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MLG poll: ﴿ Cong-JD(S) back Ind candidate against Savadi

BENGALURU, DHNS: In an unexpected move, the Congress and the JD(S) on Thursday decided to support an Independent candidate in the upcoming MLC bypoll against Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi.

Minister Laxman Savadi.
Congress' Anil Kumar
filed his papers as an Independent candidate on
Thursday. It was the last
date for candidates to file
nominations.

Speaking to mediapersons, JD(S) leader H D Revanna said like-minded people had come together and taken the decision to back Kumar's candidature. "Kumar said he wanted to contest as an independent candidate. The same was discussed with our party leaders and a decision was taken with their consent," Revanna said.

While earlier it was expected that JD(S) Bengaluru district president R Prakash would submit his nomination as the party's candidate for the MLC poll, the party decided to join hands with Congress in supporting the independent candidate.

The bypoll to fill up one vacantCouncilseatisscheduled to be held on February 17. This is crucial for Savadi to continue in his post. He must be elected to either of the Houses - Assembly or Council-before February 19, to continue in office. In the 222-member Assembly, the BJP has 117 (including the support of one Independent), whereas the Congress has 68 and the JD(S) 34. There is another Independent, one ESP MLA and one yna fektalinskriser.