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संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था  
**Sahitya Akademi**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Sahitya Akademi deeply mourns the demise of distinguished writer, playwright, scholar, director and actor, Sri Girish Karnad. Through his immortal works such as *Yayati*, *Thuglaq*, *Hayavadana*, *Taledanda* and *Agni Mattu Male*, Sri Karnad leaves behind a legacy and his works will continue to inspire future generations. He was not a mere thinker but also an institution builder and he ensured that democratic values were firmly entrenched in the systems and institutions. He was passionate in what he believed in but firmly believed in democratic ideals. His writings and plays were not removed from the contemporary reality and were humanistic and existentialist in nature though he deployed plenty of history and mythology in his writings. Sri Girish Karnad was one of the finest minds of modern India and through his writings and speeches he invigorated and inspired millions of young Indians. Very rarely one comes across a person who excels and rewarded on many spheres and Karnad was one such rare personality and no surprise he was recognized for his contribution to literature, theatre and cinema. Sahitya Akademi joins the entire literary fraternity in paying homage to this gentle genius.

(K. Sreenivasarao)