

JD-S may not join Karnataka government before trust vote

The Janata Dal-Secular (JD-S) is waiting for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to respond to its conditions and is unlikely to join the Karnataka government before Nov 19 when Chief Minister B.S. Yeddyurappa is slated to seek a trust vote.

The earliest it could expect to join the BJP-led coalition government is Nov 21, JD-S general secretary and spokesperson Kunwar Danish Ali said Wednesday.

He said: 'We are awaiting BJP president Rajnath Singh's reply to our president H.D. Deve Gowda's letter in which he had listed 12 conditions for supporting the Yeddyurappa government.'

The conditions include no long-term alliance with the BJP, that the partnership would last only till the Lok Sabha elections are announced, and that all charges levelled against Kumaraswamy while he was chief minister be withdrawn.

However, it is clear that the JD-S would support the newly formed government when the chief minister moves a vote of confidence in the house on Nov 19.

Realising a certain reservation in JD-S circles in joining the first BJP-led government in the south, the state cabinet had posted the confidence motion for Nov 23. But the chief minister received a rap on his knuckles from Governor Rameshwar Thakur for delaying the process and the date was advanced.

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