

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
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## Vishwanath to move SC against HC ruling

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru/Mysuru:** Former Karnataka minister and BJP MLC AH Vishwanath, whose chances of becoming a minister were dashed after



the Karnataka high court held that his disqualification as MLA subsists as he is a nominated MLC and not an elected one, accused the advocate general of not arguing his case effectively and said he will move the Supreme Court against the order.

Vishwanath said neither the AG nor BJP leaders hel-

ped in his legal fight "which has hurt me deeply".

On Monday, the high court said that the CM and the government, while taking any decision on inducting Vishwanath as a minister, should bear in mind that he remains a disqualified MLA unlike R Shankar and MTB Nagaraj, whose disqualification has been negated by their election as MLCs.

Without naming the CM, Vishwanath said: "The people who benefited from their action and formed government have failed to come to their rescue in difficult times."

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## HC order came as a disaster for long political career: Vishwanath

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In November 2019, the top court, while upholding disqualification of Vishwanath and 16 other MLAs, had said they cannot hold any public office till they get re-elected.

Expressing support to Vishwanath, the party said it will "never backstab those who helped us form the government". Law minister JC Madhuswamy said the government will discuss the issue with advocate general Prabhuling Navadig and see what best can be done in the case. He said though Vishwanath lost the Hunsur bypoll, he was nominated to the council. "Candidates who lose polls do not get this kind of recognition in any other party," he added.

The three council members — Vishwanath, Shankar and Nagaraj — were among 17 MLAs who were disqualified from the Karnataka as-

sembly, which led to the fall of the Congress-JD(S) government. Later, they joined BJP. Nagaraj and Vishwanath contested the December 2019 assembly bypolls unsuccessfully; whereas Shankar did not contest. They were made MLCs by the BJP. Vishwanath expressed displeasure over the BJP not making him a candidate in the elections to four council seats from the assembly. "My name was on the top of the list of four names sent by the state unit to the high command, but it was dropped at the last minute. If my name had been considered, I'd have become a minister now," he said.

Vishwanath's friend-turned-foe and JD(S) MLA Sa Ra Mahesh alleged Goddess Chamundeshwari has "punished" the former for betraying the party for money as well as power. Vishwanath likened Mahesh to muck.