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Seven candidates set to be elected unopposed

Papers of a BJP candidate and an Independent are likely to be rejected as they have not been signed by MLAs of any party SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU

All seven candidates of three major political parties - BJP, Congress, and jD(S) have filed their nomination papers on Thursday for elections to the State Legislative Council from the Legislative Assembly constituency.

In total, nine candidates. have filed papers. Thursday was the last day for filing nomination papers.

Four BJP candidates two former Ministers N. Nagaraju (MTB) and R. Shankar, former MLA Sunil Vallyapure, and former Dakshina Kannada district president Pratap Simha Nayak - have filed their nomination papers in the





One of the Congress candidates for the Council polls B.K. Hariprasad filing his nomination and (right) BJP candidates Prathap Simha Nayak, Sunil Vallyapure, R. Shankar, and N. Nagaraju at the Vidhana Soudha on Thursday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

presence of Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and other party leaders.

AICC general secretary and Rajya Sabha member B.K. Hariprasad and MLC

Naseer Ahmed of the Congress filed their papers in the presence of Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah and KPCC presidentdesignate D.K. Shivakumar.

Accompanied by former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and other party leaders, Govindaraju of the JD(S) filed his papers.

parties fielding an additional candidate, all seven candidates are expected to be elected unopposed.

Yadavanahalli Krishne With no major political Gowda filed nomination

papers as an Independent candidate: Mandikal Nagaraj has filed papers as BIP candidate but has not produced 'A' and 'B' forms of the party. Papers of both candidates are likely to be rejected during the scrutiny since they have not been signed by MLAs of any political parties while filing nominations. Elections are necessitated following the scheduled retirement of seven elected MLCs on June 30. The ruling BJP with its 117 members would ensure victory of all its four candidates, while the Opposition Congress (68 MLAs) and ID (S) (34 MLAs) would ensure victory of two and one candidate, respectively.