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## CM's political secy in hospital after suspected suicide bid

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's political secretary and grand-nephew N R Santhosh was rushed to a private hospital late on Friday night following a suspected suicide attempt.

Santhosh is the grandson of Yediyurappa's sister. He was appointed as the CM's political secretary in May this year.

The incident, reportedly caused due to overdose of sleeping pills, took place at Santhosh's Dollar's Colony residence.

"This morning, we walked together for 45 minutes. Even yesterday, I saw he was happy. I don't know why this happened. I will find out and talk to his family," Yediyurappa told



N R Santhosh

reporters. "He is getting good treatment. There is no problem," he added.

Speculation was rife that Santhosh would resign as the CM's political secretary following differences with some members in Yediyurappa's inner circle.

A BE graduate from Kalpataru Institute of Tech-

nology, Tiptur in Tumakuru district, Santhosh hails from Nonavinakere in the district.

He was appointed Yediyurappa's personal assistant and was his trusted lieutenant.

Santhosh hit the headlines last year. He was seen playing an active role during the political drama that saw the defection of legislators that helped the BJP come to power.

But Santhosh kept a low profile after Yediyurappa became CM. He was even accused of having joined the anti-Yediyurappa camp, which he later denied. He was said to be nursing political ambitions.

A police officer said they are yet to register a complaint. "His family told us he was depressed but did not elaborate. He has not written any note."