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BBMP Joint Select Committee

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DELIMITATION

Eye on lucky 9, govt settles on 243 wards for city

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BENGALURU, DHNS.

Bengaluru will have 243 wards following the delimitation process — a number that is said to have been arrived at by the government on the basis of numerology.

And the figure has got the blessing of Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa as well.

The number 243 totals up to nine, which is considered to be a lucky number. The city currently has 198 wards.

"A government order on delimitation is expected shortly," said BJP's CV Raman Nagar legislator S



Raghu, who heads the Joint Select Committee that is looking into a new law proposed to govern Bengaluru.

Speaking to *DH*, Raghu said the CM agreed to the proposal of setting up 243 wards during a discussion on the delimitation of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) held on Tuesday.

A delimitation committee with

BBMP Commissioner as the chairperson and Bengaluru Urban deputy commissioner, BDA Commissioner and BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) as members has been formed, and it is expected to submit a report by November 10.

Each ward, following delimitation, will have a population of around 35,000. "If we divide the population of Bengaluru with 35,000, the number of wards will be around 241.5 or 242. The committee preferred 243, an odd number, as it would make it easy to establish a majority during a tight election," Raghu explained.

He said that there was numero-

logical significance in finalising 243 as the numbers added up to nine. "I had opted for 243 in the beginning because of this. While Law Minister JC Madhuswamy pitched for 240, others favoured 250 wards. Finally, the CM himself decided that 243 will be the right number," he said.

Bengaluru has over two dozen assembly constituencies. The Bangalore South constituency has the highest population and more wards will be added under this. Bangalore South is followed by Mahadevapura and KR Puram in terms of population.

Assembly constituencies in the CBD are likely to have 10-12 wards.