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Obituary

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Deccan Herald

ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 06/07/2019

Two-time MLA Gopal Bhandary no more

BENGALURU: Former legislator and Congress leader Gopal Bhandary died on Thursday night during a bus journey from Bengaluru to Mangaluru due to a cardiac arrest.

He was 66 and was three days away from celebrating his 67th birthday.

Born on July 7, 1952, Bhandary represented the Karkala Assembly constituency in Udupi district for two terms - 1999 to 2004 and 2008 to 2013. His last victory in the 2008 Assembly polls came when he defeated BJP's V Sunil Kumar by 1,537 votes.

Bhandary was travelling to Mangaluru alone in a KSRTC bus. He was found dead in his seat when the bus arrived at



Gopal Bhandary

the KSRTC bus station at Bejai around 10.15 pm, according to a report. Tributes poured in following his death and the KPCC held a

condolence meeting here on Friday.

"He was close to me personally," Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah said in a tweet hailing Bhandary for his "uncompromised ideological commitment, honesty and nobility." Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy and others have condoned Bhandary's death.