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MIM to go it alone in GHMC polls

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HYDERABAD: In a significant development, Congress ally MIM has decided to contest on its own in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) elections. The MIM is likely to field its candidates in all the 150 division of the GHMC.

Speaking to reporters after the MIM members were suspended from the House for the day today, MIM floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi said that his party had kept its options open and was even inclined to forge an alliance with PRP and LSP. "We have contested alone in the previous elections," Akbar said.

MIM has always been the single largest party in Hyderabad and it has been a decisive force in the city, he said.

He alleged that both the Congress and the TDP ruined Hyderabad. He hinted a possible post-poll tie up with others. He recalled that MIM got support both from Congress and the TDP in the past in the MCH. Asked whether the MIM would take the support of TDP after the elections, Akbar said that all the options were open.

He alleged that though the State Government earned around Rs 13,000 crore through the sale of lands in the Hyderabad, it spent nothing for the development of the city.

Akbaruddin alleged that the Speaker did not allow him to speak in the Assembly today when he wanted to know the number of houses allotted to Muslims. He found fault with the way Speaker N Kiran Kumar Reddy was running the House.

Akbar alleged that though the Minority Welfare Department was sanctioning funds, the amount being spent in the State was meagre. He alleged that houses under Indiramma were not being allotted to Muslims as per their population.

On the development of Hyderabad, the MIM leader said that though the State was collecting around Rs 10,000 crore through taxes from Hyderabad alone, the money was not being spent for the development of the city. ``Where has all the money gone?" he questioned.

However, TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu refused to comment on Akbar's statement that their options were open as far as

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GHMC elections are concerned.