

>

Title: Need to accord the status of a classical language to Telugu.

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (BOBBILI): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very important issue regarding the delay in officially recognizing Telugu as a classical language. In fact, this delay is causing immense heartburn among ten crore Telugu speaking people. As we all know, Telugu is the largest spoken language after Hindi. In spite of Telugu's known antiquity and classical character, it has not been officially accorded the status of classical language. Here I would like to draw the attention of the Union Home Ministry to a notification issued on 24th Nov 2005 wherein they have said that in order to be eligible for grant of classical language status; a language should have antiquity of early texts recorded history over 1,000 years. According to available records, Telugu's antiquity dates back to more than 2000 years. For example, Iteraya Brahmana and Vasya Mahabharat are strong evidences that prove that Telugu is a classical language. Even going by the criteria given in the official notification, giving the status of classical language to Telugu ought to have been done long back.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, any lukewarm attitude in addressing this matter is tantamount to ignoring the sentiments of Telugu people. Even our hon. Chief Minister, Dr Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy has sent necessary information to the Union Government in this regard.[\[R21\]](#)

Therefore, through you, I would like to urge the hon. Home Minister to hurry up in giving Telugu the status of classical language in order to mollify the Telugu people.

MR. SPEAKER: Telugu is very a rich language. Why should there be any trouble?

-

12.49 hrs.