

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1311
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

PRESERVATION OF KASHMIR'S LITERARY HERITAGE

1311. SHRI SAT PAUL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific steps taken by the Sahitya Akademi to translate, publish, and digitally archive the classical verses of iconic Kashmiri women poets including Lal Ded, Habba Khatoon, Arnimal and Rupa Bhavani into major international languages to promote Kashmir's literary heritage globally;
- (b) the details of central research fellowships and financial grants provided to local language scholars, translation experts, and universities in Jammu & Kashmir during the last two years to transcribe endangered oral folk manuscripts like Wanvunand Vakhs; and
- (c) the measures taken to include these traditional women philosophers and mystics into mainstream national educational curricula and national translation portals to increase domestic cultural awareness?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM

(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) to (c) Sahitya Akademi undertakes literary translations in 24 Indian languages recognized by it. It has published Hindi translation of classical verses of iconic Kashmiri women poet Lal Ded under the title 'Lalleshwari Ke Vakh' (edited by Radhavallabh Tripathi & translated in Hindi by Adwaitvadini Kaul). A Monograph on Lal Ded has been published in English, Hindi and Urdu, and a Monograph on Habba Khatoon has been published in English, Hindi, Tamil, and Urdu, while a Monograph on Rupa Bhavani has been published in English. Sahitya Akademi has not published any title on Arnimal.

Gyan Bharatam, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Culture, provides an institutional framework for the survey, documentation, conservation, digitisation, research and dissemination of India's manuscript heritage. Research and academic engagement under the Mission are undertaken through collaboration with centres, universities, scholars, experts and institutions, with support and assistance extended as per the applicable guidelines and approved provisions of the Mission.

Grant released to Gyan Bhartam Centres in J&K		
S.No.	Year	Financial Grant
1	2024-25	Rs. 16.55 Lakh
2	2025-26	Rs. 28 Lakh
