

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ, ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖನಾ ಶಾಖೆ
KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, RESEARCH AND REFERENCE BRANCH

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5

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Legislative Council Session

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**War of words
in Council over
rampant manual
scavenging**

^{18/3/21}
BENGALURU, DHNS: A ruckus erupted in the Legislative Council over lack of time to discuss the issue of manual scavenging in the state.

It started with Congress' B K Hariprasad raising a question about the status of manual scavengers in Karnataka. Though legislation prohibits manual scavenging, it is still rampant, with more than 25,000 manual scavengers across the state, Hariprasad said.

Responding to this, Social Welfare Minister B Sriramulu said there was a need for more stringent laws against this practice.

Not satisfied by the answer, Hariprasad sought specifics about actions that will be taken by the government to curb it. As he was elaborating on the issue, deputy chairperson M K Pranesh asked him to cut it short, which left Hariprasad angry. The irate member asked the Chair not to stop him from speaking.

Angered by this, BJP member Ayanur Manjunath said it was not permissible for anyone to intimidate the Chair. A war of words ensued between Manjunath and Hariprasad, each alleging that the other lacked moral standing to question.

As Congress members continued to question why they were not given time to discuss the issue, Pranesh said there would be an exclusive discussion on the issue for half an hour.