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Kerala oppn launches bid to oust governor

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi/Thiruvananthapuram: The opposition Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) in Kerala on Saturday sought the assembly speaker's permission to introduce a resolution urging the President to recall governor Arif Mohammed Khan.

Confirming this, leader of opposition Ramesh Chennithala told reporters in Kochi that the demand for a recall was necessitated because of the governor's continued objection to the resolution passed by the assembly against the controversial citizenship act, which is tantamount to insulting the assembly and rejecting the sentiments of the people.

"If the governor has any objection to the resolution, he should intimate the speaker in writing. His questioning the actions taken by



Governor Arif Mohammed Khan said those seeking his removal had the right to do so, but for that they should approach the President, not the speaker

the assembly and defying it is not acceptable," he said.

Reacting to the development, governor Khan told reporters in Thiruvananthapuram that those seeking his removal should approach the President, not the assembly speaker. "They have the right to seek my removal. But for that, they should approach the President who appointed me... It's wrong to claim that the governor is in confrontation with the government. It's not so. I'm only discharging my duties," he said.

"I'm fully aware I have to discharge my duties with the aid and advice of council of

ministers. But then the institution of governor is there to keep an eye on the government that they transact business in accordance with rule, law and Constitution. I am the constitutional head of government. This is my government. I can't have a conflict with myself," he said.

Khan also said that if "they (state government) hide something from me, as they did in the case of going to the Supreme Court against CAA, that is not lawful".

It is the first time in Kerala assembly's history a resolution demanding the governor's recall has been mooted.