

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ, ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖನಾ ಶಾಖೆ
KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, RESEARCH AND REFERENCE BRANCH

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Opposition leader
Siddaramaiah receives the
Covid vaccine at Victoria
Hospital, Bengaluru, on
Monday.

I will contest the next election: Siddaramaiah

^{16/8/21}
BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah on Monday announced that he would contest the next Legislative Assembly election, drawing curtains on speculation over his political future.

"I will contest the next election. I won't run away," Siddaramaiah said during his speech on the Budget. "Let there be no doubt on this. I hope I've clarified this to the people of the state."

The BJP was quick to point out that Siddaramaiah's announcement was not only aimed at the people of the state, but also those within the Congress. They meant KPCC president D K Shivakumar.

Siddaramaiah said he will contest again after Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri nudged him to spell out what he had in mind.

Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai said Siddaramaiah had conveyed the message to the right people within his party.

Minutes after Siddaramaiah said that, Shivakumar walked into the Assembly. "See, I was right," he quipped.

When Minister R Ashoka asked him which constituency he would contest from, he said Padmanabhanagar, which is Ashoka's turf. He later said, "I'm now representing Badami. I will continue there."

Siddaramaiah was the first chief minister in four decades to complete the full 5-year term. In the 2018 polls, he contested from Chamundeshwari and Badami. He lost Chamundeshwari badly.

It is no secret that Siddaramaiah, 72, is nursing his ambition to become chief minister for a second term.

Siddaramaiah had said that the 2018 Assembly election would be his last. However, there is pressure on him from his loyalists within the party to contest the next election.

"It is for him (Siddaramaiah) to decide," former speaker K R Ramesh Kumar (Srinivaspur MLA) said during this exchange.

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