

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2350  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015  
INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY  
Vichare Shri Rajan Baburao

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to declare 21st February as International Mother Language Day as declared by UNESCO;
- (b) if so, whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have asked the Universities and colleges to celebrate this day as the Mother Tongue Day; and
- (c) if so the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT.SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): UNESCO has already declared 21st February as the International Mother Language Day. India being a Member country, the Government of India had decided to celebrate Matribhasha Diwas on 21.2.2015 to promote the use of mother tongues.

(b) & (c): Yes Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have requested all Universities and all Heads of Schools affiliated to CBSE, respectively to celebrate Matribhasha Diwas on 21st February, 2015 to promote the use of mother tongue by conducting day long activities like song recitation, competitions, elocutions, debates, creative writing, etc., highlighting the importance of Mother Tongue, the need to acquire all four skills of languages, preservation and promotion of all Mother Tongues, attitude of appreciating and learning other languages and advantages of learning more languages.