

Guidelines for translation of books into Indian Languages

1. Translation shall be simple and concise while maintaining the original meaning of the text and concepts. Use of long sentences with multiple clauses may be avoided as far as possible.
2. 'ANUVADINI', the AI based translation tool for Indian languages, developed by the AICTE may be used for translation. This tool has many advantages, such as translation in the format of the source text file, speech to text typing, etc. All the editing facilities are also provided in the same tool. The first round of translation may be done through this tool, followed by further manual editing by using the tool. At present, the accuracy level of the tool varies from subject-to-subject and from language-to-language, which will gradually improve as more people use it for translation and editing.
3. The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) has developed standard glossaries of various subjects. They may be accessed and used while doing the translation. If translation or creation of a new word/term is needed, then the CSTT may be consulted.
4. The Grantha Academies of different states, the language departments of different universities, and other institutes have also published glossaries in regional languages. They may also be referred.
5. For the easy understanding of the students, the complex technical terms may be given in English within the brackets after the Indian language equivalents of the same if they are available. If the Indian language equivalent is not available, the English word may be transliterated in the target language script and be given in its place.
6. It is felt that more the common vocabulary in every Indian language, it will be easier to translate from one Indian language to another, and easier to comprehend by other language speakers. Hence, pan-Indian common core vocabulary (with common roots, suffixes and prefixes) shall be promoted across all Indian languages as much as possible. When there are synonyms while selecting a word, select the common word which is available or similar in more languages.
7. Though there will be many words for a particular object, the word which is generally used in that particular domain area shall be used in translation to make the concepts understandable to the readers.
8. Translation shall always convey the complete meaning and concept of the original text. It need not necessarily be a word-to-word translation.
9. Terms which may have connotative meanings with both negative and positive dimensions, or features which are not there in the source language must be avoided in the translation.
10. In case, the original text is translated into word-to-word sequence by the translation tool then for efficient and meaningful translation, it has to be rephrased partially or completely if required. After the tool translation, the text shall be carefully edited by reading each sentence several times, of both original and translated documents, for understanding the proper meaning and context of the subject.
11. Numbering (1,2,3..., or i, ii,...) or bullets (a,b,c, etc.) are to be kept as in the original.
12. Formulas, equations and symbols are to be written as such in the original text. E.g., Na, Cl, α , π , etc, to be kept as they are.

*** The guidelines by and large apply for original writing of textbooks in Indian languages also.**

**** The guidelines mentioned are hereby liable to change from time to time**