

Uttar Pradesh: All set for paperless House, digital budget

TNN | May 19, 2022, 03.58 AM IST



LUCKNOW: The first Assembly session of the Yogi government 2.0 will have several firsts to its name. To begin with, this would be the first time when House proceedings would go paperless. In another first, both governor's address and the budget for 2022-2023 would be tabled digitally.

In 2021, the government had tabled its first paperless budget. A two-day training programme for MLAs would be undertaken from May 20 in this regard. Called 'Prabodhan', it will be inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. It will also include training to first-time MLAs about House proceedings.

To conduct paperless House proceedings, the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) centre will also be set up.

Through NeVA, all MLAs will be trained for the process, said principal secretary Vidhan Sabha Pradeep Dubey. He added that a batch of 40 MLAs would be provided training at the NeVA centre in one go.

To train MLAs through NeVA, around 30 experts from National Informatics Centre (NIC) have been posted permanently in UP Vidhan Sabha. Dubey said that this would be the first time that the Question Hour would also be through e-vidhan. This means MLAs can ask questions online and the minister concerned can reply. Each member's seat is allocated and a tablet has been fixed on their table.

Though efforts are on to make House proceedings completely paperless, since this is the beginning, a hard copy of the proceedings would be available for members who are not able to adopt the e-vidhan system.

There will also be details on the central government's endeavour to connect with Vidhan Sabhas of other states after e-Vidhan is implemented in all legislative Assemblies.

The Centre has launched NeVA to connect with all legislative Assemblies under the mission mode scheme with the theme 'one platform, one application'. Since each legislative Assembly has different rules, once e-Vidhan is implemented, there will be one procedural rule for all Assemblies so that they are inter-connected. There will also be focus on ensuring discussions on legislation, which has not been the case for several years, said Dubey.