

Deve Gowda keeps UPA guessing

Former Prime Minister and Janata Dal (Secular) leader H.D. Deve Gowda Sunday kept everyone, especially the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, guessing on his next move on the crucial trust vote in Lok Sabha Tuesday.

Deve Gowda remained non-committal to the UPA even after meeting Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Saturday evening and kept his party's options open even as the UPA tried to win him over.

Indications are that the JD-S could avail the option of abstaining itself during the July 22 trust vote.

Though the JD-S has three members of parliament (MPs), Deve Gowda has only two votes, including himself and M Shivanna. Virendra Kumar is a rebel MP.

Party sources told IANS that the JD-S had not taken a 'final decision' and that it would 'wait till Sunday evening' to see which way things are going before deciding finally on whom to support.

They said the party wanted to put pressure on the Congress before a final decision.

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