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Four Gujarat Cong MLAs resign ahead of RS polls

Party shifts flock . to Jaipur feering possibling by BJP

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AHMEDABAD, DHNS

In a fresh setback to the

Gujarat Congress, four of its MLAs resigned ahead of the Rajya Sabha polls to be held on March 26.

Fearing poaching, the party has begun shifting its MLAs to neighbouring Rajasthan. The first batch of 15 legislators was sent to Jaipur on Saturday while more are expected to leave.

Party state president Amit Chavda earlier denied the reports, accusing the BJP of spreading rumours. "No one has resigned. The BJP and the Assembly Speaker should give us proof," he said. Hours later, Speaker Rajendra Trivediconfirmed the resignations. He did not name the MLAs.

Minutes later, Gujarat BJP

'Virus relief' to Kamal Nath

Coronavirus fears could give a reprieve to the Kamal Nath government as Speaker N P Prajapati was non-committal on convening the budget session from Monday, citing MLAs' health as the 'most important issue', while Governor Lalji Tandon has directed the CM to hold a floor test on March 16. Page 11

chief Jitu Vaghani told workers at the party headquarters in Gandhinagar that the "BJP will win all the three seats for which its leaders have filed nominations."

The Congress is struggling to keep its team intact amid speculations that at least three more MLAs may resign or cross-vote to favour BJP candidates.