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Karnataka Land Reforms Act

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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deenan Hendard ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 26/9/20

Farmers to go ahead with bandh as talks with BSY fail

Say minor tweaks to amendments won't do

BENGALURU, DHNS

A meeting between Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa and farmers' leaders ended in a stalemate on Friday. The farmers' associations have now decided to go ahead with their call for a statewide bandh on September 28 (Monday).

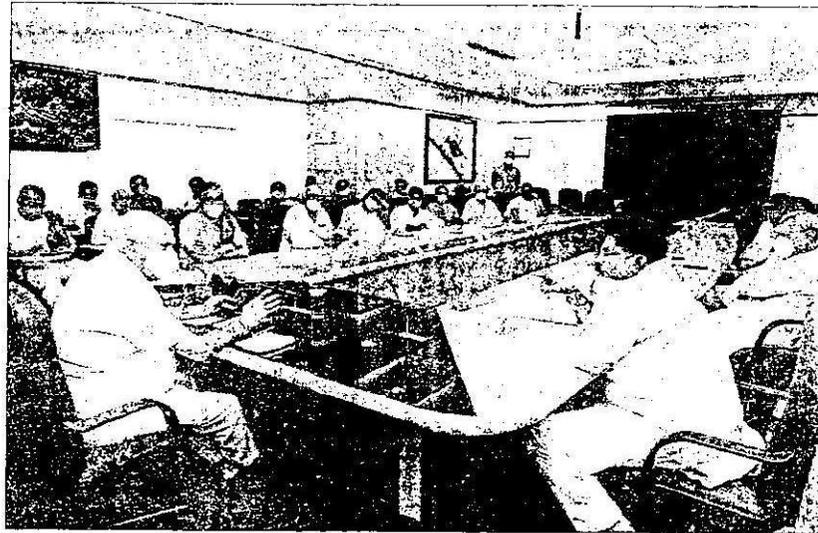
The farmers are protesting against the government's move to amend the APMC Act and the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, contending that the proposed amendments were against the interests of farmers' welfare.

Speaking to *DH*, Kuruburu Shanthakumar, who leads the Federation of Farmers' Associations, said they met

with Yediyurappa on Friday afternoon and conveyed their concerns about the proposed amendments.

"We have clearly told the CM about how it would affect the farmers. In response, the CM offered to tweak one provision in the Land Reforms Act concerning the ceiling of land holding per individual. We told him that minor tweaks will not help the farmers and that the Bills should be withdrawn," he said.

"At the very least, we asked him to hold discussions with all stakeholders involved instead of passing the Bills in a hurry. Since no such assurance was given, we have decided to go ahead with the bandh," he said.



Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa holds talks with farmers' leaders at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Friday. Revenue Minister R Ashoka is also seen.

In an official statement, Raitha-Dalita-Karmikara Ikya Horata, the forum which has brought together several farmers' groups for the bandh, said it would further intensify

its protest on Monday, following the stalemate with Yediyurappa.

While proposing only minor changes to the amendments, the chief minister sang praises

on the Centre's farm legislations, which was especially discouraging at a time when there were nationwide protests against the same, the statement said.