

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
PAPER CLIPPINGS

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## PAC directs CAG to audit purchase of COVID-19 equipment

### SDRF spending also to be checked

SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

The State legislature's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on Tuesday directed the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to conduct a special audit into the purchase of COVID-19 equipment within 15 days.

Former Congress Minister and PAC chairman H.K. Patil chaired a meeting of the panel and instructed the CAG to constitute a special team to conduct an audit of all COVID-19 equipment purchase.

The panel also asked the CAG to conduct an audit of the expenditure incurred by the State government under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). The Karnataka government had used SDRF for the purchase of equipment in various districts.

The Congress has alleged that the government has siphoned off funds by purchasing inferior quality of PPE kits, sanitisers, ventilators,

#### Charge and denial

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masks, and other equipment at rates higher than those prevailing in the market.

Mr. Patil, who has petitioned Karnataka State Human Rights Commission about the alleged violation of people's rights while providing treatment to patients, demanded a comprehensive audit report from the CAG on the procedure followed to procure equipment, their price and quality.

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