

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.517
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026
Birth centenary celebrations

517 Dr. M. Dhanapal:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the year-long birth centenary celebrations of Kaviyarasu Kannadasan, one of the country's distinguished poets, lyricists and authors;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to support literary and cultural institutions in organising commemorative programmes highlighting Arthamulla Hindu Matham, Cheraman Kadhali, Vanavasam, Manavasam and Yesu Kaviyam;
- (c) whether his important works are proposed to be translated into various Indian languages and promoted through libraries and digital platforms; and
- (d) the other measures proposed to preserve, document and popularise his literary legacy among students, researchers and the general public?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) Yes Sir.

Sahitya Akademi, Ministry of Culture's Tamil Advisory Board received a proposal to commemorate the birth centenary of Kaviyarasu Kannadasan and it was approved in the 73rd Meeting of the Board held in February 2026.

(b) A commemorative centenary seminar is going to be organized by Sahitya Akademi, Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Bishop Heber College, Tiruchirappalli, on September 3, 2026. The proposal is under process.

(c) One of his important works, Cheraman Kadhali, won Sahitya Akademi Award in the year 1980 and the book was translated and published in Telugu, in the year 2019.

(d) Sahitya Akademi has compiled and published his poems in Tamil titled 'Kavignar Kannadasan Kavithaigal' and the book has been 3 reprints so far. His monograph was also published under the 'Makers of Indian Literature' series of Sahitya Akademi and the book has been reprinted 9 times so far.

* * * * *