

The ruling Congress has assigned the responsibility of overseeing preparation for Bagalkot bypoll to Minister Satish Jarkiholi and the charge for Davangere bypoll has been handed over to Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar. Former deputy chief minister Laxman Savadi has been appointed as a star campaigner.

25 CANDIDATES IN FRAY FOR DAVANAGERE SOUTH BYPOLL

Eleven candidates withdrew their nominations, according to the Returning Officer

6 SUBHASH CHANDRA @ Davanagere

TWENTY-five candidates are vying for the by-elections to the Davanagere South assembly constituency, scheduled for April 9, with the results to be unveiled on May 4. Following the final day for withdrawals from the 42 nominations submitted by 38 candidates, 11 individuals retracted their candidacies, as stated by the returning officer for the constituency, Santosh Kumar.

He noted that three candidates from national parties — Samarth Shamanur of the Indian National Congress, T Srinivas Daskariyappa of the Bharatiya Janata Party, and K.B. Shivakumarappa of the Aam Aadmi Party — are contesting. Additionally, ten candidates from registered unrecognised political parties and 12 independent candidates are in contention.

Furthermore, he said, "Sadiq Pailwan, who submitted nominations as a candidate from the Indian National Congress and as an independent, was not recognised as a candidate of the national party due to his failure to submit Forms A and B. Consequently, his nomination was rejected. However, his nomination as an independent candidate was upheld."

He also mentioned that Anandappa S.L., H. Parveez, Allabaksh B., Ameer Ahmed Khan, Ismail Jabeulla, S.K. Afzail Khan, S.C. Trimurthy, Mohammed Zabeulla, Syed Zabeulla, and D. Hanamantappa withdrew their candidacies by presenting themselves to the returning officer within the prescribed time-frame. All requisite procedures for the withdrawal of candidatures were duly followed.

To accommodate the significant number of candidates, election officials will utilize two ballot units during the voting process on April 9. Each ballot unit can accommodate 16 names. Thus, the deployment of two units is warranted, according to election officials.



Supporters shout go back Congress slogans

Davanagere: Supporters of Independent candidate Sadiq Pailwan who were angry at Congress emissaries Salim Ahmed and Rizwan Arshad shouted slogans like "Go Back Congress," and said that they are not going to support the Congress party. Furthermore, they also said that even though the Congress leaders attempted to quell dissent by getting Sadiq to withdraw his nomination, they are going to vote against the Congress and also vote for Nota if needed. They also said that they will request voters to vote against Congress.

Congress expels Subhan Sab

Davanagere: Congress party on Thursday expelled district president of the labour wing of Congress H Subhan Sab for a period of six years on the charges of anti-party activities. Subhan Sab, who was also an aspirant for the Congress ticket, is contesting as an independent from the Davanagere South assembly constituency for the by-polls. Considering this issue as serious, working president of the KPCC GC Chandrashekar expelled Subhan Sab.

Cong fails to placate rebel Sadiq Pailwan, contest intensifies

6 SUBHASH CHANDRA @ Davanagere

CONGRESS party's eleventh-hour endeavour to mitigate the dissent of independent candidate Sadiq Pailwan proved futile, as the latter steadfastly declined to withdraw from the electoral contest. Sadiq, once a trusted confidant of former minister Dr. Shamanur Shivashankarappa, has openly revolted against the family and is vying for election in the Davanagere South assembly constituency.

In an interview with TNIE, he stated, "In accordance with the aspirations of my supporters and the community, I have submitted my nominations and am contesting the elections. I shall commence my campaigning on Thursday evening and am confident of garnering the trust of all segments of society and securing victory." He added, "I have a substantial following among the OBC voters, who are all rallying behind me to ensure my triumph with a significant majority."

Meanwhile, Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad remarked, "I empathize with Sadiq Pailwan. He remains part of our family, and we are hopeful that his grievances will be addressed

within a day or two. With the deadline for withdrawal now passed, we are optimistic that Sadiq will withdraw from campaigning and lend his support to the Congress candidate." He also expressed confidence that the internal discord within the party would be resolved.

Salim Ahmed echoed similar sentiments. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister, on Monday, expressed their optimism regarding the resolution of the rifts within the district unit of the party, asserting that the issues would be addressed. However, their efforts fell short, and the dissident continues to contest the election.

Insiders within the party disclosed to TNIE that the Congress party had ample opportunity to quell the dissent stemming from Sadiq Pailwan's candidacy but failed to do so. In a last-ditch effort, emissaries were dispatched in the form of Chief Whip of the Legislative Council Salim Ahmed and Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, who conferred with Sadiq Pailwan for a mere half-hour. By the time they arrived, the deadline for withdrawal had elapsed. It appeared that the party was less inclined to resolve the dissent and more inclined to perpetuate it.

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Water Initiative: Canara Bank Circle Office General Manager Gangadhar inaugurates a Rs 10 lakh pure drinking water unit at Sanayi Kodamaggi village in Shivamogga taluk on Thursday. Regional Head Devaraj R, Divisional Manager Meera Raghavan, Senior Manager Prashanth and Lead Bank Manager Hanumanthappa were present | EXPRESS

Four women athletes selected for national handball tournament

Chitradurga: Four women athletes from Chitradurga have been selected for the Senior Women's National Handball Tournament to be held in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, said District Handball Association Executive President KH Shivaram here on Thursday. The Senior Women's National Handball Tournament will be held in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh from March 30 to April 3, in which women athletes from Chitradurga district: Saniya, S Pooja, P Bindusree and NT Usha have been selected.

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