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Title: Regarding inclusion of Tulu language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution - laid

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI): Tulu language is the Mother Tongue of people in Coastal Karnataka. Tulu has a history of 2500 years. More than 1.5 crore people speak Tulu language, which has its own script as well. Tulu is a Dravidian language. The cities of Udupi, Mangaluru and Kasaragod are the epicentres of Tulu culture. According to the 2001 Census, India has 30 languages that are spoken by more than a million people each. Government must accommodate this plethora of languages in its cultural discourse and administrative apparatus. Placing of all the deserving languages on equal footing will promote social inclusion and national solidarity. Tulu is a textbook example of linguistic discrimination. I urge the Government to include Tulu in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution in order to substantially fulfil the promise of equality of status and opportunity mentioned in the Preamble.