

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:232
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
CLASSICAL LANGUAGES
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

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

(a) the regional languages declared as classical language;

(b) the norms/guidelines laid down for according status of classical language and the benefits accrued to the language as a result thereof; and

(c) the details of the assistance and funds provided by the Government for the development and promotion of classical languages including Kannada during the last three years and the current year, language and year-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 232 ASKED BY SHRI S.P.MUDDAHANUME GOWDA FOR 23.07.2014 REGARDING CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

(a): Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia are the five regional languages which have been declared as Classical Languages by the Government of India.

(b) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Culture, the norms/guidelines laid down for according status of classical language is as follows:

i) High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years

ii) A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers.

iii) The literary tradition to be original and not borrowed from another speech community

iv) The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots

After a language is notified as a Classical Language , the following benefits are provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development :

i) Two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in classical Indian languages .

ii) A Centre of Excellence for studies in Classical Languages is set up

iii) The University Grants Commission is requested to create, to start with at least in the Central Universities, a certain number of Professional Chairs for the Classical Languages so declared.

(c): The details of the funds allocated and released for the development of Classical Languages including Sanskrit in the country during the last three years and the current year, till date, are given below:-

		(Rs. In lakhs)									
Language/	Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15						
		allocation	release	allocation	release	allocation	release	allocation	release	allocation	release
Malayalam		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odia		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not	Not	Not	Not	Not	Not	Not
		appli	appli	appli	appli						
		cable	cable	cable	cable						
Kannada		55.63	54.54	218.00	218.00	218.00	100.00	49.00			
Telugu		55.63	54.54	218.00	218.00	218.00	100.00	49.00			

Tamil	1200.00	1000.00	928.00	644.44	1800.00	900.00	1000.00	300.00	
Sanskrit	14962.21	14962.21	18355.28		18355.28	22843.28	21217.69	22983.00	4002.09

Further the University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that it has released Rs.75.00 lakhs each to the Central University of Karnataka and University of Hyderabad for setting up of Centre/Chair for Classical Language of Kannada and Classical Language of Telugu respectively, during the XI Plan period .