

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH) :

(a) A total of 1593 demolition orders have been issued under Rule 38(1) and 38(2) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains 1958 (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010 and Rules 1959, till date.

(b) Out of 1593, 29 demolition orders have been successfully executed.

(c) 1564 demolition orders could not be executed.

(d) As per the proviso 38(1) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 1959, the Central Government may, by order, direct the owner or occupier of an unauthorized building in a prohibited area or in a regulated area or of a building or part thereof which has been constructed in contravention of any of the conditions of a license granted under rule 35 to remove such building or part thereof within a period specified in that order. Under the proviso 38(2) of the said Rules, if the owner or occupier refuses or fails to comply with an order made under sub-rule (1), the Central Government may direct the District Magistrate to cause the building or part thereof to be removed, and the owner or occupier shall be liable to pay the cost of such removal. However, Archaeological Survey of India has made its best efforts to demolish such unauthorized construction with the support of District Administration.

**Recommendation of Linguistic Committee to declare
Oriya as a Classical language**

2669. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many regional languages have been given Classical language status, and the criteria thereof and the benefits given once a language is recognized as a Classical language;

(b) whether Linguistic Committee has already recommended Oriya language to be declared as a Classical language, if so, by when Government would approve it; and

(c) when did the seven literary organizations of Odisha and some MPs of Odisha first apply for declaring Oriya as a Classical language and the time when the first meeting of Linguistic Committee was held?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH) :

(a) Five languages namely, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam have been given a Classical status.

The criteria for declaring a language as Classical language is as under:-

- (i) High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years;
- (ii) A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers;
- (iii) The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community;
- (iv) The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, then may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

The benefits available to a language granted a Classical status are as under:-

- (i) Two major International awards for scholars of eminence in Classical Indian languages are awarded annually;
 - (ii) A 'Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Languages' is set up;
 - (iii) The University Grants Commission be requested to create, to start with at least in the Central Universities, a certain number of Professional Chairs for Classical Languages for scholars of eminence in Classical Indian languages.
- (b) Yes. Sir. The proposal to declare Oriya as a Classical language is under process.
- (c) An organization, namely, Lekhaka Sammukhya made a representation in September, 2012. Besides, Shri Ram Chandra Khuntia, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) sent his first representation in September, 2012. Meeting of Linguistic Committee on declaring Oriya as a Classical language was held on 23.07.2013.

Collapse of historically important structures in Maharashtra

2670. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many historically important structures across Maharashtra are collapsing, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent proposal for declaring historically important structures as heritage sites, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken till now?