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CENTRAL FLOOD RELIEF

AFTER THAKUR, MADHUSWAMY TOO LOSES COOL

University will be developed on the lines of National School of Law, says minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hubballi

OF late, the issue of delay in releasing Central government aid to flooding Karnataka is bothering BJP leaders a lot. Union Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur had lost his temper when the media asked him about the matter during his recent visit to the state. On Monday, it was the turn of Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy who too lost his cool over the same issue.

All the districts in Bombay-Karnataka were suffered huge losses during the floods in August, but people of the region are still waiting for relief and rehabilitation.

Though Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa and local MLAs and elected representatives are assuring people of getting Central aid, the latter has not released a single penny till now. Whenever ask about this approach of the Centre, state leaders get angry.

While speaking to reporters on Monday, Madhuswamy said: "Don't dictate to me and ask anything absurd. The state government is capable of addressing the problem and it has not lost hope on assistance from the Centre." By saying so, he cut short his briefing and left the place. Earlier, the minister said he is confident that the Centre would release the relief fund. He, however,

defended the delay in its release stating a few other states were also hit by natural calamities and Karnataka will receive its share along with other states. The state government is effectively handling the rehabilitation works, he said.

Reacting to Congress leader Siddaramaiah's remark on the Election Commission of India announcing the date of bypolls in advance, Madhuswamy said the poll body has followed all the procedures and it was right in announcing the date. He reiterated charges like the EC is playing in the hands of the BJP.

Defending the government decision not to hold the winter session in Belagavi this time, he said officials in this part of the region are busy with flood relief and rehabilitation works.

"They will not be able to devote time for the session. On their request only, the session has been planned in Bengaluru, that too only for three days. In future, the winter session will be conducted in Belagavi only," he assured.

Madhuswamy said the state government has considered all the water disputes with neighbouring states seriously and the government will make all efforts to get its share of water, be it Cauvery, Krishna or Mahadayi. A three-member committee has been constituted to take up these issues, he added.

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KARNATAKA State Law University (KSLU) will be developed on the lines of National School of Law, said Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy.

After inaugurating a newly-built hostel for students of KSLU here on Monday, Madhuswamy, who is also the pro-chancellor of the varsity,

laid emphasis on conducting research on law in universities. For the purpose, seat will be set up at KSLU in the name of former chief minister S R Bommai as Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai has come forward to sponsor the same.

He said there is a demand to reserve seats for state students in admission to National Law School in Bengaluru. The minister admitted that the con-



Ministers J C Madhuswamy, Jagadish Shettar and Basavaraj Bommai and MLC Basavaraj Horatti at the newly-built student hostel of KSLU in Hubballi on Monday | Express

vocation of the KSLU was delayed due to non-appointment of members to syndicate and academic council of the varsity. The government will soon appoint members from a different section of the society, including legal fraternity. The KSLU will be developed

into a leading law institute of the county, he added.

Large and Medium Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai, senior MLC Basavaraj Horatti and others were present.

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