After the Savitribai Phule Pune University allegedly backed out, the Congress government in Madhya Pradesh has decided to host the 79th Indian History Congress here from February 26, an IHC official said on Monday.

The 79th session was earlier supposed to be held at SPPU from December 28.

‘Financial reasons’
“However, it was cancelled by the local hosts apparently due to financial reasons,” said IHC secretary Mahalakshmi Ramakrishnan.

She was speaking at a joint press conference with Madhya Pradesh Public Relations Minister P.C. Sharma.

“As an organisation, this cancellation was unprecedented in the history as the only time we had not held the Congress was in times of national need like Quit India movement in 1942 and the wars in 1962 and 1971,” Prof. Ramakrishnan said.

“In the moment of crisis, the Madhya Pradesh government has come forward to support the IHC. Bhopal’s Barkatullah University will be hosting it at such short notice,” she said.

Over 1,000 delegates are expected at the meet.