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Obituary

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Deccan Herald

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## Former minister Vaijanath Patil passes away

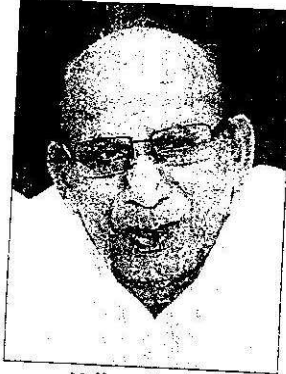
BENGALURU, DUNS

Former minister and noted social leader who fought for special status to the Kalyana-Karnataka (Hyderabad-Karnataka) region Vaijanath Patil passed away in the city on Saturday morning.

The 82-year-old former minister was admitted to a private hospital for prolonged illness.

Patil had served as horticulture minister in Ramakrishna Hegde's Cabinet in 1984. He later held the portfolio of Urban Development in H D Devegowda Cabinet in 1994.

Hailing from Bidar, Patil later moved and settled at Chincholi taluk of Kalaburagi district.



Vaijanath Patil

Patil was passionately and closely involved in the two-decade-long struggle, demanding special status under Article 371J of the Constitution to Kalyana Karnataka.

In fact, Patil was at the forefront of several agita-

tions. His ideological stand was such that he was never hesitant to point out to any injustice to the region and demanded swift action by the respective governments.

He had even once resigned from his ministerial post citing the government's cavalier attitude towards the region.

Patil had joined the BJP ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

In his death, Patil has left behind his wife, two daughters and three sons, including former chairperson of MSIL Dr Vikram Patil, and Zilla Panchayat member Gautam Patil. According to sources close to the family, the last rites will be held at Chincholi in Kalaburagi district on Sunday.