

**Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick on the occasion of
Karnataka Rajyotsava Celebration (Karnataka Day)
24th November 2025**

Dear Members of the Indian Community, Friends of India in Japan,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good evening and warm welcome to all of you on the joyous occasion of celebration of Karnataka Rajyotsava, the Foundation Day of the State of Karnataka at Embassy of India. It is celebrated annually on 1 November. Today, we have gathered not only to celebrate the birth of a state, but to honour a civilisation, a language, a culture, and a people whose contributions have enriched India's heritage for centuries.

Karnataka is a land where ancient wisdom meets modern innovation. From the majestic ruins of Hampi to the serene hills of Coorg, from the classical melodies of Mysore to the technological dynamism of Bengaluru, Karnataka reflects the diversity, brilliance, and resilience that define India.

At the heart of Karnataka's identity lies its language - Kannada - one of the world's oldest and most beautiful classical languages, with a literary tradition spanning over two millennia. Today, we offer our tribute to great icons such as Kuvempu, Purandara Dasa, Kanaka Dasa, vachanakaras like Basavanna, and countless poets, thinkers, and reformers who have shaped Karnataka's intellectual landscape.

Karnataka's story is also a story of progress and harmony. As the home of India's innovation capital, Bengaluru, the state has been a bridge between tradition and technology, culture and commerce, heritage and the future. Its contributions to information technology, aerospace, biotechnology, research, and higher education have earned global respect.

In this journey, the Karnataka diaspora in Japan has played a remarkable role. Your talent, dedication, and sense of community have strengthened the bond between India and Japan. Whether as engineers, researchers, entrepreneurs, educators, artists, or professionals across diverse sectors, you have become ambassadors of Karnataka's values - humility, excellence and inclusiveness.

Check Against Delivery

I would also like to highlight that Karnataka and Japan share a relationship grounded in economic collaboration, cultural affinity, and mutual trust. Several Japanese companies have deep and successful partnerships in Karnataka, especially in sectors such as mobility, manufacturing, semiconductors, and innovation. The vibrant cultural connections - from Yakshagana performances to friendships between Japanese and Indian universities - enrich our people-to-people ties.

Karnataka Rajyotsava reminds us that India's strength lies in its unity in diversity. Our states are not merely administrative units; they are living cultures, each adding its own colour to India's national tapestry. Today, as we celebrate Karnataka, we also celebrate the spirit of a united and harmonious India.

As we mark this special day, let us reaffirm our commitment to preserving and promoting Kannada language, Karnataka's traditions, and the shared values that bind our community. I congratulate all Kannadigas here in Japan on this festive occasion.

May Karnataka continue to shine as a beacon of progress, culture, and innovation. May the friendship between India and Japan grow even stronger.

Ellarigu Karnataka Rajyotsava Habbada Shubhashayagalu!

Happy Karnataka Rajyotsava to everyone!

Thank you. Dhanyavaadagalu.
