

Uttar Pradesh: At Rs 6.5 lakh crore, Yogi government likely to table 20% bigger budget

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LUCKNOW: In its second innings, Yogi Adityanath government is likely to present a Rs 6.5 lakh crore budget, which is 20% bigger than the previous budget. In 2021, the Yogi government had presented a Rs 5.5 lakh crore budget which was followed by two supplementaries.

Although the date of the next budget session is set to be announced, CM Yogi held a meeting of senior officials from the finance, revenue and excise departments on Monday to chalk out its details. According to sources, the budget would focus on farmers, youths, women and elderly persons.

Rolling out schemes that had been promised in the Sankalp Patra should be a priority, the CM reportedly told officials. Funds should be allocated to Ujjwala Yojana on priority, he said. The BJP has promised two free LPG

cylinders every year to poor families. Similarly, UP State Road Transport Corporation would be asked to make provisions in the budget to allow free rides to women passengers aged over 60 in the state-run services.

The state government has also given commitment to increase the monthly elderly pension to Rs 1,500. The social welfare department was giving a monthly pension of Rs 500 which was doubled a few months before the polls. It is going to be made Rs 1,500 in a month now and the decision is likely to be taken in the forthcoming cabinet meeting. Similarly, free two-wheelers have to be provided to meritorious girl students pursuing higher education. The couples who get married in mass marriages can also expect Rs 1 lakh from the government after this budget.