



In Texas, Telugu gets a boost

A CORRESPONDENT

The San Antonio Telugu Association last week announced two awards for outstanding Telugu students at the University of Texas at Austin. Madhava Rao Govindaraju, the association's president, made the announcement at the Telugu Language Day celebrations.

The UT-Telugu program now has four awards for outstanding Telugu students. These awards will be given at a special event in the fall.

Murali Vennam, south west regional director of the Telugu Association of North America, assured the regional association of TANA's continued support, pledging \$100,000 for five years.

The UT Telugu Students Association joined the Telugu Language Day celebrations. Prasad Thotakura, president-elect, TANA, said TANA along with other Telugu associations in Texas is committed to generate more financial support to develop the Telugu program at UT Austin.

Professor Joel Brereton, chairman of the department of Asian Studies, mentioned the efforts of Afsar Mohammed in developing new teaching materials and strategies to improve the quality of the Telugu program. The increasing number of students taking Telugu clearly shows the program's success, he said.

"It's our fortune to have a well-known Telugu writer and



TANA Telugu at UT

scholar such as Afsar teaching this program, and the entire Texas community should take advantage of this unique opportunity," said Lakshmanna Vishnubhotla, a representative from the Austin Telugu community.

Ramki Chebrolu, chairman of the Telugu Language com-

mittee of TANA, encouraged Telugu learning students to speak the language at home. Divya Yalamanchili and Deepica Mutyala, president and vice-president of the UT-Telugu Students Association respectively, announced the organization's new board members.