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Congress workers protest in Bengaluru on Thursday demanding Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa's resignation in connection with the letter written by RDPR Minister KS Eshwarappa. | MEGHANA SASTRY

Cong wants CM to resign, seeks Prez's rule in state

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THE Congress, that was already tearing into the Yediyurappa-led BJP government over the CD-gate, has now weaponised RDPR Minister KS Eshwarappa's letter to go all guns blazing against the Chief Minister.

Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah went one step further and even went after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his poll campaign on Thursday, demanding action. As if to mirror the BJP's criticism of the Maha Vikas Aghadi in Maharashtra, after former Mumbai Police Commissioner Parambir Singh accused state's Home Minister Anil Deshmukh of extortion, Siddaramaiah demanded that Yediyurappa's government be sacked and President's rule imposed in Karnataka, over allegations made by Eshwarappa.

"The allegations made by Eshwarappa are of serious nature. The Governor should intervene, dismiss the government and recommend President's rule. Eshwarappa has

provided evidence for BJP Karnataka's corruption, nepotism and irregularities. We had been saying this since the first day and their own party ministers are repeating now," Siddaramaiah taunted. "PM Narendra Modi, you had called our govt 10% sarkar. Now that your own party minister has given the corruption report of your party to you, give your rating about the government so that people can make informed decision in the coming elections," Siddaramaiah pointed to Modi, who is campaigning in West Bengal.

KPCC President DK Shivakumar said a minister complaining against a CM, alleging corruption, was unprecedented in Karnataka's political history. "Yediyurappa should take moral responsibility for Eshwarappa's allegation of corruption and resign immediately," he said.

The Karnataka High Court's decision on Wednesday to allow an MLA poaching case investigation against Yediyurappa added to Congress' demand for removal of his government.