

## Advocates decide not to boycott Dinakaran's court

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**Bangalore :** Following a heated special general body meeting, the Advocates' Association of Bangalore on Wednesday decided against boycotting the court of Chief Justice P D Dinakaran who is facing allegations of acquiring disproportionate wealth.

The special general body meeting was called after the Chief Justice ignored a September 17 resolution of the association asking him to refrain from attending court until cleared of the allegations against him.

Justice Dinakaran has held sittings since October 5 when the High Court of Karnataka reopened after the Dussehra vacation.

In two fresh resolutions passed on Wednesday, the association representing nearly 14,000 lawyers in Bangalore decided to ask the Supreme Court collegium — that is to decide on the elevation of Justice Dinakaran — to look into the allegations at the earliest.

The association also decided to condemn a forum of lower court judges functioning under the banner of the Karnataka State Judicial Officers' Association for passing a resolution questioning the September 17 resolution of the advocates.

The new resolution passed by the association is more in tune with a resolution of the Karnataka Bar Council that decided on October 2 to ask the Supreme Court collegium to address charges against Justice Dinakaran.

The special general body meeting of the Bangalore Bar on Wednesday saw heated arguments between those opposed to boycotting the court of the Chief Justice and those in favour of it. Out of 79 advocates who spoke on the occasion, 53 were opposed to the idea.

Senior advocate Ravi Varma Kumar said that no advocate of the Bangalore Bar had brought a complaint against Dinakaran despite the September 17 resolution calling for such complaints. "What are we debating if there is no complaint here? We cannot discuss the issue in this context and this meeting itself is illegal," he said.

Another senior advocate, Jayakumar S Patil, said the Supreme Court collegium is seized of the matter and there is no need for advocates in Bangalore to precipitate the situation.

Former chairman of the Karnataka Bar Council Sadashiva Reddy said the Supreme Court collegium should be allowed a few more days to decide.