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CORRIDORS OF POWER



Remembering reforms Much is being said about administrative reforms as the State faces an unprecedented crisis of revenue amid the pandemic. Former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna (in picture) had, during his tenure, asked the late Haranahalli Ramaswamy to submit a reforms report to abolish wasteful posts and departments. The State was facing severe financial constraints when Mr. Krishna assumed office in 1999 and his government presented a white paper on the State's finances. Now, with the economic slowdown, the legislators, particularly those from the Congress, are demanding that the government abolish posts such as joint director and regional commissioner, besides some departments that have led to "wasteful" expenditure. While what drains our resources is a matter worth debating, administrative reform is a forgotten agenda for our legislators when the State's fiscal position is sound.

Matter of 'courtesy' The newly built Mini-Vidhana Soudha at Sira in Tumakuru was lying idle for the past one year and no one bothered to formally inaugurate it or utilise it for administrative work. A few days ago, Revenue Minister R. Ashok and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy rushed to Sira and inaugurated it. Needless to say it had something to do with the upcoming byelection to the constituency. They did not invite former Minister TR

Jayachandra, who has been picked as the Congress candidate in the bypoll. The building was sanctioned in 2015 under the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government when Mr. Jayachandra was Minister. The latter is credited with taking the initiative in the project, which was completed at a cost of ₹13.5 crore. The hasty inauguration had many saying that the Ministers should have had the "courtesy" to invite Mr. Jayachandra, setting politics aside for a change.