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Times of India

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I-T dept raids properties of Cong leaders Parameshwara, Jalappa

Multi-Crore Tax Evasion Case Linked To NEET

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

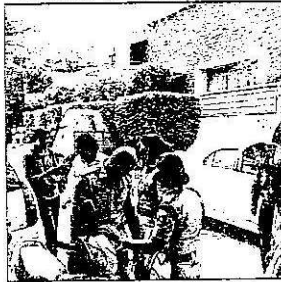
Bengaluru: Income-tax officers on Thursday raided education institutes owned by senior Congress leaders G Parameshwara and RL Jalappa in an alleged multi-crore tax-evasion case linked to

► **FULL COVERAGE | PAGE 4**

the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) held for medical and dental college admissions this year.

Around 150 officials raided 30 premises in Bengaluru, Tumakuru, Nelamangala (Beng-

'THEY'RE FREE TO CHECK DOCUS'



Police stationed outside the residence of G Parameshwara in Sadashivnagar, Bengaluru, on Thursday

66 I don't have details of the search operation. Officers are free to verify documents and initiate action if they find violations

G Parameshwara | FORMER DYCM

I-T raids are deliberate, targeting Congress leaders in Karnataka time and again. During elections too, they had similarly targeted Congress leaders

Siddaramaiah | LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

aluru Rural), Kolar and Chikkaballapura districts and also in Rajasthan. The searches will continue on Friday.

While Congress termed the raids 'BJP vendetta', I-T officials said they initiated

action as part of a probe to check alleged irregularities in allocating medical seats under NEET in two colleges run by former deputy chief minister Parameshwara and one by former Union mini-

ster Jalappa. "A case of alleged impersonation and illegal payments made to secure 136 seats by 68 students from Rajasthan was the trigger for the raids," they added.

Officials swooped down on the properties of Parameshwara around 6.30am starting from Sri Siddhartha Medical College in Tumakuru and Sri Siddhartha Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, near Nelamangala. In Kolar, sleuths raided Jalappa-owned Devaraj Urs Medical College. All three colleges are deemed universities.

The teams raided real-estate firms in Nelamangala and Jalappa's relatives' houses in Doddaballapura and Chikkaballapura.

► **Houses raided, P 4**

Parameshwara's house in Sadashivanagar searched

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Sources said searches were also conducted at Parameshwara's Sadashivanagar house in Bengaluru. Officials seized documents showing undeclared income and college managements accepting money in cash from students. They seized Rs 2 crore in cash and property papers.

Parameshwara was deputy chief minister in the coalition government that collapsed in July. Jalappa, once a confidant of former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, switched allegiance to the Congress. He was Union minister of textiles from 1996 to January 1998.