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Title : Need to release a commemorative stamp in honour of Prof. Sooranad Kunjan Pillai and Thakazhi Sivasankaran Pillai for their contribution towards Malayalam literature.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Kerala has produced some of the finest scholars who have brought laurels to the Malayalam language and literature not only in India but also in the world. Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai and Professor Sooranad P.N. Kunjan Pillai are two such scholars who have served the Malayalam language through their hard work in the field of literature.

Prof. Sooranad Kunjan Pillai was born on 26 Novemebr, 1911 in Sooranad South in Kollam district. He was a renowned historian, researcher, poet, literary critic, socio-Â cultural leader, grammarian and scholar of Malayalam language. For his contribution to Malayalam literature and education, he was honoured with Padmashri Award in 1984.

Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai was born on 17 April, 1912 in the village of Thakazhi in Kuttanad, Alappuzha district of Kerala. He was a novelist and short story writer of Malayalam language. He focused on the oppressed classes as the subject of his work. He has written several novels and over 600 short stories. He was awarded India's highest literary award, the Jnanpith in 1984 for his outstanding contribution to the Malayalam language and literature. Thakazhi Samaraka Samithi celebrated the birth centenary of late Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai with a slew of programmes.

In order to acknowledge the contribution of Prof. Sooranad Kunjan Pillai and Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai to the Malayalam language and its literature, I fervently appeal to the Union Government to release a Commemorative Stamp in memory of these two leading lights of the Malayalam literature. I also request that birth centenary of these two eminent personalities may be celebrated this year.