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Jose K. Mani resigns from Rajya Sabha

He is set to fight Kerala Assembly poll

STAFF REPORTER ROTTAYAM

Signalling his return to State politics, Kerala Congress (M) chairman Jose K. Mani has resigned from the Rajya Sabha.

Mr. Mani had announced his decision to resign from the upper House as early as October last year while declaring the party's decision to join the Left Democratic Front (LDF). He, however, delayed the move in view of a legal battle with the KC(M) rival faction led by P.J. Joseph over the party's 'two leaves' symbol.

"Though I had made up my mind to step down as Rajya Sabha member much earlier, legal battles over the party's recognition and its symbol posed some technical delays. Now, with the Central Election Commission and the Kerala High Court ruling in favour of us, I have tendered my resignation to the Vice-President,"



Jose K. Mani

Mr. Mani said. Party sources said Mr. Mani would be contesting to the Assembly either from Pala or Kaduthuruthy as an LDF candidate. They also hinted that the Raiya Sabha seat vacated by Mr. Mani would again be allotted to the KC(M) by the LDF.

The Congress-led UDF had allotted the Rajya Sabha seat to Mr.Mani two years ago as a condition for the return of KC(M) to the coalition, triggering protests within the Congress.