

# Union Cabinet approves renaming Kerala as Keralam

**Context:** The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to rename the State of Kerala as Keralam, following resolutions passed by the Kerala Legislative Assembly in 2023 and 2024.

## 1. About Union Cabinet approves renaming Kerala as Keralam: What it is?



-  The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to alter the official name of the State of Kerala to Keralam.
-  The change seeks to replace the English-adopted constitutional term “Kerala” with the traditional Malayalam usage “Keralam.”
-  After Cabinet approval, the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 will follow the constitutional process before becoming law.

## 2. Articles associated:



**Article 3 of the Constitution:** Empowers Parliament to form new states or alter areas, boundaries, or names of existing states.









### Proviso to Article 3:

- A Bill altering a state's name can be introduced only on the recommendation of the President.
- The President must refer the Bill to the concerned State Legislature to seek its views.



**First Schedule of the Constitution:** Contains the list and names of states and Union Territories; amendment required here for renaming.

## 3. Procedure for renaming a state:

-  **State Legislature Resolution:** Kerala Assembly passed resolutions requesting the name change.
-  **Examination by Union Government:** Ministry of Home Affairs scrutinizes the proposal and consults relevant ministries/agencies.
-  **Union Cabinet Approval:** Cabinet clears the proposal for legislative action.
-  **President's Reference:** President refers the Bill to the State Legislature for its opinion (Article 3 proviso).
-  **Parliamentary Approval:** Bill introduced in Parliament after Presidential recommendation and passed by both Houses.
-  **Notification & Amendment:** First Schedule amended; new name come into legal effect.