

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2122  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011  
TAMIL AS CLASSICAL LANGUAGE  
Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to promote Tamil language as classical language in the country as well as in other countries where Tamil speaking population exists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Government of India has established Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) in Chennai with the objective of promoting Classical Tamil. The institute promotes Classical Tamil through various schemes like awards, fellowships, short term projects, meetings, workshops, training, seminars, in addition to its own website and library. A Department of Overseas Tamil has been established in CICT to popularise Classical Tamil among Tamil speaking population in other countries.