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BBMP budget likely in February

Staff Reporter

The Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) budget for 2014-15 is likely to be presented prior to that of the State government's in February. According to reliable sources in the BBMP on Tuesday, the civic body is preparing to present the budget in the second week of February. Though the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976, mandates the civic body to present the budget at least three weeks before the beginning of the next financial year, the previous four budgets have been presented several months into the new financial year.

Chairperson of the Standing Committee for Taxation and Finance M.S. Shivaprasad confirmed that preparations for the next budget had begun. "The draft budgets of all departments are all likely to be submitted to the standing committee by January 26. The panel is confident of drafting a realistic budget and presenting it by second week of February," he said.

Sources said BBMP wants to present the budget before of the model code of conduct comes into force ahead of the LS elections. “If we delay, the budget can be presented only after the elections. This will lead to poor implementation of projects,” a source said.