

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Process may take a week or a month: Ramesh Kumar

'Should I not respect the rules, the Constitution, and people?'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

"The process (of deciding on the resignations of rebel Congress and JD-S legislators) may take a week or a month, depending on the questions asked and the cooperation that they give," Assembly Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar said on Thursday.

"I am not for or against anybody. I will have to ask the Deputy Speaker to sit in the chair during afternoon sessions and hear the legislators," Mr. Ramesh Kumar told presspersons here after meeting the 10 rebel legislators. In other States, he pointed out, the process of both resignations and disqualification proceedings have dragged on for years."

Regarding the Supreme Court directions, he said, "Whatever was asked for me to do forthwith, I have done them forthwith." Acknowledging that the legislators urged him to accept their resignations during the nearly hour-long meeting, he said, "I do not want to commit mistakes. I have said no to their requests." He said, "Should I have done in lightning speed? For whom should I do? Should I not respect the rules,



K.R. Ramesh Kumar

Speaker: JD(S) petition on disqualification not in order

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Janata Dal (Secular), which moved a complaint of anti-defection against three of its members who are now in the rebel camp, has been told by Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar that the petition is not in order.

JD(S) spokesperson and former MLC Ramesh Babu had submitted the complaint against the former party State president A.H. Vishwanath (Hunsur), K. Gopalaiah (Mahalakshmi Layout) and K.C. Narayana Gowda (K.R. Pet) who are part of the rebel camp and

have tendered their resignations to the Speaker.

Mr. Babu, along with the Chief Minister's Political Secretary Kone Reddy, met the Speaker on Thursday as well with additional documents that Mr. Ramesh Kumar had sought.

Mr. Ramesh Kumar later told presspersons that the complaint seeking disqualification was not in order. "Such a complaint can only be made by the leader of the legislature party or a legislator from the party. In this context, neither qualify to file the complaint," he added.

the Constitution, and people?" Turning his ire at the rebel legislators, he said, "I'm delaying because I love this land. I cannot be acting in haste because I have to convince myself. They (rebels) have misused the noble constitutional functionary by approaching the Governor. Should they go to the Supreme Court to meet me? It is just not accepting or rejecting resignations." He said, "What has happened in Karnataka is a continuation of defection being a national malady as expressed in Parliament."

'I'm in a fix'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

What should take pre-eminence: disqualification proceedings against the rebel legislators or accepting their resignations? Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar said, "I am in a fix. If the resignations are accepted, proceedings of disqualification get nullified. If disqualified, the legislators cannot enter the House for the rest of its term."