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Legislative Council

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER:

Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 23/1/21

## House panel submits interim report on Council ruckus

BENGALURU, DHNS 23/1/21

A special House committee constituted to look into the December 15 ruckus in the Legislative Council submitted its interim report to chairperson Pratapchandra Shetty on Friday.

The committee, headed by JD(S) MLC Marithibbe Gowda, was given 20 days' time to submit a report. However, seeking more time to submit the final report, the committee has now submitted an 84-page interim report on the issue.

Speaking after submitting the report, Gowda said the committee had met five

times until now. It has compiled the interim report based on the evidence collected till now. The members have taken primary statements of the council secretary and marshalls, as part of the interim report. It needs more time to do an in-depth inquiry into the matter, he said.

Originally, the committee had five members. But, two of its members - BJP's A H Vishwanath and S V Sankanur - resigned questioning the validity of the committee. The committee was constituted by Shetty to inquire into the December 15 ruckus, an unprecedented incident that saw unruly

behaviour by the members.

Hereon, the committee will examine the CCTV footage on the premises, live webcast of the Council, talk to officials in the Information department and look into the recorded footage of private channels, according to Gowda. The committee has even written to the Home department seeking a copy of the alleged suicide note of Deputy Chairman, the late S L Dharme Gowda who was hocked during the ruckus.

Future course of action will be determined after looking into the interim report, chairperson Shetty said.