

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1412**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2020/BHADRAPADA 29, 1942 (SAKA)

STATUS OF TAMIL LANGUAGE

**1412. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:
SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eighth schedule of the Indian Constitution recognises Tamil language as one of the scheduled languages and the Government of India has also awarded the distinction of classical language to Tamil which has a rich heritage and independent nature, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the Official Languages Act-1963 to include the ancient and classical language of Tamil as one of the official language of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) Yes Sir, Tamil language has been recognized as one of the scheduled languages under the Eighth schedule to the Constitution of India. The Government has also accorded the status of Classical Language to Tamil, in view of the high antiquity of its early texts/recorded history and a body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers.

(b) to (d) Such proposals are considered from time to time.
