

Congress calls Karnataka MLAs meet on Monday as rebels refuse to budge

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Former Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah has called for a meeting of the Congress legislature party at 9 am on Monday at a luxury hotel in Bengaluru where the MLAs are staying, the party said in a statement on Sunday. Fifty Congress MLAs are believed to be staying at the Taj Vivanta in Bengaluru. Siddaramaiah is the leader of the Congress legislature party. His call came after a minister, MTBNagaraj who on Saturday said that he would not quit the Congress, left for Mumbai on a chartered flight this morning. The other rebels have refused to move out of Mumbai.



Nagaraj, who had submitted his resignation last week, seemed to have softened his stand on Saturday after DK Shivakumar, the Congress' key troubleshooter in Karnataka, reached out to him. Nagaraj told reporters that he was reconsidering his resignation and would also try to convince

another MLA - K Sudhakar - to withdraw his resignation as well. Despite chief minister H D Kumaraswamy insisting that he is ready for a trust vote the coalition government is facing its biggest crisis with 16 MLAs — 13 of the Congress and three of the JD(S) — resigning their

assembly membership. Two independent legislators, who were made ministers recently to provide stability, have quit the cabinet and are now backing the opposition BJP.

The ruling coalition's strength in the 224-member House is 116 (Congress 78, JD(S) 37 and BSP one), besides the Speaker. The BJP has 105 MLAs and is backed by two independent MLAs.

The coalition's tally could fall to 100 if the resignations of the 16 MLAs are accepted. Karnataka's BJP president BS Yeddyurappa who is angling to wrest the chief ministership said efforts by the ruling coalition partners would not yield any result and has predicted that the government was about to fall.

Navjot Sidhu resigns from Punjab cabinet after feud with chief minister Amarinder Singh

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Punjab minister Navjot Singh Sidhu, who has been involved in a tussle with his boss chief minister Amarinder Singh, resigned from the state cabinet on Sunday. Navjot Sidhu made the announcement on Twitter and sent the letter to Rahul Gandhi instead of Amarinder Singh. "My letter to the Congress President Shri. Rahul Gandhi Ji, submitted on 10 June 2019," he tweeted. Minutes later, he tweeted that he will send the resignation to the Punjab CM.

Last month, Sidhu was stripped of his portfolios of Local Bodies, Tourism and Culture ministries after he skipped a cabinet meeting. Sidhu then took a swipe at Amarinder in a press conference saying that he "cannot be taken for granted" and he is only "answerable to the people of Punjab". Sidhu met Rahul Gandhi after the cabinet reshuffle and tweeted a picture in which he is seen with Rahul Gandhi, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and senior party leader Ahmed Patel.

Sidhu was assigned the power portfolio in the reshuffle but even a month later the cricketeer-turned-politician didn't assume charge. The CM has been chairing meets in the power department in Sidhu's absence. The differences between Amarinder Singh and Navjot Sidhu were out in the open after the CM blamed Sidhu's inept handling" of the local government department for the "poor performance" of the Congress in the urban areas in the Lok Sabha elections.

The CM had said the urban vote was the backbone of the Congress in Punjab but Sidhu's "failure" to do any development work had hurt the party. Amarinder had also expressed displeasure over his "friendly-match" remark during a poll rally in Bathinda. Sidhu hit back accusing Amarinder of unfairly "singling" him out for the poor show of the Congress in the urban areas of Punjab. Navjot Sidhu has been at loggerheads with Amarinder Singh ever since his wife Navjot Kaur was denied a ticket for the Lok Sabha polls.

Day after talk of a rethink, Karnataka Congress MLA flies back to Mumbai

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Efforts by coalition leaders to mollify rebel Congress MLA M T B Nagaraj seem to have failed as he has flown to Mumbai Sunday, according to sources. Leaders of the Congress-JD(S) coalition held negotiations with Nagaraj on Saturday in a bid to woo him back to save the H D Kumaraswamy-led government in Karnataka that is on the brink of collapse.

The Hoskote MLA had maintained that he intended to take a final decision on the withdrawal of his resignation after talks with Chikkaballapura MLA K Sudhakar, as both had together submitted resignation to the Speaker on July 10. According to the sources, Nagaraj is now on his way to Mumbai to join Sudhakar, who is said to be along with other MLAs who have quit and are camping there. Visuals of Nagaraj boarding a chartered flight have also surfaced on local news

channels. Nagaraj, who was Housing Minister in the Kumaraswamy government before he resigned, however, maintained that he was still in the Congress party. "Sudhakar has switched off his phone, and is not available for the last two days. After pacifying and convincing Sudhakar, I will try to bring him back. Because we both had resigned together, so we want to be united. I have informed this to Congress leaders," Nagaraj told reporters here before leaving his residence. Stating that he was still in the Congress, he said leaders, including Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy and CLP leader Siddaramaiah, have asked him to withdraw the resignation. "I'm also trying for it (withdraw). Only thing is that I have to meet Sudhakar, I haven't met him. I will meet him, he should be somewhere," he said, adding "my intention is that we have to withdraw it

(resignation) together." After almost day-long negotiations on Saturday, it appeared that Congress had made some headway in pacifying Nagaraj, who had hinted that he might consider withdrawing his resignation, but fell short of making any final announcement. A day after Kumaraswamy made a surprise announcement in the Assembly that he would seek a trust vote, marathon meetings were held by coalition leaders, including Siddaramaiah, Kumaraswamy and Minister D K Shivakumar, with Nagaraj on Saturday. However, Nagaraj on his part maintained his stand that he will take any call on withdrawal only after talks with Sudhakar, as they both had decided to resign together. The Hoskote MLA had even said he would also try to pacify Sudhakar and convince him to withdraw the resignation. Responding to a question on his decision if he was unable to meet Sudhakar, Nagaraj

said, "Then, what should be my decision. I will decide it tomorrow morning." Asked what he would do if Sudhakar did not agree to withdraw his resignation, Nagaraj said, "I will think about it and decide." Nagaraj is among the five rebel Congress MLAs, who had moved the Supreme Court on Saturday against the Assembly Speaker K R Ramesh Kumar not accepting their resignation.

MLAs Anand Singh, K Sudhakar, N Nagaraj (MTB), Munirathna and Roshan Baig have sought impleadment in the already pending application filed by the 10 other rebel MLAs on which hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

The coalition government is on a sticky wicket with 16 MLAs — 13 of the Congress and three of the JD(S) — resigning their assembly membership. Besides, two independent legislators, who were made ministers recently to provide stability, have quit the cabinet.

The independents — H Nagesh and R Shankar — too have withdrawn support to the coalition government and are now supporting the BJP.

The ruling coalition's strength in the House is 116 (Congress 78, JD(S) 37 and BSP one), besides the speaker.

With the support of the two independents, the opposition BJP has 107 MLAs in the 224-member House.

If the resignations of the 16 MLAs are accepted, the ruling coalition's tally will be reduced to 100. The speaker has a vote too.

Sport News

Ravindra Jadeja was 'inconsolable' after India's loss against NZ, reveals wife

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Ravindra Jadeja counter-attacking knock was the biggest talking point despite India's heart-breaking defeat to New Zealand in the semi-finals of the ICC World Cup 2019. Jadeja almost single-handedly led India to victory but his dismissal in the crucial stage turned the match towards New Zealand and India lost by 18 runs. And now his wife Rivaba has revealed that the all-rounder was shattered after the loss, Jadeja had hit a whirlwind 77 off just 59 balls.

"He was inconsolable after the loss and kept saying, 'if I wouldn't have got out, we could've won'. When you lose a match after coming this close, it really hurts and it will be a while before he comes to terms with it," she told Bombay Times.

His wife went on to add that he has always been the performer when the chips are down and the team needs him. "If you look at his journey, he has always performed in

crunch games, taking wickets and scoring vital runs. When we won the ICC Champions Trophy in 2013, he was the Man of the Match in the final for his all-round performance," she pointed out.

After the loss, Jadeja took to social media to post an inspiring message of his post read: "Sports has taught me to keep on rising after every fall & never to give up. Can't thank enough each & every fan who has been my source of inspiration. Thank you for all your support. Keep inspiring & I will give my best till my last breath. Love you all."

Jadeja was one of the top-performers for India in the

semi-final and his all-round show kept the Kiwis on their toes throughout the game. During the New Zealand innings, he effected a brilliant direct hit to run-out Ross Taylor for 74. He also took a brilliant catch and picked up the wicket of Henry Nicholls.

With the bat, Jadeja was at his supreme best as his 59-ball 77 took India within touching distance of winning the contest. Jadeja and MS Dhoni put together a century partnership to revive the chase but in the end it wasn't enough as India crashed out of the competition courtesy of this heartbreaking defeat.

Will MS Dhoni play next IPL if he announces retirement? CSK official answers



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Will he? Won't he? When will he? Replace the pronoun with MS Dhoni and add retirement before the question marks, then these become the burning topic of discussion in India, perhaps even bigger the Chennai water crisis. Ironically, it is the same city that Dhoni has been representing/leading in the IPL with pride for 10 seasons (He had to play for Rising Pune Supergiant for two IPL seasons when Chennai Super Kings were suspended from the league). No matter how irresistible a combination IPL, CSK and Dhoni is, it sure cannot (or shouldn't) be discussed now. Certainly not when India have been knocked out of the World Cup and Dhoni's future

in the India colours is under the scanner. But no matter how hard one tries to detach IPL from international cricket, it somehow saunters its way, making its very space. There was obviously no question about detaching Dhoni from CSK and IPL.

Amid murmurs of Dhoni's retirement after India's semi-final loss to New Zealand, reports have emerged about the former India captain confirming his participation in IPL 2020 and that too as the captain of Chennai Super Kings.

A top Chennai Super Kings official told Mirror that Dhoni will be part of the Indian Premier League next year. "Whatever may be the speculation, he will play for us next year," said the CSK official. Dhoni has been CSK

captain since the inception of the IPL in 2008.

Dhoni, for his part, had given clear indications that he will be back to CSK's yellow brigade in IPL 2020 at the end of IPL 2019. "Hopefully yes," Dhoni had said after losing the IPL 2019 final to Mumbai Indians.

Dhoni, however, has not even spoken to his Indian teammates about his future. When asked about Dhoni's retirement after semi-final exit from the World Cup, Virat Kohli had informed that there was no talks in the dressing room.

According to reports, the former India captain has not even confirmed his participation for India's next tour to West Indies, in which Virat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah are certain to be rested.

Amit Shah reviews states' preparedness to deal with flood situation across country

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Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a high-level meeting to review the current flood situation in different parts of the country. He also reviewed the preparedness of the states, central ministries and agencies concerned to deal with the

situation. Mr Shah directed the senior officers to take every possible measure to deal with the situation and extend all necessary assistance to the flood-affected states.

Meteorological Department says, during the last 3 to 4 days, Assam and Bihar have received excess rainfall with extremely heavy downpour. It

said, during the next 48 hours, heavy rainfall is expected in these two states.

Director General of National Disaster Response Force, NDRF Mr SN Pradhan has said that 73 NDRF teams have been pre-positioned in vulnerable areas of flood affected states along with all necessary equipment.

ATM and Pass Book(S.B.I) lost

I, have lost my A.T.M and Bank Passbook of State Bank of India Paona Bazar (Branch) Account number 37022159462 Imphal While I am Travelling from Kongba Bazar to Porompat Hospital on 13th July 2019.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Soroakhaibam Shyam Meitei
Bishnupur Ward (7)
Contact No - 8837364225