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## Sudhakar made pollution control board chief, finally

**BENGALURU:** Under pressure from the Congress, the HD Kumaraswamy government appointed disgruntled legislator K Sudhakar as chairperson of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on Thursday.

Sudhakar, who represents the Chikkaballapur Assembly constituency, replaced retired IFS officer C Jayaram, who was appointed in March this year.

In December last year, the Congress had recommended Sudhakar's name for the post of KSPCB chairperson, but Kumaraswamy refused to clear the appointment on grounds that he was not qualified. This resulted in Sudhakar threatening to raise the banner of revolt.

After his appointment was finally cleared, Sudhakar tweeted: "I thank my leader AICC president Rahul Gandhi ji, my leader Siddaramaiah ji, Chief Minister Kumaraswamy ji, AICC General Secretary K



**Karnataka State Pollution Control Board member secretary Manoj Kumar greets Chikkaballapur MLA Dr K Sudhakar after he took charge as the Board chairman in Bengaluru on Thursday. Sudhakar's wife Dr Preethi and Board member Venkataram look on.** DH PHOTO

C Venugopal ji, DCM G Parameshwar ji, KPCC president Dinesh Gundu Rao ji & all my party colleagues who have vested their belief in me to chair the KSPCB."

Jayaram, who resigned on the same day, has been appointed chairperson of the Karnataka Zoo Authority.

Sudhakar's term as KSPCB chairperson will last till March 4, 2022, according to a notification issued by the Forest, Ecology and Environment department.

Also, Sudhakar has been given the rank of a Cabinet minister.

**DH News Service**