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## Ordinances: Conflict brewing between Govt, Oppn

SHEMIN JOY 12 9120 NEW DELHI, DHNS\_

Confrontation is brewing between the government and the Opposition over four bills to replace ordinances-three on agriculture and one on cooperative banks-with the former not agreeing to the demand for sending them for Parliamentary scrutiny.

The government's attempt to win over the Opposition did not succeed as Rajya Sabha floor leaders in a meeting with Defence Minister Rajnath

Singh, Rajya Sabha Leader of due to the Covid-19 pandemic. House Tawarchand Gehlot, Deputy Leader of House Piyush Goyal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi remained adamant that these bills with "far-reaching" impact could not be rushed through.

This is the first time that the government is meeting leaders on the Monsoon session of the Parliament, which started on September 14 and ended on October 1. The customary all-party meeting ahead of the Session could not be convened

Sources said, the leaders were told that the Defence Minister will make a statement on the situation on India-China border in Rajya Sabha on Thursday following which there will be a window for the MPs to seek clarifications from him. In Lok Sabha, Opposition MPs had demanded that they be allowed to speak after Singh's statement but were not allowed, leading to a walkout by the Congress.

The discussion on Covid-19 situation will continue on Fri-

day till 12 noon.

While the Opposition is ready to cooperate with the government to pass seven other bills to replace other ordinances, they said the Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill and Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill should be sent to Parliamentary Standing Committees.

