

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 184
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

PROMOTION OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

184. Adv. Adoor Prakash:

Will the Minister of Culture be please to state:

- the details of classical languages in the country and the year in which these languages conferred the status of classical language;
- whether the Government has provided funds for the promotion of classical languages, if so, the details thereof languages, if so, the details thereof languages-wise since it gets the status;
- whether the Government has received any proposal regarding the classical language projects of Malayalam language during last five years, if so, the details thereof and the status thereof; and
- whether the Government has any plan to provide more funds for the promotion of Malayalam language, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- Six Indian languages namely Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia have been accorded the status of Classical Language. The year in which these languages conferred the status of classical language is as given below :

Classical Language	Date of Notification
Tamil	12.10.2004
Sanskrit	25.11.2005
Kannada	31.10.2008
Telugu	31.10.2008
Malayalam	08.08.2013
Odia	11.03.2014

- The policy of the Government is to promote all Indian languages including classical languages. The National Education Policy, 2020 focuses on promotion of all Indian Languages. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) works for the promotion of all Indian languages including four classical languages viz. Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia. Development and promotion of Classical Tamil is done by Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT). The Government of India is promoting Sanskrit Language through three Central Universities. Funds are provided to these universities for teaching and research in Sanskrit language leading to award of degree, diploma, certificate to students and no separate funds are provided for undertaking any work related to classical aspect of Sanskrit. The details of funds provided for various classical languages for the last 10 years may be seen at **Annexure-A**.

- & (d): No proposal has been received in respect of Classical language projects in respect of Classical Malayalam language.

Annexure - A

Budget grant sanctioned to Classical languages

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Year	Kannada	Telugu	Odia	Malayalam	Tamil
2014-15	100.00	100.00			8.80
2015-16	100.00	100.00			11.89
2016-17	100.00	100.00			5.02
2017-18	100.00	100.00			10.27
2018-19	99.00	100.00			5.46
2019-20	107.00	107.00			9.83
2020-21	108.00	147.00	8.00	8.00	1200
2021-22	106.50	103.00	58.38	63.97	1200
2022-23	171.75	171.75	176.75	186.75	1200
2023-24	154.50	154.50	138.50	112.50	1525