

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:826  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012  
MALAYALAM AS CLASSICAL LANGUAGE  
Thomas Shri P. T.

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Committee of Linguistic Experts has considered the representation of the State Government of Kerala regarding declaration of Malayalam as classical language;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Committee of Linguistic Experts discussed the issue of giving Malayalam the status of classical language in its meetings held on 23rd January, 2012 and 5th March, 2012.

A Memorandum on this subject was submitted by a delegation led by the then Chief Minister of Kerala to Prime Minister in May, 2010. Another memorandum which inter alia requests for giving the status of classical language to Malayalam has been received from the present Chief Minister of the State in August 2012. The Report of the Committee is under consideration of the Government.