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Cong boycotts winter session's last day

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Congress members boycotted assembly proceedings on Thursday, which was the winter session's last day, to protest the passage of the controversial bill against cow slaughter.

Congress has accused BJP of rushing the process, and staged a walkout on Wednesday after the BS Yediyurappa government introduced the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Bill, 2020, in the assembly. Opposition leader Siddaramaiah accused speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri of acting in a



partisan manner. Kageri rejected the charge on Thursday, saying that he had conducted the House within the framework of set rules and procedures. He urged the party's MLAs to participate in official business.

Revenue minister R Ashoka criticised Congress for making allegations against The party protested the passage of the anti-cow slaughter bill, alleging BJP rushed the entire process. Despite the assembly speaker's plea, Congress MLAs didn't attend official business on Thursday

the chair and the government, pointing to the party's conduct when it governed the state. Ashoka said that the anti-cow slaughter bill was always on the government's agenda. "We had nothing to hide in it. Congress cannot dictate the terms on how to conduct the House," he added.

The speaker adjourned

the proceedings for some time as he tried to persuade Siddaramaiah and Congress MLAs to return to the House. But they refused to budge and attended the legislature party meeting instead.

Kageri finally resumed the proceedings without Congress members.

The BJP government got the controversial APMC amendment bill passed in the assembly on Thursday as Congress and JD(S) legislators stayed away. This is the second time the bill has been tabled in the assembly after the government failed to get clearance from the legislative council in the monsoon session.