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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Times of Inclina

ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 9 \19 \20

No plan for love jihad law: Min

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: After Congress criticism, the BS Yediyurappa government clarified on Tuesday it had no plans to introduce a law against what is described as "love jihad".

"Our culture is a blend of religions, which are different from each other but co-exist. This is the beauty of our country. So, there is no question of bringing such a law in a country where Hindus are a majority," said law and parliamentary affairs minister JC Madhuswamy.

Recently, Uttar Pradesh and a few other BJP-governed states proposed a law to prevent what they claim are attempts to draw Hindu women into relationships with Muslim men and convert them. Home minister Basavaraj Bommai then said that Karnataka would study the model of these states and consult legal experts. Several senior BJP members, including national general secretary CT Ravi, had strongly supported the calls for such a law.

Opposition leader Siddaramaiah said that Congress would oppose government attempts to enact laws against "love jihad" and cow slaughter in the new assembly session, which begins on December 7. "If they table the



GROUPS SLAM NEW LAW IN BJP-LED STATES

any organisations have criticised moves by BJPled states to frame laws against what is described as "love jihad". The groups say the derogatory term discriminates against Muslims and undermines the freedom of women to make choices. The All India Lawyers' Association for Justice, All India Mahila Sanskritika Sanghatane, All Indian Progressive Women's Association and 14 other organisations condemned laws proposed or introduced. "We reject attempts to plant seeds of communalism and hatred," they said.

bills, Congress will oppose them tooth and nail. Why has such an act not been implemented in Goa, where BJP is the ruling party, and why only in Karnataka? This shows BJP is playing politics over the matter," he said.