

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Speaker

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Stalemate continues as Speaker rejects notice to discuss Yatnal's remark

Cong. continues protest seeking expulsion of BJP leader for his remarks on Doreswamy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The principal Opposition Congress continued its protests in the State Legislative Assembly on the second day on Tuesday, as Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri rejected the party's notice seeking permission to discuss the issue of BJP member Basanagouda Patil Yatnal's controversial remarks on freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy.

Before the House met, Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah submitted the notice to the Speaker seeking a discussion. But, the Speaker rejected the notice stating that it was not in accordance with the House rule of 328. Moreover, the House cannot debate the issue based on newspaper reports, he argued. The member made the remarks outside the House and he (Mr. Yatnal) had not violated the Constitution, Mr. Kageri said. He also said it was not reasonable on the part of the House to take up the discussion on the matter without giving notice to Mr. Yatnal.

Mr. Siddaramaiah rebutted the argument saying that both the Speaker's decision to reject the notice and the government and the Speaker defending the insults meted out to Mr. Doreswamy was "undemocratic, unparliamentary, dictatorial, and partisan." Terming the Speaker's ruling as illegal, he alleged that



Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa with legislators during the Assembly session at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

IN THE LEGISLATURE

6 The government and Speaker defending the insults meted out to freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy is undemocratic, unparliamentary, dictatorial, and partisan.

SIDDARAMAIAH
Leader of Opposition in Legislative Assembly

it looked as though the Speaker had yielded to the pressure from the government. The Speaker, however, denied being under pressure.

Change in stand
On Monday, the Congress had demanded discussion on the issue without giving notice. The Speaker had then said that the Congress should submit a notice seeking detailed

discussion. On Tuesday, the party softened its stance and did submit a notice. The Speaker, who earlier accepted the notice and promised providing time for discussion before lunch, changed his stance in the House post-lunch and rejected the notice, Mr. Siddaramaiah said. The RSS and Sangh Parivar forces behind the statement of Mr. Yatnal and the govern-

ment were defending it, the Leader of the Opposition said.

The House witnessed ruckus as members of the Opposition and ruling parties indulged in sloganeering and accusing each other for the chaos.

Besides discussion on the matter, the Congress in its notice had demanded expulsion of Mr. Yatnal from the Legislative Assembly for the "misconduct, violation of the Fundamental Duties (51A&B) and Constitution" by insulting the freedom fighter.

To continue protest
Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Siddaramaiah

Congress to petition Governor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Congress has decided to petition Governor Vajubhai R. Vela on Wednesday about the conduct of Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri.

Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah told the media that a party delegation would call on the Governor, who is custodian of the Constitution. Mr. Kageri administered the oath to Basanagouda Patil Yatnal as member of the Assembly. But Mr. Yatnal has violated the oath as well as Constitution by making derogatory remarks against freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy, Mr. Siddaramaiah argued.

maiah said the Congress would continue its protest inside the House and would not participate in the discussion on the Constitution.

The ruling party has no respect for Constitution and hence, there is no point participating in the debate. Moreover, the discussion would not produce any positive outcome, Mr. Siddaramaiah said.