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Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah listens to women affected by flood havoc at Kattisangavi village in Jewargitaluk of Kalaburagi district on Monday.

## Siddaramaiah wants special Assembly session to discuss floods

KALABURAGI, DHNS

Leader of Opposition leader Siddaramaiah on Monday demanded the state government to convene a special Assembly session to discuss the flood situation and its consequences.

Speaking at a press meet here on Monday, Siddaramaiah said the government was fearing to convene the session due to Covid-19 pandemic.

"North Karnataka has witnessed floods thrice in a year, making the life of the farmers and poor miserable. The state government has miserably failed to tackle the rain havoc. Both state and union governments have not released even a single paisa for the flood-affected people though 23 districts of the state are hit by the floods and the heavy rains" the former chief minister alleged.

The 15th Finance Commission had recommended a special grant of Rs 5,495 crore to the state, but Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman who is elected from Karnataka has withdrawn the recommendation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had not visited the state to take stock of the deluge, Siddaramaiah alleged. He added that the government had not released compensation for the people affected by floods last year.

Yediyurappa-led government is in first place in the country in terms of corruption. "While Yediyurappa is receiving bribe through cheques, his son is taking via RTGS. Corruption has become transparent in the BJP government," he alleged.

Claiming that byelections were not a referendum on the state government, Siddaramaiah said the outcome would be an indication as to what the voters had in their mind.

Replying to former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy's warning to refrain from talking about him, Siddaramaiah said a bad worker fiddles with his tools "As a chief minister Kumaraswamy should have taken the MLAs into his confidence. Who told him to work from Taj West End Hotel. It is not right to pass buck on others to cover up one's mistakes," Siddaramaiah said.