

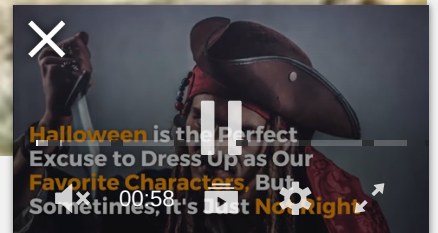


## Relief for Kolar residents: K'taka HC extends stay on controversial KC Valley project

The stay on the project has been extended till September 20.

Soumya Chatterjee | Tuesday, September 11, 2018 - 17:43

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The Karnataka High Court on Tuesday extended the stay on the controversial Koramangala-Challaghatta (KC) Valley project till September 20. This means that the “partially treated” frothy water cannot be let into minor irrigation tanks in Kolar till the next date of hearing. The HC also directed the Advocate General to submit more reports on the quality of water.

Chief Justice Dinesh Maheshwari and Justice R Devdas of the Karnataka High Court had issued a stay on the project on July 24 in an interim order while hearing a Public Interest Litigation by Shashwatha Neeravari Horata Samiti based in Kolar. The decision was passed taking in cognisance the substandard quality of water supplied by the state government’s Minor Irrigation Department as pointed out by the petitioner.

The HC in a subsequent hearing had also lambasted the state government for squandering public money on the KC Valley project supplying treated water from Bengaluru to lakes in Kolar.

**Read: [Win for Kolar residents: K’taka HC suspends supply of frothy Bellandur water to region](#)**

Petitioner R Anjaneya Reddy of the Samiti told TNM, “The court is not happy with the state’s response. We want course correction of the project by means of tertiary

of Kolar and Chikkaballapur districts. However, the petitioner pointed out that the supplied water contained higher than permissible amounts of E.coli bacteria and dissolved oxygen.

On July 18, when the treated water was released into lakes of the region, residents had held a massive protest and also threatened to send the frothy water in tankers to MLAs.

Anjaneya Reddy had complained that the KC Valley project was implemented without any scientific study and that the treated water contained industrial effluents. The project was flagged even in its planning stage by a veteran scientist at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru and other independent experts.

“This water will contain phosphorus and nitrates. This will also pollute the surrounding groundwater. If there is a high concentration of nitrates in the water, it can be carcinogenic,” the veteran scientist told TNM in March.

**Read: [Kolar activists threaten to send Bengaluru’s 'foam water' in tankers to MLAs](#)**

For the project, sewage water from Koramangala and Challaghatta, including water from the Bellandur and Varthur Lakes, is treated at sewage treatment plants installed in Bellandur before being released to Kolar. The water is also released to a few tanks in Chintamani taluk of the neighbouring Chikballapur district.



# K'taka Dy CM admits that some MLAs are unhappy, but says no one is blackmailing party

Parameshwara added that MLA Sudhakar of Chikkaballapura had indeed expressed his unhappiness, but the Congress was trying to set it right.

TNM Staff

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Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Monday admitted that a few Congress MLAs in the state were unhappy, but denied that they were blackmailing the party. This comes after former Karnataka Chief Minister and head of the current Congress-JD(S) coalition coordination committee Siddaramaiah called for a meeting of the Congress Legislature Party in Karnataka on September 25, after several claims emerged that the BJP-led Opposition was attempting to sway certain leaders of the party in an attempt to overthrow the government.

Addressing the speculation, Parameshwara acknowledged the situation. When questioned as to whether MLA Sudhakar, a three-time Congress MLA from Chikkaballapura, was unhappy, Parameshwara admitted that the MLA was indeed unsatisfied with current proceedings. "I am telling you myself that he is not satisfied and that we will set it right. He is not satisfied with the activities and programmes of his constituency. We will do all the public works that he wants to do," the Deputy CM said.



There have been rumours that MLA Sudhakar, unhappy with not getting a ministerial berth in the government, was allegedly planning to leave the Congress. The MLA also reportedly met with the BJP recently.

you were MLA wouldn't you ask to be a minister? He has been MLA twice, is there anything wrong in asking for a chance to be a minister?" he said, referring to MLA Sudhakar.

The threat of dissent began earlier this month with Congress MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi threatening to quit the party. Soon after other party leaders, including his brother Satish Jarkiholi and Anand Singh were also in the news for reportedly planning to resign from the party.

**Also read:** [K'taka Congress convenes meeting in wake of threats of MLAs quitting](#)

Following these reports, the Congress party is reportedly looking to address them at the Congress Legislature Party meeting to be held on Tuesday at the Shangri-La Hotel in Bengaluru.

Several Congress leaders, including Water Resources Minister DK Shivakumar and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Krishna Byre Gowda had met Congress MLA MTB Nagaraj of Hoskote at his residence.

Sources have stated to TNM that Nagaraj, like Sudhakar, has set his sights on a ministerial position.

