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Cong readies 1,200 posers to corner govt ahead of session

BENGALURU, DHNS *8/9/20*

The Congress will walk into the monsoon session of legislature armed with 1,200 questions that the party's legislators will ask the BJP government, leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah said on Monday.



Siddaramaiah

During a virtual meeting with the party's legislators, Siddaramaiah said the questions will be sent to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council secretariat.

The questions have been set by a team of former ministers, which the Congress plans to use to corner the B S Yediyurappa administration.

The monsoon session of the legislature starts on September 21.

"During the session, we will raise the misappropriation of funds in procurement of Covid-19 equipment, corruption in the government, drugs mafia, the DJ Halli riots, GST compensation and the Bills that are going to be laid," Siddaramaiah

ah told reporters.

A Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting will be held on September 16 to discuss the strategy going into the session.

On the drug scandal, Siddaramaiah said the police should investigate thoroughly and take action against those involved. Asked about allegations against Congress MLA B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan, Siddaramaiah said, "What evidence has been produced? If there's evidence, let it be enquired into."

Mocking the BJP government at the Centre, Siddaramaiah said it was citing Cov-

'Slip in ease of doing business ranking'

Siddaramaiah attacked the Yediyurappa administration for Karnataka's steep fall in the ease of doing business rankings.

Karnataka has slipped from the 8th spot, to be ranked 17th for 2019.

"From 13th rank, we came to 8th place in 2017-18. Now, we've slipped to 17th. The CM's son B Y

Vijayendra says previous governments are responsible for this. But it's the BJP that's in power for a year now. What have you done? Is the government that brought the state to the 8th spot responsible or the government that's in power when the state dropped to 17th spot?" Siddaramaiah said.

id-19 as the reason for issues concerning finance.

"They're saying they can't give subsidy, salaries and GST compensation. Then, why are you in power? Is this why people elected you to power?" he said.

Contraction in the GDP will affect employment, he asserted. "Unemployment will increase. There's a report that 12 crore to 15 crore jobs have been lost in India. They promised heaven if the BJP comes to power in both the Centre and the states. Is this heaven or hell," he asked.

CM to travel to Delhi before session?

BENGALURU: Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Monday is said to have told his ministerial colleagues that he would travel to Delhi before the upcoming session of the legislature to finalise the Cabinet expansion.

"I will consult with senior leaders of the party and will finish the process as soon as possible," he told a meeting of Cabinet ministers, according to sources.

He assured that he would keep his word on Cabinet expansion - regarding accommodating rebels from the Congress-JD(S) coalition - and directed all ministers to visit one district every week and address grievances of the public.

Similarly, the ministers should visit party offices for half a day and resolve the problems of party workers, he said.

Speaking on the upcoming session, he directed all ministers to defend the measures taken by the government with regard to Covid-19 pandemic, floods, DJ Halli riots and others.



B S Yediyurappa

This was the first informal huddle of Cabinet ministers, since the Yediyurappa-led BJP administration completed one year in office.

Sources said that Yediyurappa also highlighted the financial problems faced by the state and asked ministers to convince workers that it would be difficult to take up all works proposed. "Works should be taken up on a priority basis and party workers should be made to realise the challenges."

Ministers Shashikala Jolle, K S Eshwarappa and Shivar-am Hebbar - who are recovering from Covid-19, and S Suresh Kumar - who was on a tour of Chamaranagar district, were not present in the meeting.