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SC stays criminal proceedings against BSY

Top court suspends HC order in denotification case

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In relief to Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, the Supreme Court on Monday stayed the criminal proceedings against him in a land denotification case.

A bench of Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian suspended the operation of the high court's order of March 17, which had restored the criminal case proceedings in the case related to denotification of over 20 acres of industrial land in Bengaluru North in 2007.

Advocate K V Vishwanathan, appearing for Yediyurappa, said he could not be prosecuted for a bona fide administrative decision.

After hearing him, the court issued notice to original complainant, A Alam Basha, the Karnataka government as well as to the Lokayukta on



B S Yediyurappa

the petition against the high court's order.

"In the meantime, there shall be stay of operation of the order as well as stay of further proceedings in the criminal case," the bench said.

The order also came as a relief to Minister for Mines and Geology Muruges R Nirani, who separately challenged the high court's order.

The special court had refused to proceed against Yediyurappa. The HC, however, set aside the trial court's order.

In his petition, Yediyurappa contended that the HC could not have directed the trial court to take cognisance of the offence without prior sanction against the petitioner, a public servant.