

9.30 am
Attends office

12.30 pm
Leaves office

3.30 pm
Informal chat with
college officials

5 pm
Leaves for Raj Bha
governor, submits

10.30 am
Holds meeting
with officials

1.30 pm
Reaches IFIM at
Electronic City to
address the students

4.15 pm
Leaves the institute
premises to office

6.15 pm
Holds a press co
announcing his r

RAPPING THE RAAVANS

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

In his four years as Lokayukta he addressed many educational institutions — from pre-university colleges to professional colleges.

On Wednesday, hours before he went to meet the governor to put in his papers, Lokayukta Justice N Santosh Hegde addressed yet another educational institution — it was the 158th. He was the same effusive self before an audience of young students. He was addressing the students of PGDM batch at the Institute of Finance and International Management (IFIM) in Electronic City.

It was his last lecture as the Lokayukta, and Justice Hegde did not spare anyone — the corrupt babus or the netas. In his 90-minute eloquent address, he started with the politicians and bureaucrats and ended with the judiciary and the media.

"It is the 158th educational institution I have visited to reach youngsters. You might not have formed opinions just yet but it is important to know the society."

Explaining the origins of the Constitution of India and stating how our founding fathers had grand visions, he said: "But what is happening today is — starting from Parliament to panchayat — a mockery of the same principles. In Parliament when the Speaker stands up, every-

Justice Hegde takes Potshots At Corrupt Babus, Netas...



Justice N Santosh Hegde with students at the Institute of Finance and International Management on Wednesday

one is supposed to sit and listen. But if you see the proceedings today on TV, the Speaker retires to the rest room lest a mike or a chair is thrown at him."

Continuing he said: "After the 70s, politics has become a profession. The legislators, who as the term itself indicates are expected to 'legislate', now control all the powers. If you go and check in the interior areas, these legislators hold the power but none of the schemes have been implemented. I will tell you that only 10% of the work of our institution is related to the corruption cases. I can boldly say that 90% of the works are related to mal-administration. But one gets to know only about corruption because the media highlights it."

Even the judiciary was not spared when he said that he had declared his assets four years ago when he had assumed the post of Lokayukta.

ON GOVERNMENT

Taking the government head on over the flood relief issue, he said: "Yesterday I had visited a village in Gadag district where my brother was constructing 50 houses for the flood relief victims; about half of them have been built. But the government which had collected several crores for the same purpose has not built any houses. It has been nearly a year after the disaster but nothing has been done. My team had visited the flood-hit areas in October second week and found that there had been

discrimination in the dissemination of financial assistance. They had written about it to the government but nothing had happened."

He gave a hint about his impending resignation stating "I may not be there in this post tomorrow."

ON HOSPITALS

Taking a dig about the condition of the government hospitals, Justice Hegde said: "Long ago, if the rich fell sick there were only two hospitals — Victoria hospital and Bowring hospital. But today the status of these is such that if one walks into these hospitals vertically, one will come back horizontally."

ON HALAPPA

Without naming former minister Halappa he said: "There are people accused of rape taking shelter at these hospitals because of illness. But if the bail is granted tomorrow, I am sure he can even run."

CROSS-EXAMINATION

After the lecture, when the media personnel rushed to him about the resignation issue and tried to coax him to speak about the issue, Justice Hegde said: "I have been in the law profession for 46 years and you are trying to cross-examine me!"