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Title: Need to provide funds for promotion of Kannada language.

*SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPALA) :Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards 'Kannada language' which is my mother tongue. It is one of the ancient Indian languages. Kannada is a very attractive and also a creative language. Kannada words were first found in the Halmidi inscription of 5th century A.D. The first Kannada Work 'Kavirajamarga' was written in 9th century A.D. The contributions of great poets Pampa, Ponna, Ranna, Raghavanka and Kumarvyasa to Kannada literature has made it a great language in the world.

Kannada has also made significant contribution to the modern Indian literature. It has received 8 Jnanapeeth awards so far. It is the reflection of the richness of Kannada literature and language. Kannada language has produced 3 Rashtrakavi (National Poets) in our country. Government of India has accorded classical language status to 6 Indian languages including Kannada.

In the year 2011 Kannada language was accorded classical status. However no special facilities or financial assistance is given for the development and promotion of this language. Therefore, I would like to request the centre to release the funds required for the development of Kannada language and issue instruction to the State Government to utilize the funds properly. I humbly request the Union Government to join hands with the people of Karnataka to promote Kannada language and literature.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.