

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:574

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010

CLASSICAL STATUS TO KANNADA LANGUAGE

Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has notified the Kannada Language as a Classical language;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not providing any assistance to the State of Karnataka for the purpose; and
- (c) the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided by the Union Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Culture vide Resolution No.2- 16/2004-Akademies dated 31.10.2008 has notified Kannada language as a 'Classical language'.

(b) & (c): As per the Cabinet decision, pursuant to Kannada language being declared 'Classical', the Govt. has to take action on the following:-

- (i) Institute two major international awards for scholars of eminence in classical Kannada to be awarded annually.
- (ii) A 'Centre of Excellence for studies in Classical Kannada' to be set up.
- (iii) Create a certain number of Professional Chairs for Classical Kannada for scholars of eminence in Classical Kannada.

Follow-up action has already been initiated by the Govt. on the aforesaid three points.

The existing scheme for classical languages does not have any provision for giving grants/assistance to State Governments.