

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3522
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021**

Promotion of Tamil as Classical Language

3522. SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to promote Tamil as a classical language during the last three years;
- (b) the various budgets allocated, expenditure incurred and grants sought for promotion of Tamil during the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) the various budgets allocated, expenditures incurred and grants sought for promotion of other languages during the last five years, year-wise and language-wise?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Smt. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b) : Government of India has established a separate institute namely Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), Chennai which works for the development and promotion of Classical Tamil. For promotion of Classical Tamil, the CICT conducts seminars, workshops, short term projects and translation of Tirukkural into Scheduled Languages and other languages. CICT has 42 publications in book format and 8 publications in multimedia and non book format. Following grants have been released during last five years for promotion of Classical Tamil to CICT, Chennai.

Year	Grant released	Expenditure incurred
2016-17	5,10,43,770	5,02,09,031
2017-18	10,67,62,739	10,27,62,739
2018-19	4,65,25,000	5,46,65,205
2019-20	9,80,78,393	9,83,54,528
2020-21	11,73,00,000	11,87,11,623

(c): The policy of the Government of India is to promote all Indian Languages including Classical Tamil and several steps taken in this regard. National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provides, wherever possible, for medium of instruction to be in the home language/mother tongue/local language upto at least class 5 and preferably upto class 8. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore works for the promotion of all Indian languages including Scheduled/Non-Scheduled and Classical languages namely Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia. Grants are not released separately for language wise. Under various schemes of Grants for Promotion of Indian Languages (GPIL) funds are allocated for promotion of Sindhi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Hindi and other Scheduled/Non-Scheduled languages. The details of grants allocated for last five years is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
432.28	450.13	449.47	561.47	474.28
