

Respected sir

My humble request to furnish information under the RTI act 2005.

In 2013 Maharashtra government submitted a detail report for bestowing the “CLASSICAL LANGUAGE STATUS” for Marathi language which is the official language of Maharashtra. In between, due to a PIL in madras HC the decision was kept pending. On 8 aug 2016 Madras HC rejected that PIL and gave clearance to language expert committee for further advancement. But still today, there is no decision from govt side.

Please let me know

- (1) Whether that language expert committee have finally cleared the proposal of bestowing the classical status for Marathi language?
- (2) If that proposal is cleared, then why govt is holding the announcement?
- (3) When govt is going to announce the classical status?

Refer attached documents.

Regards

satish

Sixteenth Loksabha

an>

Title: Need to accord the status of Classical Language to Marathi.

\*SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO (SHIRUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for permitting me to raise an important issue during the Zero Hour. For according the classical language status to Marathi language, Government of Maharashtra had submitted its report in Marathi on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 and in English on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 to the Central Government.

As of now, Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Oriya are the six languages which are accorded classical status. As a matter of fact, Marathi language fulfills all the requisite criteria for being a classical language. The age of prakrit started from 600 to 700 AD. Prakrit was very prominent during the times of Lord Buddha, Bhagwan Mahavir and Emperor Ashoka. The grammar book “Prakrit Prakash” was written during this period. In those days, Maharashtri apbhransh was in practice. “Sri chamunda raye karavile gangaraje suthale karvile” this line was carved on a stone carving at Shravanbelgole which dates back to 983 AD and now it stands as a testimony for Marathi, being 1000 years old.

In my constituency, at Naneghat, there is a stone carving which is 2200 years old and in this carving a Marathi word “maharatthino” is written. Even during the Satvahan Era Prakrit Maharashtri language existed and it was very prominent.

Marathi language is spoken in 72 countries. There are around 20000 languages all over the world and Marathi stands at No.10. As many as 11.5 crore people speak Marathi. “Vinay Pitak” is a 2500 years old literary work. Even, the first literary book in Marathi ‘Gatha Saptasati’ is 2000 years old. This shows the ancientness of Marathi. 27<sup>th</sup> February is celebrated as Marathi Bhasha Diwas. Hence, it is my humble request to the Central Government that before 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015, Marathi should be accorded the status of Classical Language. Jai Marathi, Jai Maharashtra. Thank you.

## Madras High Court

### R.Gandhi vs The Secretary To The Government

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Reserved on : 13::07::2016

Delivered on : 08::08::2016

Coram:

The Honourable Mr.SANJAY KISHAN KAUL, CHIEF JUSTICE and The Honourable Mr.Justice R.MAHADEVAN

-----

W.P.Nos. 27405/2014, 28334/2008, 18810 of 2008, 5813 & 5814 of 2015 and Connected miscellaneous petitions

-----

W.P.No.27405 of 2014

R.Gandhi

Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Secretary to the Government,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
Union of India,  
Lok Nayak Bhavan,  
Khan Market,  
New Delhi 110 003.
2. The Secretary to Government,  
Ministry of Culture,

37. We may thus end with the following words of Oliver Wendell Holmes :

Every language is a temple, in which the soul of those who speak it is enshrined.

38. The writ petitions are accordingly disposed of. All connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

(S.K.K., C.J.)            (R.M.D., J.)  
August 8, 2016

Index : Yes

Website : Yes

The Honble the Chief Justice  
and  
R. Mahadevan, J.

Pre-delivery Order in  
W.Ps.27405/2014, 28334/2008, 18810/2008, 5813 &  
5814/2015

Reserved on: 13..07..2016  
Delivered on : 08..08..2016