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22
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Noted jurist, former governor Rama Jois dead

BENGALURU, DHNS: Noted jurist and former governor of Bihar and Jharkhand Justice M Rama Jois passed away here on Tuesday. He was 89.

Jois, known as an eminent writer, is survived by his wife Vimala, son Shailendra and daughter Tara.

He passed away following a cardiac arrest. He was said to be unwell due to age-related ailments.

Mandagadde Rama Jois was born July 27, 1931 at Araga in Shivamogga district. He enrolled as an advocate at the age of 28 years and practised in the chambers of S K Venkataranga Iyengar.



M Rama Jois

During the Emergency (1975-77), Jois was imprisoned along with BJP stalwarts Atal Bihari Vajpayee, L K Advani and others. He was associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) from the beginning.

Jois went on to become the Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court in 1992.

After retirement, Jois identified himself with the BJP and was picked as governor of Bihar and Jharkhand (2002-2004). In 2008, he was elected to the Rajya Sabha. He was also the counsel for the Vishwa Hindu Parishad.

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi condoled Jois' death. "Justice (Retd.) M. Rama Jois was a towering intellectual and jurist. He was admired for his rich intellect and contributions towards making India's democratic fabric stronger. Saddened by his demise. My thoughts are with his family and admirers in this sad hour. Om Shanti," Modi tweeted.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said Jois was "a legal luminary whose thoughts were reflected well in his books on law and constitution."

Health Minister K Sudhakar, too, fondly recollected Jois' writing "In his demise India has lost a great legal luminary," he said.