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

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COVID-19 impact: Legislature session to wind up early

It will be adjourned sine die today after CM's reply to debate on Budget

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

With the number of people affected by COVID-19 in Karnataka sharply increasing to 33, the Business Advisory Committee of the State legislature has decided to wind up the ongoing session on Tuesday.

Earlier, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa had maintained that putting off the session would send a wrong message. However, he is learnt to have given in after the number of positive cases increased sharply and pressure began to mount from all quarters not to continue the session.

While the session was originally scheduled to end on March 31, now the Chief Minister, who also holds the Finance portfolio, will reply to the debate on the State Budget and the demand for grants to various departments on Tuesday afternoon. The debate on the Budget will continue till noon on Tuesday, and it will



Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa speaking in the Legislative Assembly on Monday. '*-special Arrangement

be followed by the Chief Minister's reply. The Budget will come up for adoption in the form of a Money Bill.

This announcement was made in the Legislative Assembly on Monday by Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri after a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah demanded

that the session be declared adjourned *sine die* on Monday night itself in view of safety. Endorsing his view, several members from the Opposition maintained that it was not proper on the part of legislators to hold a session when public congregation was banned.

However, the Speaker and some of Ministers explained that the Business Advisory

Masked members

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

Several members from the Opposition in the Assembly came to the House wearing masks. Prominent among them was Siddaramaiah, Leader of Opposition, his son Yathindra, who is a doctor, and Anjali Nimbalkar, also a doctor.

Committee had decided to wind up the session on Tuesday.

Earlier in the day, senior Congress member H.K. Patil tried to discuss COVID-19 issue through an adjournment motion that had censuring clause. However, the Speaker turned it down on technical grounds as the member had not submitted a notice within the stipulated time.