

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
PAPER CLIPPINGS

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Chairman

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Legislative Council Session

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Basavaraj Horatti unanimously elected Council Chairman

Congress members protest over the passage of anti-cow slaughter Bill

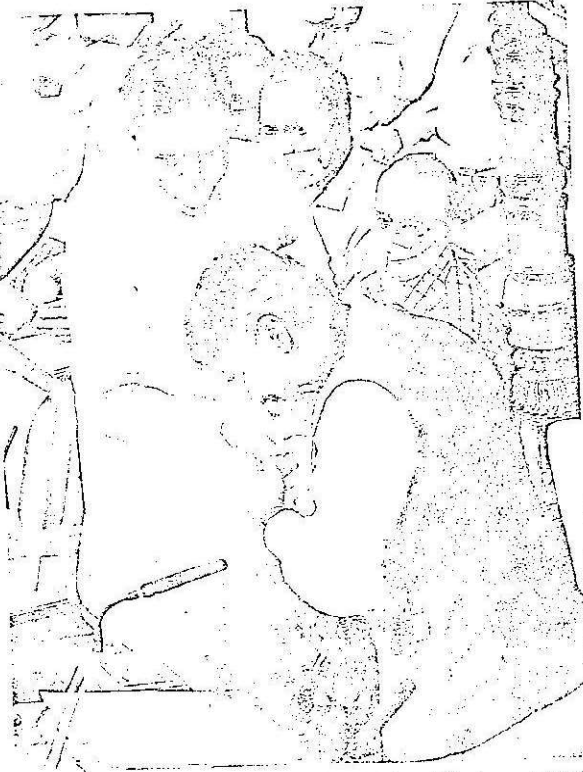
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Janata Dal (Secular) leader Basavaraj Horatti, the senior-most member of the Legislative Council, was on Tuesday declared unanimously elected as Chairman of the House in the midst of a protest by Congress members over the passage of the anti-cow slaughter Bill.

As soon as the House commenced business on Tuesday, Congress members termed the passage of the Bill "illegal" since they had asked for division of votes. On Monday night, the Council passed the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Bill, 2020, through voice vote, even as Congress and JD(S) members asked for division.

On Tuesday, the ruling BJP members insisted that the Chairman's election should be taken up first as per the agenda. Deputy Chairman M.K. Pranesh ruled that he would review the records to find out if the Congress had sought a division of votes or not. BJP leaders, including Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai, insisted that the Congress had not done so.

Despite strong opposition



Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti being greeted by Deputy Chairman M.K. Pranesh on Tuesday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

from Congress leaders, who trooped into the Well in protest, Mr. Pranesh announced that he was going ahead with the election process. While JD(S) members K.T. Srikanth Gowda and Thippeswamy proposed the name of Mr.

Horatti, a seven-time member, for the post of Chairman, Congress members M. Narayanaswamy and B.K. Hariprasad refused to propose the name of Naseer Ahmed, who had also filed nomination. Following this,

the Deputy Chairman announced that Mr. Horatti had been elected unanimously.

The election to the Chairman's post was necessitated after K. Prathapchandra Shetty tendered his resignation following the no-confidence motion moved by the BJP and the JD(S). The BJP and the JD(S) had come to an understanding over the post, after it was agreed upon that Mr. Pranesh (BJP) would become the Deputy Chairman, a post that had fallen vacant following the death of S.L. Dharm Gowda.

In the post-lunch session, as Congress members continued to protest in the Well, the newly elected Chairman requested them to go to their seats. After taking a break to end the impasse, he ruled that the demand for division of votes had not been met since the members did not seek it from their designated seats. The decision of the Deputy Chairman to go for a voice vote was proper, he said, resulting in the Congress members continuing their protest. The House was then adjourned *sine die*.