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Session to start with debate on 'one nation, one election'

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Budget session of the legislature begins on March 4 with a discussion on 'One Nation, One Election.' Assembly Speaker Vishveshwar Hegde Kageri said on Tuesday.

Kageri said Karnataka will be the first Assembly in India to hold the debate on March 4 and 5, based on Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi's advice.

During a conference of Assembly speakers in Gujarat, Modi suggested to hold discussions on simultaneously holding Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha elections. This will not be applicable to elections held for decentralised local bodies such as gram panchayats. Kageri said.

The 2021-22 Budget will be presented by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on March 8, and it will be discussed till March 31.

Noting that Covid-19 was still prevalent, he said that all precautionary measures will be in place. Visitors from the general public, save students, will be allowed to the galleries during the session after a span

of almost one year.

To a question on complaints over absence of officials and ministers during discussions in the House, Kageri said that he had spoken to chief secretary P Ravi Kumar and whips of parties to ensure that all officials and ministers are present in the House during the course of the session.