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Delhi Assembly passes resolution rejecting laws

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution "rejecting" the farm laws, saying that they should be "repealed" by the Central government.

Attacking the BJP, AAP chief and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal appealed to the Central government to not become "worse than Britishers" who ruled India,

and said the farmer laws were made to "fund" the BJP's election campaigns.

"More than 20 farmers have been martyred in the protest. I want to ask the Centre, how many more lives will you take before you listen to the farmers of the country? Each farmer has become a Bhagat Singh at the protest site," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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"These [agricultural] laws are not made for farmers, but for funding for the BJP to fight elections," Mr. Kejriwal added, and later tore up copies of the farm laws inside the Assembly.

Meanwhile, BJP MLAs opposed the resolution and Leader of Opposition and BJP MLA Ramvir Bidhuri said that the BJP had won multiple elections after the farm laws were notified, which was because of the laws. He also attacked the Delhi government for notifying one of the three farm laws in Delhi.

"Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's government on November 23, 2020 notified one of the three farm laws [in Delhi]. And said that they will discuss the other

two. If it's a black law, then why did you notify it? We request a clarification on this from the Chief Minister," Mr. Bidhuri said in the Assembly. The point was raised later in the day by BJP MP Meenakshi Lekhi, who called Mr. Kejriwal a "chameleon", and indulging in "opportunistic politics".

The special one-day session of the Assembly on Thursday was extended to Friday as Speaker Ram Niwas Goel had to adjourn the Assembly early because of protests by AAP MLAs inside the house demanding "repeal of the black laws".

The resolution to repeal the laws was introduced in the Assembly by AAP leader and Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot.