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Title: Regarding 'Tulu' language.

*SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (DAKSHINA KANNADA) : Hon. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the demand of Tulu language Speakers of Karnataka.

Tulu is my mother tongue and also one of the five Dravidian languages. Lakhs of people speak Tulu language all over the country. In Karnataka Tulu Speaking people are spread over many coastal districts like Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Chikkamagaluru and Karwar. Tulu is also spoken in the coastal region of

Kerala state. Tulu speakers have their own identity in terms of language, culture and tradition. Tulu has a very strong historical background.

Tulu speakers have been demanding constitutional status to Tulu language. Inclusion of Tulu in the Eighth Schedule of the constitution would enable it to get constitutional rights to develop the language academically and culturally. Tulu literature could also be developed.

Tulu speakers have been demonstrating for the fulfillment of their demand. Two years ago Tulu language conference was held under the guidance of Poojya Shri Virendra Hegade ji of Dharmasthala. About four lakhs people participated in the event. They urged upon the Government to consider their genuine demand for according constitutional status to Tulu language. But the Union Government has not taken any step till date.

I would like to urge the Government that any further delay in according constitutional status to Tulu language would lead unrest in the state. Tulu language should not be deprived of getting constitutional support for its development.

Therefore, through you I would like to impress upon the Union Government to take immediate necessary steps to protect the interest of Tulu speakers and include Tulu language in the Eighth Schedule of the constitution.

सभापति महोदय :

*m02 श्री निखिल कुमार चौधरी, चौधरी जी, आपने बजट पर न बोलकर ज़ीरो आवर में बोलना क्यों पसंद किया?

श्री निखिल कुमार चौधरी : सभापति महोदय, मुझे लोक महत्व के विषय पर बोलना है। मैं बिहार के कटिहार संसदीय क्षेत्र से आता हूँ। आपको झारखंड की जानकारी तो है ही, बिहार की भी पूरी जानकारी है। मैं जिस क्षेत्र से आता हूँ, वह एन.एफ. रेलवे का डिविज़नल हैडक्वार्टर है।

श्री राधे मोहन सिंह : मैं भी कटिहार में पढ़ा हूँ।