

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2148
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011
KANNADA AS CLASSICAL LANGUAGE
Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

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

- (a) the details of the regional languages declared as classical language;
- (b) the benefits and monetary assistance extended to the States/UTs during each of the last three years for the development of classical languages;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up 'A Centre of Excellence for studies in Classical Kannada' at Mysore;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided by the Union Government?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu and Kannada languages have been declared as Classical Languages by the Government of India. The programmes for development of classical languages are undertaken and implemented directly by the Central Government as 100% Centrally funded schemes and as such the question of granting monetary assistance to the States/UTs for the purpose does not arise.

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued an order on 29.9.2011 for establishing Centres of Excellence for Studies in Classical Kannada and Classical Telugu at the Central Institute of Indian Languages, (CIIL), Mysore, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The major components of these research centres includes identifying sources of classical languages, promote, propagate and preserve these classical languages, undertake and encourage research and documentation in India/abroad, link classical languages and modern technology, publish books related to Classical Kannada/Telugu and translate classical texts into other Indian languages, English and select European languages. The Scheme has also instituted awards for each of the classical languages Kannada/Telugu viz. one life time achievement award for Indian scholar, two international awards for life time achievement (one for Indian and another for non-Indian origin), and five young scholar awards in the age group of 30-40. An amount of Rs.54.54 lakh each has been granted to each of the Centres during the current financial year.