

31 take oath as ministers in Bihar; Nitish gets home, Tejashwi health

Anirban Guha Roy

PATNA: The newly formed Grand Alliance government in Bihar on Tuesday expanded its cabinet as 31 ministers took oath of office, with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), the single largest party in the state assembly, getting the lion's share of 16 ministers, followed by chief minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United), which got 11 berths. With Tuesday's development, the size of the Bihar cabinet rose to 33. Kumar and the RJD's Tejashwi Prasad Yadav took oath on August 10.

Two legislators from the Congress, one from former chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) and one Independent MLA were also inducted in the new council of ministers on Tuesday. CM Nitish Kumar retained the all-important home department besides taking responsibilities of the general administration, cabinet secretariat, vigilance and election departments. He will also head "any other departments not assigned to others", according to an official commu-

Key portfolios



Tejashwi Prasad Yadav (RJD):
Health, road construction, urban housing & development, and rural works



Tej Pratap Yadav (RJD):
Environment, forestry and climate change



NITISH KUMAR (JD-U):
Home, general administration, cabinet secretariat, vigilance and election



Bijendra Yadav (JD-U): Power and planning, and development



Sanjay Kumar Jha (JD-U): Water resources, and information and public relations



Afaque Alam (Congress): Animal husbandry and fisheries



Santosh Kumar Suman (HAM): SC/ST welfare



Vijay Kumar Choudhary (JD-U): Finance, commercial taxes and parliamentary affairs

nication from the CM's office.

The JD(U) retained most of the portfolios it held during the previous NDA government. The RJD and the Congress have got departments that were previously held by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for the past two-and-a-half years.

Back as deputy chief minister after five years, Tejashwi Yadav got key portfolios — health, road construction, urban housing and development and rural works. Yadav's elder brother and Hassanpur legislator, Tej Pratap Yadav, has been given environ-

ment, forestry and climate change. He headed the health ministry in the previous Mahagathbandhan government from 2015 to 2017.

In a brief media interaction after the swearing-in of new ministers, CM Kumar said: "Bihar will now move more

faster on the path of development after the cabinet expansion today."

While the JD(U) has gone with its tried-and-tested ministerial faces, retaining all who served in the previous NDA government, the RJD's list of ministers has a mix of former ministers and new entrants in the cabinet, which has a wider caste representation.

In terms of composition, the new cabinet comprises 16 ministers from the backward and extremely backward classes, six from SC, six from upper castes besides five Muslim ministers.

The BJP, meanwhile, said the new cabinet does not have a fair representation from various sections, especially the extremely backward classes. "There is very little representation to EBCs whereas in our government, we had given high representation by making ministers from various sub-groups of the category," said former deputy CM and BJP leader Sushil Kumar Modi. "The new cabinet has no social balance as 33% of the total ministerial berths have been grabbed by Muslims and Yadavs."

Bilkis Bano case: Row erupts over rapists' release

AHMEDABAD: A political controversy broke out on Tuesday over the release of the previous day of 11 men in Gujarat convicted for the 2002 gang rape of Bilkis Bano and the murder of seven of her family members, with the Opposition and civil society alleging that rules were broken to free the men from Godhra jail and the state government saying it followed due process.

The Congress said the decision to release Bano's rapists had brought out the BJP government's "mindset". "Yesterday, from the ramparts of the Red

Fort, the Prime Minister spoke big things about women's safety, women's power, women's respect. A few hours later the Gujarat government released those behind the rape. We also saw that the convicts in the rape who were released are being honoured. Is this the Amrit Mahotsav," party spokesperson Pawan Khara said.

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi tweeted, "This is the BJP's version of AZADI KA AMRIT. People who are guilty of a heinous crime have been given

freedom. BJP's bias for a religion is such that even brutal rape & hate crimes are forgivable." Gujarat BJP spokesperson Yamal Vyas declined to comment on the matter. Bano's husband Yakub Rasul told news agency PTI, "We were surprised to know that the convicts have been released."

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2.	Pradeep Kumar Biswas (Borrower) Savita Bishwas (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. NHDS00001253900	Flat No. 103 Third Floor, Sai Apartments Village Peemuchalla, Zirakpur Distt S.A.S. Nagar Mohali, Punjab.	Rs. 40,21,058/- 05th August 2022	Rs. 20,18,750/- Rs. 2,01,875/-	14th Sept, 2022 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	20th Sept, 2022 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM
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Date : August 17, 2022 Authorised Officer
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Man who threatened Ambanis is mentally unwell, says lawyer

Vijay Kumar Yadav

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The lawyer of the man arrested on Monday for issuing threats to Reliance Industries Ltd chairman Mukesh Ambani and his family members said in court on Tuesday that his client was mentally unsound and undergoing treatment, opposing the police's plea for custody.

Vishnu Vidhu Bhowmik (56), who owns a jewellery store in Mumbai and is a resident of Borivali, was arrested for making nine threat calls to the Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital on Monday morning, according to a police statement.

The 56-year-old was arrested on the basis of an FIR registered at DB Marg police station under

sections 506(I) (criminal intimidation, if the threat be to cause death or grievous hurt or to cause the destruction of any property by fire) of the IPC. On Tuesday, he was produced before a metropolitan magistrate court, where police sought custody remand of 10 days.

Arguing for the custody, assistant public prosecutor, A U Sheikh, said: "The accused has made the threat calls with proper planning. The police want to ascertain as to why he threatened the billionaire industrialist and probe if he had any links with anti-social elements. We are also trying to find out if he has any partner or if anyone instigated him. We sought his custody as he is a habitual offender and had four cases registered against him..."

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2.	Executive (Communication)	01	Media	24.08.2022 (Wednesday) (02:00 PM to 05:00 PM)
3.	Deputy Manager	01	Sales & Marketing	25.08.2022 (Thursday) (10:30 AM to 12:30 PM)
4.	Senior Marketing Officer	03	Sales & Marketing	25.08.2022 (Thursday) (12:45 PM to 02:00 PM)
5.	Marketing Officer	04	Sales & Marketing	25.08.2022 (Thursday) (02:30 PM to 05:00 PM)

Eligible candidates may appear for Walk-in-Interviews at **Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) at E-1, 8th Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi - 110055**. For application form, detailed terms and conditions visit at our website: janaushadhi.gov.in

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