

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಕಡತಗಳು  
PAPER CLIPPINGS

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ: DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT:

Parliament

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER:

Times of India

ತಾರೀಖು : DATE : 12/06/2019

## Virendra Kumar to be interim LS Speaker

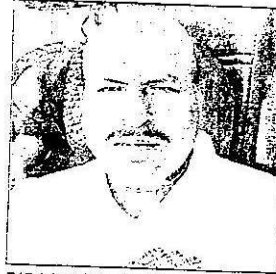
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Dalit leader and seven-term BJP MP Virendra Kumar was on Tuesday appointed the pro-tem Speaker. He will administer the oath of office to the newly elected members of the Lower House of Parliament, an official communication said.

It added that Lok Sabha members Bhartruhari Mahatab, Kodikunil Suresh and Brijbhushan Sharan Singh have been appointed by President Ram Nath Kovind as persons before whom MPs can take the oath as well.

There was speculation that Maneka Gandhi, an eight-term MP, was likely to be appointed the pro-tem Speaker as she is the senior-most Lok Sabha member but BJP has opted for Kumar, who was a minister in the previous Narendra Modi-led government and hails from Madhya Pradesh.

Maneka Gandhi who was



BJP MP Virendra Kumar

a member of the previous Modi government, has not been included in the Union Cabinet this time.

Sources said the development has boosted Kumar's prospects of being the ruling dispensation's choice for the Speaker's post as his Dalit identity is also seen as an asset for the saffron party.

The first session of the newly-constituted 17th Lok Sabha will be held from June 17 to July 26, with the first couple of days to be spent on new Lok Sabha members taking their oath of office.