

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Will win byelections on strength of budget: Yediyurappa

Budget will push state to bankruptcy: Siddaramaiah

BENGALURU, DHNS.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa expressed confidence that the BJP would win the upcoming bypolls on the strength of the 2021-22 budget, even as Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah flayed it for being "anti-people and anti-development" in the Assembly on Monday.

Intervening during Siddaramaiah's speech on the Budget, Yediyurappa dared the Congress to face the BJP in the upcoming bypolls - Belgaum (Lok Sabha), Maski, Sindhagi and Basavakalyan - on the basis of the Budget.

"You are criticizing the Budget, which women have welcomed across the board. On the basis of this, let's both go to the people and face the bypolls. We will see what people decide," Yediyurappa said.

To this, Siddaramaiah dared Yediyurappa to dissolve the Assembly and face fresh elections. "Why bypolls? If you are so confident, dissolve this Assembly. Let's see who gets the mandate."

Initiating the debate, Siddaramaiah said the 2021-22 Budget would push Karnataka into a debt cycle and bankruptcy without any scope for development.



Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa makes a point in the Legislative Assembly on Monday.

"This was the first time since the enactment of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2002, that we have seen a revenue deficit budget. Never in Karnataka's history have we had to borrow

'Vacate your chair for me'

Siddaramaiah asserted that Congress would come to power.

"The day isn't far when the Congress will come back to power," Siddaramaiah said.

When Siddaramaiah criticized the government,

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa asked him what he would have done during the pandemic. "Why don't you vacate your chair? I'll show what I'd have done," he said. "Anyway, people will give Congress a mandate soon."

loans to meet revenue and committed expenditure," he said.

"While the amount of loans taken has increased, 90% of the borrowed money is going towards committed expenditure. In such a scenario, one cannot expect the GDP to grow," Siddaramaiah said. "Further, with the government presenting sector-wise allocation in place of department-wise, the budget lacked transparency," he added.

The Congress leader also hit out at the Yediyurappa administration on the borrowings.

"I was accused of having borrowed too much when I was CM. In 2013-14, when I assumed office, the state's borrowings were Rs 1.36 lakh crore. This touched Rs 2.24 lakh crore in 2017-18. Totally, in five years, we borrowed Rs 1.06 lakh crore. But the BJP government has borrowed Rs 1.4 lakh crore in just two years," he said.