

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ, ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖನಾ ಶಾಖೆ
KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, RESEARCH AND REFERENCE BRANCH

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PAPER CLIPPINGS

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Legislative Assembly Member
ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 11/2/21

HK Patil tells govt not to scrap taluk panchayats

GADAG, DHNS: Former RDPR minister and senior Congress MLA HK Patil said on Wednesday the state government should not take a hasty decision on scrapping taluk panchayat (TP) system without understanding its importance in three-tier panchayat raj system.



HK Patil

"As per the 73rd Amendment to Indian Constitution, the state governments can-

not scrap the taluk panchayat system. The successive governments failed in strengthening the TPs. The taluk panchayat has a big responsibility in initiating and executing development works of respective taluks. The government should give a serious thought to empowering the TPs," Patil told reporters.

"The ongoing talk about

scrapping TPs or adding more teeth to zilla panchayats is a conspiracy by the state government to postpone the elections to local bodies," the Congress legislator charged.

The debate on taluk panchayat system gained fire with RDPR Minister K S Eshwarappa's recent statement that the government is ready to scrap TP as it's proving to be a burden on the state exchequer.