

# Yatnal fires yet another salvo at Yediyurappa

Vijayapura City MLA says dissent in the party will shortly explode and the Chief Minister will have to go home

STAFF REPORTER  
KALABURAGI

Unleashing a fresh attack on Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, senior BJP leader and Vijayapura City MLA, said that the dissent in the party will shortly explode and Mr. Yediyurappa would go home.

Speaking to presspersons on the sidelines of a programme organised at Veerashaiva Kalyana Mantapa in Kalaburagi on Monday, which was organised for facilitating the leaders of Pan-



Basanagouda Patil Yatnal

chamashali agitation, Mr. Yatnal predicted the imminent fall of Yediyurappa government in the State.

"It is not the BJP government, but the Yediyurappa family that is ruling the State. Mr. Yediyurappa is too old to handle all the affairs. He is a rubber stamp. B.Y. Raghavendra [Mr. Yediyurappa's son] is handling [government] affairs in Shivamogga and Mariswamy (the CM's relative) is taking care of Bengaluru. B.Y. Vijayendra [Mr. Yediyurappa's other son], is looking after the entire affairs of the government in the State interfering in the administration of all the departments. He is the

kingpin in the lobby of transfers of government officers across the State. He is the one who is handling all the dealings [of Mr. Yediyurappa]. There is no freedom for the Ministers... When we built the party, Mr. Vijayendra was still at school. If he is everything, why would we need a Chief Minister? The Chief Minister should tender his resignation," he said.

Referring to the dissent letter by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister K.S. Eshwarappa to the party high command criticising

the Chief Minister's interference in his departmental affairs, Mr. Yatnal said that there were many more leaders waiting to rebel against Mr. Yediyurappa.

"Not just Mr. Eshwarappa, there are many more leaders who would rebel against Mr. Yediyurappa. Some legislators are giving statements justifying Mr. Yediyurappa just to appease him. If the party high command decides to remove Mr. Yediyurappa from Chief Minister's post, there would be none to support him. The

dissent is likely to explode shortly and Mr. Yediyurappa would go home [quitting his Chief Minister's post]. BJP could not win more than 104 assembly seats in the State under Mr. Yediyurappa. If he is removed, the party would get 150 seats and a leader from North Karnataka would become the Chief Minister. After May 2 [the day of declaration of bye-election results], everything would be changed. It is better that Mr. Yediyurappa should respectfully resign [before that]," he added.