

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3346
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

PROMOTION OF INDIAN LITERATURE

3346. SHRI A. RAJA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to promote Indian Literature in foreign countries through Sahitya Academy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the countries likely to be included under this programme;
- (d) the details of the funds likely to be sanctioned for this; and
- (e) the details of the target likely to be set for this?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a),(b)&(c) Government of India, through Sahitya Akademi, is already promoting Indian literature in foreign countries through various measures. Sahitya Akademi has been translating Indian literary masterpieces into foreign languages under Ministry of Culture's project, Indian Literature Abroad (ILA). Prior to ILA and over the years, Sahitya Akademi promoted several Indian classics and popular Indian works into foreign languages. Under the scheme to promote Indian literature in foreign languages, Sahitya Akademi has published following:

Sl.No.	Title	Language Translated Into and Publisher
1	Herbert by Nabarun Bhattacharya	German (Publisher – Draupadi Verlag)
2	Train to Pakistan by Khushwant Singh	Swedish (Publisher–Aranan Publishing House)
3	Kaattil Oru Maan by Ambai	French (Publisher – Zulma)

Apart from the above, the Akademi has published the following books under Cultural Exchange Programme:

Sl. No.	Title	Language of Publication
1	Bhartala Da Natya Shastra by Kapila Vatsayan	Russian
2	Indian Short Stories by E.V. Ramakrishnan	Russian
3	Kabita	Slovenian
4	The Dual of the Heart	English

Other Initiatives

Over the years, the Sahitya Akademi promoted several Indian classics and popular Indian works into foreign languages such as the Ayodhya Canto of the Ramayana as told by Kamban from Tamil into English, Chemmeen from Malayalam into English and several Eastern European, Kavitavali by Tulsidas into English, Godaan by Premchand into English, Garambica Babu by S.N. Pendse into English, Pather Panchali by Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay into French.

For the promotion of Indian Literature in foreign countries the Sahitya Akademi, under its Cultural Exchange Programme with different countries had sent the following Indian Writers' delegation to different countries:

Indian writers' delegation to participate in Hay Festival, Segovia, Spain (22-25 September 2016): Expenditure: Rs. 3,63,304/-

Indian writers' delegation to London to participate in London Book Fair (14-16 March 2017): Expenditure: Rs. 16,07,007/-

Indian writers' delegation to Brazil to participate in Festival of India in Brazil (04-10 September 2017): Expenditure: Rs. 13,349/-

Indian writers' delegation to Thailand to participate in a Seminar on Influence of Sanskrit & Pali on South East Asian Languages under the Festival of India in Thailand (23-27 September 2017); Expenditure: Rs. 2,03,488/-

Indian writers' delegation to Spain to participate in a Sanskrit Round Table as part of India's 70th independence anniversary celebrations (17-21 October 2017): Expenditure: Rs. 2,77,440/-

Indian writers' delegation to Israel to participate in a Festival of India to celebrate 70th Anniversary of India's Independence (05-10 November 2017): Expenditure: Rs. 7,90,544/-

Sahitya Akademi's participation in Vishwa Hindi Sammelan, Mauritius (18-20 August 2018): Expenditure: Rs. 1,29,946/-

Sahitya Akademi's participation in Sharjah International Book Fair (31 October - 09 November 2018): Expenditure: Rs. 3,80,132/-

Indian writers' delegation to Nepal to participate in Festival of India in Nepal (19-21 March 2019): Expenditure: Rs. 2,47,643/-

(d)&(e): Sahitya Akademi has been publishing these translations out of fund allotted to it by the Government of India.
