनका लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को नहीं मिल रहा है।

- Broadcast news should be in the present tense. A newspaper item in the past tense will need to be rewritten.

Example

newspaper style: शिष्टमंडल परसों चीन से लौट आया था।

broadcast style: शिष्टमंडल परसों चीन से लौट आया है।

- Since broadcast media is accessible to the illiterate and semi-literate rural and urban lower classes as well as the highly literate population, the Hindi translator should be careful to use words which can be understood by as many sections of the population as possible. This will become clearer to you when we realize that though today English and Hindi are the national mediums of communication, prior to independence it was English and Urdu. And before that Pharsi (Persian) was the court/official language. Today, spoken Hindi has words from all these sources. In some parts of the country words of Arabic-Persian extraction are more in use and in other parts their Sanskritized equivalents are in common usage. And English words, transliterated, are very common in our spoken communication. Our everyday Hindi speech invariably contains English words and clauses. (This highlights the need for standard terms.) If we translate for broadcast, we must remember
- not to use figures of speech, extended metaphors, and ambiguous language which is hard to understand;
- not to place compound words next to each other. Such words are hard to pronounce and can lead to unintelligibility;
- that as news is read at 110 to 120 words per minute, clarity of the spoken word is important. For instance जिससे is likely to be spoken as जिस्से therefore it is better to replace it with ताकि ;
- that spoken news cannot be repeated. It is only spoken once and therefore clarity is essential;
- if equivalent terms are available in Hindi then English words should be avoided. For instance: फ्रांस की फर्म भारत को मशीनें सप्लाई करेगी।

Instead of 'supply', भेजेगी could be used.

Other such words are:

transmission station ट्रांसमिशन स्टेशन—प्रसारण केन्द्र

agenda एजेंडा—कार्य सूची, बहस के मुद्दे

- that a direct translation from English results in awkward language:

दिल्ली के नागरिक पिछले कुछ दिनों से कड़ाके की ठंड से परेशान हो रहे थे, लेकिन कल वर्ष के अंतिम दिन सूर्य के चमकते प्रकाश का उन्होंने भरपूर आनंद उठाया।

In spoken Hindi 'सूर्य का प्रकाश' is धूप।

सूर्य के चमकते प्रकाश is a direct translation of 'bright sunlight'.

By now you have a fair idea of the major translation issues for broadcast media. Let us attempt this exercise now.

Exercise III

- a) Make a summary translation of the following international news item for a Hindi daily.
- b) Prepare a 1/2 minute news item in Hindi for radio broadcast.

More marriages on the rocks in USSR

MOSCOW, July 8 (PTI).

More marriages are ending in divorce than in happy family life in the Soviet Union.

Soviet sociologists have revealed that divorces have increased by 300 per cent since 1965, reports APN.

About 125 million marriages take place every year in the Soviet Union.

The sociologists have found to their surprise that economic problems such as unemployment, housing or upbringing of children and their education are rarely the causes of divorce in the country.

With no unemployment, and as many as 930 women out of 1,000 having permanent

jobs with equal wages as men and guaranteed care for children of single mothers, Soviet women do not hesitate to walk out of their marriages.

“Modern people seem to divorce too hastily, just as they used to marry”, the sociologists have observed.

Divorces are found to be frequent when wives discover that their husbands lack education up to their level, the sociologists say.

Soviet women are now practically on equal level in higher education with men – 840 women as against 851 men out of 1,000. Women also dominate the job scene in many fields. In trade and catering, they account for 83 per cent, health 82 per cent, education 74 per cent and in culture 73 per cent.

Surveys have shown that in almost half of the Soviet families now, the wives earn as much or even higher than their husbands. But unfortunately, one out of three husbands share housework equally with their wives. One of the major factor in marriage break-ups, cited by the sociologists, is “marrying too young or too old.” Soviet marriages seem “most stable when the husband is a little older than his wife”, they said.

(इंडियन एक्सप्रेस 9-7-84)

5.5 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

We have all written applications at one time or another and know that the language is different from that of our personal letters. This is called officialese. The word ‘officialese’ usually refers to the language used for official communications and administrative documents in government or other offices, public sector undertakings, banks, business houses, etc. The nature of official documents relates to official and demi-official letters (D.O’s), notes, noting and drafting, agendas, minutes, memoranda, forms, circulars, notices, advertisements etc.

However, officialese is used not only for interdepartmental communication but in all official transactions with the public. The translator should remember this need of the public to understand officialese.

We all know that in India, the Central Government uses both English and Hindi for official communication with the public as well as with State Government offices. This language situation has roots in our history. Initially Sanskrit and languages derived from it, then Pharsi and finally English were used for official purposes in India. Hindi is used not only at the Centre but also by the Hindi speaking states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat. Maharashtra and

Punjab also use Hindi in official correspondence. The use of Hindi was actively propagated in the non-Hindi speaking states. Each state undertook its own translation work and soon different terminologies evolved. This was against the very concept of officialese which requires a common code in which single meanings for words, phrases, clauses and sentences, are fixed, and there is no room for varied interpretation though explanations may be given.

To resolve this situation the Government of India entrusted the task to the Central Bureau for Translation under the Home Ministry. It had two major tasks: the translation of English literature into Hindi and the development of a Hindi terminology and register. Bi-lingual and multi-lingual dictionaries were and are being developed for specific areas by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

This institution has also published the **consolidated Glossary of Administrative Terms**. It gives Hindi equivalents for English words in common official use, titles of different categories of officers, and other relevant terms. This dictionary is a must for all translators of officialese.

Let us now look at some of the aspects that a translator of officialese must be familiar with:

- the register
- the terminology
- the conventions of address, reference noting on files, interdepartmental communications etc.

5.5.1 Register

In India, most official communication is conducted in Hindi as well as English. Apart from a good grasp of both these languages, the translator should also be familiar not only with the style, usage, grammar and vocabulary of administrative language but also be aware of administrative hierarchies and procedures. Since procedures and hierarchies change with changing needs, the translator should make sure that s/he has the latest SL text, updated, revised or rewritten, before s/he translates it into the TL.

To gain command of the register of SL officialese the translator should analyse the idiom, grammar and vocabulary of the SL text, only then will the search for TL equivalents have any meaning.

- The register of official communication is largely formal. For certain purposes it is frozen as in the case of quoting references to previous correspondence (with reference to your letter dated....).
- The language of officialese is direct, factual and either imperative or persuasive. The sentences are simple and short expressing a single idea/instruction/query at a time.
- The sentences describe and explain, rather than express opinions, biases or any kind of subjective viewpoint.
- Long complex sentences, with inverted clauses, words with more than one meaning are taboo.
- The translator should distinguish between synonyms used to give additional or complementary information from synonyms used simply to refer to a previously mentioned object in order to avoid repetition.
- The translator is not free to make additions and subtraction to the text. If additions or omission are necessary in the interest of TL usage, these changes should be controlled by the SL context. The translator should study the SL text for emphasis, contrasts and oppositions. In this way important information will not be omitted nor additional information added.
- The sentences can be written in the 2nd or 3rd person depending on the intent of the text. A sentence can begin

The undersigned is directed to say

or

You are hereby informed

- An SL sentence in the active voice can be written in the passive and vice versa.

These rules provide that

can be translated as

इन नियमों में यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि

- The coining of new words is not permitted.
- Important words refer to the theme or topic of the document.
- Conventions dictate the kind of language to be used in different kinds of communications. e.g. Minutes of meetings do not directly address the addressee whereas a D.O. letter is addressed by name to the officer concerned .

5.5.2 One-to-one Equivalence

Most translations are a combination of standardised and non-standardised language. One-to-one refers to the standardisation of language assuming there is 'one correct equivalent used in the same situations by the same kind of person'. It includes idioms, proverbs, public notices, social phrases, usual ways of stating the date, the time of day, of giving dimensions, instructions expressed in accepted formulae, characteristic expressions within a register, etc. This practice identifies the translation of factual, scientific, technical and administrative texts where accuracy in the transfer of information from SL to TL makes the translation valid.

The text to be translated is divided into manageable units of meaning. Translation from SL to TL is undertaken unit by unit and is the linguistic basis for one-to-one translation. In officialese the minimum unit is a collocation and the maximum unit is a sentence. Though often, as in the case of a legal document, a whole paragraph has to be read to clarify the meaning of a sentence or even a term.

The need for one-to-one translation in officialese has been stated earlier. The diversity of clientele both within an administrative set up and the general public makes it imperative that all possibilities of linguistic confusion including many interpretations and meanings, be excluded. The Government of India entrusted the task of preparing dictionaries and glossaries of technical, scientific and administrative terms to Central Hindi Directorate and Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CHD and CSTT). It was assumed that once the translator had this kind of one-to-one information all s/he had to do was to replace the English words with Hindi dictionary equivalents. In actual practice the situation is different.

- The meaning of a key word in a unit of communication may alter according to the context; replacing it by a dictionary word is often not enough. In the example given below the word 'subject' has been used in 3 different phrases for 3 different purposes. The meaning of 'subject' becomes clear only within the phrase. Any Hindi-English dictionary gives several difficult meanings: 'पराधीन, अधीन, नागरिक, विषम, अहम' etc. A translator, translating literally may not make the correct choice.

Example

- 1) a) Subject to के अधीन
b) Subject to approval अनुमोदन मिलने पर
c) Subject to confirmation स्थायीकरण के अधीन
 - 2) a) Common practice सामान्य व्यवहार
b) Common law लोक विधि
c) Common consent सर्व सम्मति
- The translations of certain phrases/sentences which instruct, direct, order, request, have been standardised: the translator is expected to use these and not create new

terms.

Example

The section officer may submit his report.

Standardised translation: अनुभाग अधिकारी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करें

A translation such as अनुभाग अधिकारी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं will not be acceptable.

- Chapter headings/numbers, table of contents, all kinds of sequencing, numbering of paragraphs, order in which photographs, tables, charts are presented, etc. should follow the SL text.
- The TL equivalent for an SL term should be consistently used within a particular text and not be replaced by synonyms.

If undersecretary is translated as अवर सचिव then it should be used throughout the text and not be replaced by अनुसचिव

- The translator should have information about the TL terms for names of organizations, companies, institutions, etc. Sometimes the names are transcribed and sometimes translated. The practice is decided by the concerned set-up, and should be followed in all respects including the spelling. For instance, Reserve Bank of India is भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक not भारत का रिज़र्व बैंक।

Ministry of External Affairs is विदेश मंत्रालय not बाह्य कार्य मंत्रालय

- If an institution translates its name into Hindi, check to see that it is its registered name otherwise use only the English name.
- Wherever reference is made to an Act, Rule, Ordinance, etc. the translator should search for the standardised Hindi equivalent. Any other translation will make the text invalid.
- Another aspect of officialese is the excessive use of abbreviations for references to persons, organizations' reports, regulations, forms, correspondence formats, etc.

The English abbreviations should be transcribed into Hindi unless standard Hindi equivalents are available. These may be found in appropriate dictionaries or directly from the concerned department/institution, etc.

Example

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dr. (Doctor) is written as | डा. (डाक्टर) |
| Prof. (Professor) is written as | प्रो. (प्रोफेसर) |
| Praja Socialist Party (PSP) | प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी (प्र. सो. पा.) |

We all are familiar with the abbreviations of international and national usage, as for instance, UNO, WHO, USA, UK, UNICEF, PM. These should be retained and transcribed. Lesser known abbreviated forms should be fully translated.

One-to-one translation further requires that all data in figures (tables, graphs, etc.) should be exactly transferred into Hindi.

Example

The following annual accounts table gives the description of items both in English as well as Hindi.

1975-76 के लेखों का विश्लेषण

ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1975-76

ल्यूब्रिजोल इण्डिया लिमिटेड
LUBRIZOL INDIA LIMITED(लाख)
(Figures Rs. in
lakhs)

| ब्यौरा | Details | 1975-76 | 1974-75 |
|--|---|---------|---------|
| 1) अधिकृत पूंजी | Authorised Capital | 75 | 75 |
| 2) साधन और उपयोग | Resources & Utilisation | | |
| 1) उपलब्ध साधन | Resources available | | |
| चुकता पूंजी | Paid up Capital | 60 | 60 |
| ऋण | Loans | | |
| केन्द्रीय सरकार से | From Central Government | 6 | 11 |
| विदेशी पार्टियों से | From foreign parties | | |
| ऋण | Loans | | |
| अस्थगित ऋण | Deferred Credits | | |
| औरों से | From others | | |
| केन्द्रीय सरकार से कार्य-चालन पूंजी के लिए | Working capital loans from Central Government | | |
| नकद ऋण/अग्रिम : | Cash Credit/Advances : | | |
| बैंकों से | From Banks | 1,00 | 1,80 |
| औरों से | From others | | |
| आन्तरिक साधन : | Internal Resources | | |
| प्रारक्षित निधि और अधिशेष | Reserves & Surplus | | |
| निर्बाध प्रारक्षित निधि | Free Reserves | 3,58 | 2,95 |
| विशिष्ट प्रारक्षित निधि | Specific Reserves | 1,68 | 53 |
| मूल्यहास (संचयी) | Depreciation (cumulative) | 53 | 42 |
| जोड़ : | TOTAL | 7,45 | 6,41 |

- One-to-one further specifies that the conventions with regard to different kinds of texts be observed in translation also. The formats and norms have been established.
- It should be clear from this account that for the translator of officialese the principle of one-to-one translation – its theoretical understanding and practice – will form the base for translation in this field.

5.5.3 Conventions

The translator should not only have knowledge of the different kinds of inter-and intra-departmental communications but should know that conventions are not merely a matter of form and courtesy which can be changed at the will of the communicator. They have to be strictly observed in all communications. For our purpose convention will refer to the prescribed format for each kind of communication. This format indicates how each communication will proceed within the department and outside it; and how and by whom it will be processed.

Conventions require that certain courtesies should be observed in written communication. These cannot be dispensed with. For instance: I shall be obliged: मैं अनुग्रहीत होऊँगा; It is requested: निवेदन है; Will you please state: कृपया बताएं।

- convention decides the placement of certain kinds of information in an official communication.

Note the different forms of address of the official and the demi-official letter.

सरकारी पत्र का नमूना

- 1) सं.....
भारत सरकार
गृह मंत्रालय
- 2) सेवा में
सचिव, (सभी राज्य सरकारों)
- 3) नई दिल्ली,
ता. 5.5.85
- 4) विषय: मौत की सजा समाप्त करने का प्रस्ताव
- 5) महोदय,
- 6) मुझे यह कहने का निर्देश है कि भारत सरकार को समय-समय पर देश में मौत की सजा समाप्त करने के लिये सुझाव प्राप्त होते हैं। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में अपराधों की रोकथाम और इनका पता लगाने का काम राज्य सरकारों का है। इस विषय में कानून बनाने की जिम्मेदारी विधान सभा की है इसलिए, राज्य सरकारों मौत की सजा को समाप्त करने के लिए कानून बनाने में सक्षम हैं। भारत सरकार चाहती है कि मौत की सजा को समाप्त करने के संबंध में ऐसा कानून बनाया जाए, जो सभी राज्यों में समान रूप से लागू हो सके। इस विषय में अंतिम निर्णय करने से पहले सरकार इन सुझावों की अच्छी तरह जाँच करना चाहती है, इसलिए सभी राज्य सरकारों से अनुरोध है कि वे अपने उच्च न्यायालयों से परामर्श करके अपने सुझाव और सिफारिशें शीघ्र इस मंत्रालय को भेजें।
- राज्य सरकारों से अनुरोध है कि वे अपने राज्य से संबंधित पिछले तीन सालों से निम्नलिखित आंकड़े भी भिजवाएं।
- क) राज्य में हत्या के कितने मामले दर्ज किए गए।
- ख) राज्य में कितने लोगों को मृत्युदंड दिया गया।
- ग) राज्य में कितने लोगों की मौत की सजा, माफी की अर्जी के कारण, रद्द की गई।
- 7) भवदीय
ह. क ख ग
- 8) प्रति: सभी राज्य सरकारों। संयुक्त सचिव, भारत सरकार

अर्ध सरकारी पत्र का नमूना

- 1) अ. स. प. सं.....
भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास
मंत्रालय
- नई दिल्ली, ता.....
- 2) विद्यासागर
उपसचिव
टेली. सं. 375285
- 3) प्रिय श्री गोविंदराम,
- 4) आपको मालूम ही होगा कि देश में नई शिक्षा नीति को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए शिक्षा विभाग ने एक आदर्श पाठ्यचर्या तैयार करने की योजना बनाई है। इस विषय में प्रस्ताव की व्यापक रूपरेखा की एक प्रति इस पत्र के साथ आपको भेजी जा रही है।
- इस प्रस्ताव के संबंध में यदि आप अपने विचार हमें शीघ्र भेज सकें तो मैं आपका बहुत अधिक आभारी रहूंगा। यहां मैं यह भी उल्लेख कर देना चाहता हूँ कि हम शीघ्र ही इस प्रस्ताव को औपचारिक रूप से संबंधित विभागों के पास उनके विचार जानने के लिए भी परिचालित करना चाहते हैं।
- 5) साभार,
- 7) श्री गोविंदराम
निदेशक
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
नई दिल्ली-1
- 6) आपका
ह. विद्यासागर

i) An official letter is addressed to a person holding that office. It may be handled by anyone representing the authority addressed. The form of address is general e.g. महोदय/Sir (letter A). A demi-official letter is an official communication addressed to an officer by name, meant only for him and which he alone can deal with. Hence the letter is addressed by name: प्रिय श्री गोविन्दराम /Dear Mr. Govind Ram (Letter B).

ii) Letter A: The writer closes, the letter formally giving his designation beneath his signature.

Letter B:

भवदीय Yours faithfully
दस्तख़त (signature)
नाम (name)
पदनाम Designation

The writer signs informally
आपका Yours
दस्तख़त (signature)
नाम (name)

This has been a brief account of the issues in translating officialese as they occur in the Indian context. The general feeling is that when English officialese is translated into Hindi, the language of the Hindi version reads like a translation. It lacks naturalness and a native usage. This is partly because the contributions that the regional languages can make in the shape of vocabulary, designations, formal phrases, etc. to Hindi officialese have not been fully explored and utilized. It is felt that the only correct translation is direct from English to Hindi and the coining of a highly sanskritised vocabulary. Since Hindi officialese is still evolving, the challenge is still alive to make it a language for the common person as well.

Exercise IV

Terms in column A have equivalents in column B. These have been arranged so that the terms do not match. The terms have been numbered serially. You should find the correct serial number from column B for each term in column A and place it in the box provided.

| A | B | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) National Archives of India | 1) नगर निगम | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) Municipal Corporation | 2) भारत के महापंजीयक का कार्यालय | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Office of the Registrar General of India | 3) भारत का राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) Engineer | 4) भाप ड्राईवर | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) Steam Driver | 5) सॉलिसीटर | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Solicitor | 6) मल अपवहन इंजीनियर | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) Senior Lecturer | 7) इंजीनियर | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8) Sewage disposal Engineer | 8) वरिष्ठ प्राध्यापक | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9) against public interest | 9) उद्योनति | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10) as the case may be | 10) की ओर ध्यान | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11) attention is invited to | 11) यथास्थिति | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12) beg to state | 12) लोक हित के विरुद्ध | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13) by authority of | 13) निवेदन है | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14) call for an explanation | 14) के प्राधिकार से | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15) Ph.D. | 15) वा. स्ना. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16) Diploma | 16) सनद | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17) B.Com. | 17) विद्या. वाच. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18) B.Sc. | 18) वि. स्ना. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19) Certificate | 19) पत्र संख्या—दिनांक देखें | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20) Your D.O. No. — — — — — dated — — — — — regarding | 20) प्रमाण पत्र | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5.6 LET US SUM UP

In this Unit we have discussed the fields of translation: literature, science and technology, mass communication as well as official communication.

- Translation in each field becomes specialized because of the nature, purpose and type of the text and the readership.
- Literary writing stretches the resources of language to develop several layers of meaning in a text. A translator should be able to tackle the implied contextual meanings of a literary text.
- Scientific and technical writing is objective, precise and relies heavily on equivalent terminologies in SL and TL.
- Writing and translating for mass communication media go hand in hand in view of the multilingual composition of our society.
- Uniform communication requires the practice of one-to-one translation, use of terminology and easy, simple, straightforward language.

5.7 ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

Exercise I

- a) Open the door to the friendly breeze; a nip of winter is in the air; The season of songs has arrived.

Discussion

Some problems faced during translation:

- i) how to translate the word शीत /'winter'? The meaning of winter in the English socio-cultural context is connected with old age, death, etc. The Hindi context of 'winter' in this couplet has an opposite meaning. A literal translation will sound funny. Version A uses the phrase 'nip of winter'. This lessens the harshness of the word 'winter' and gives the sense of a welcome season.
 - ii) The rhythm created by repetition of words cannot be reproduced in the translation. Internal rhythm is created by the repetition of certain sounds: 'o', 's', 'r'.
- b) Compare your translation with that of Indira Junghare's who has translated Renu's novel **The Soiled Border (Maila Anchal)**.

Although there had been no trouble in the village with the army during the People's Movement of 1942, and the wave of the Movement hadn't reached the village, news of events in the rest of the district had indeed come to the village as rumours... In Moglahi Station, a white soldier had abducted a grain merchant's daughter; as a result, fighting had broken out between the Sikhs and the white soldiers, and shots were fired.

- c) A number of factors need to be taken care of in the translation:
- will it be a direct translation or an adaptation?
 - how much additional information should be given about the historical background and the socio-cultural context in order to make the play meaningful for an English speaking audience?
 - how would such concepts as राखी, श्रावणी, वीरव्रत etc. be communicated?

In addition to these:

- a) The translator will need to know about the history of Mewar during the reign of Rana Sangha.
- b) S/he will need to explain terms which have been transliterated. These can be

presented as footnotes or in a glossary form e.g. words marked with a star * in the text.

- c) S/he may be required to add information to that already given for the setting to give precise direction to the producer.
- d) Without sounding old-fashioned, the dialogue should create the ethos (socio-cultural environment) of Mewar in the time of Rana Sangha.

Translation:

Scene One (In the courtyard of Chittorgarh fort the wives of Rana Sangha – Karmvati and Jawaharbai – and other Kshatriya noble women are waiting with rakhis* and other ritual items, such as garlands, and flowers, rice, sindur*, aarti* and sweets, on silver platters. The noble women tie rakhis on the wrists of their soldier brothers and offer them their swords.)

Karmvati: (Ironically) Mewar has seldom known such a colourful month of August, the month of rakhi festival, as this one is likely to be. (Proudly), We are not Brahmin women who tie the rakhi for a gift of money. Each thread of these rakhis demands complete dedication, daily, to the cause.

Only those brothers are worthy of these rakhis who are eagerss to sacrifice their lives for Mewar.

One Kshatriya warrior: Mother, sacrifice is not unknown to the warriors of Mewar. For centuries we have, with joyss in our hearts, offered our lives to protect this sacred soil.

Karmvati: Glory to you, warriors. That was expected of you. Come, honour your rakhis, by taking a pledge that as long as there is life in your bodies you will not let the flag of Mewar be lowered.

Warriors: So it shall be, mother, so it shall be.....

Exercise II

| a) Hindi term | Possible source Language | English term |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| तपेदिक | Sanskrit | Tuberculosis |
| कुष्ठरोग | Sanskrit | Leprosy |
| कृमि | Sanskrit | Worms |
| मलेरिया | English | Malaria |
| श्वेत रक्त कोशिका | Sanskrit | White blood corpuscles |
| ब्रानकाइटिस | English | Bronchitis |
| प्रोटीन | English | Protein |
| खनिज लवण | Sanskrit | Mineral salts |
| बायोटेक्नोलोजी | English | Biotechnology |
| आनुवंशिक इंजीनियरी | Sanskrit-English | Genetic Engineering |
| नाईट्रोजन योगिकीकरण | English-Sanskrit | Nitrogen fixation |
| बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियां | Sanskrit-English | Multinational companies |

b) Hints

- i) It can be personalized by using the second person plural.
- ii) Vocabulary should be simplified.
- iii) Information can be modified and appropriate examples and illustrations suggested.

Exercise III

Hints

- i) In a summary translation keep only the important statistical information.
- ii) Omit examples, quotations, adjectives, etc. Keep your summary close to the facts.
- iii) The radio news item can be more personalised and rhetorical—a tasty bit of news.

दैनिक समाचार पत्र

असफल विवाह : क्रूर विडंबना

मास्को, जुलाई 8 (पी टी आई)

- a) सोवियत संघ में हर वर्ष लगभग 12 लाख 50 हजार विवाह होते हैं। लेकिन समाजशास्त्रियों ने पाया कि 1965 के बाद से वहाँ तलाक के आंकड़ों में 300 गुना वृद्धि हुई है।

सोवियत संघ में स्त्रियां पुरुषों के बराबर या अधिक उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त कर विभिन्न नौकरियों में लगी हुई हैं और बच्चों के पालन-पोषण में भी सक्षम हैं। ऐसे में वे पुरुषों को अपने से कम शिक्षित पाना नापसंद करती हैं। जिन दम्पतियों में स्त्री पुरुष के बराबर या उससे अधिक कमा रही हैं, ऐसे तीन परिवारों में से एक परिवार का ही पुरुष घर के कामकाज में अपनी पत्नी का हाथ बटाता है।

समाजशास्त्रियों ने पाया कि अधिकांश तलाक आर्थिक समस्याओं पर आधारित न होकर उच्च शिक्षा या जिम्मेदारियों में समान भागीदारी न होने के कारण होते हैं।

समाजशास्त्रियों के अनुसार विवाह टूटने के अधिक कारण बहुत छोटी या बहुत बड़ी उम्र में शादी करना भी रहा है। उनके अनुसार वे विवाह अधिक स्थायी रहे हैं जहाँ पति उम्र में पत्नी से कुछ बड़ा है।

रेडियो समाचार

- b) सोवियत संघ में प्रति वर्ष लगभग 12 लाख 50 हजार शादियां होती हैं। लेकिन समाजशास्त्रियों ने पाया कि 1965 के बाद से वहाँ तलाक के आंकड़ों में 300 गुना वृद्धि हुई है।

तलाक के अधिकांश कारण स्त्रियों का पुरुषों के बराबर या अधिक उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करना रहा है। वहाँ यदि उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त पुरुषों की संख्या 1000 में से 851 है तो महिलाओं की संख्या कुछ ही कम 840 है। जो घर की देखभाल से लेकर बच्चों के भरण-पोषण और शिक्षा की जिम्मेदारी भी संभालती हैं। कामकाज के अनेक क्षेत्रों में भी सोवियत नारी छा गयी है।

समाजशास्त्रियों के अनुसार विवाह टूटने के अधिक कारण बहुत छोटी या बड़ी उम्र में शादी होना भी रहा है।

Exercise IV

| | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|----|-----|----|
| 1) | 3 | 8) | 6 | 15) | 17 |
| 2) | 1 | 9) | 12 | 16) | 16 |
| 3) | 2 | 10) | 11 | 17) | 15 |
| 4) | 7 | 11) | 10 | 18) | 18 |
| 5) | 4 | 12) | 13 | 19) | 20 |
| 6) | 5 | 13) | 14 | 20) | 19 |
| 7) | 8 | 14) | 9 | | |