

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಕಡತಗಳು
PAPER CLIPPINGS

45

ವಿಭಾಗ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT:

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER:

ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE :

Congress member suspended for a week for 'misconduct'

Sangameshwara removed his shirt during protest in House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Budget session began on a stormy note on Thursday with Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri suspending Congress member B.K. Sangameshwara from the House for a week (till March 12) for "gross misconduct".

The decision came after the member removed his shirt in the course of a dharna by the Congress in the House, opposing a debate on the theme "one nation, one poll" initiated by the Speaker.

As soon as the Speaker

started reading his introductory speech, Congress members trooped into the Well and began shouting slogans. They demanded postponement of the discussion on the subject to the next session. Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah questioned the Speaker's decision and dubbed it an attempt to further "RSS agenda".

Mr. Kageri said the issue was listed on the agenda of the House as it was approved at the Business Advisory Committee meeting. He pointed out that the Con-

gress had given 19 names who would speak on the subject. Moreover, House Rule 263 empowered him to initiate discussion on the subject, he argued. The Speaker turned down the Opposition plea to postpone the discussion and started reading his speech when the Congress members rushed to the Well and started shouting slogans, alleging that the Speaker was implementing an "RSS agenda" and the BJP was against the Constitution.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Congress member suspended for a week

I am being targeted: MLA

Janata Dal (S) members did not participate in the protest. During the dharna, Mr. Sangameshwara removed his shirt and raised slogans. Sensing that it could lead to trouble, Congress member D.K. Shivakumar put the shirt back on Mr. Sangameshwara.

Amidst the dharna, Mr. Kageri announced that Mr. Sangameshwara had been suspended from the House for a week and adjourned the House for lunch. When the House reassembled, Congress members continued the dharna.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said BJP member Goolhatti Shekhar had removed his shirt during a protest in the House before and no action had been taken against him.

He said the dharna would continue until the suspension was revoked.

When the protesting members refused to budge, the Speaker adjourned the House. The Legislative Council too saw a dharna by the Congress members post-lunch, while Janata Dal (S) did not join them.

Sources in Congress said the party had decided to op-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Congress MLA B.K. Sangameshwara said he had removed his shirt, which resulted in his suspension, to draw Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri's attention on false cases filed against him and his family members in Bhadravati.

Speaking to reporters after the House was adjourned, he said the ruling BJP was targeting him and his family with false cases. The BJP has been losing all elections, including local body elections. "My family and I are being targeted with false cases of attempt to murder and committing atrocities," he said. Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah too said Mr. Sangameshwara had tried to express anguish over seven of his family members being booked under IPC Section 307 (attempt to murder).

pose the debate at its CLP meeting held before the start of the session.