

RK Singh: Officer who once arrested Advani in Bihar

New Delhi

Known for his administrative acumen, former Union Home Secretary and Lok Sabha member Raj Kumar Singh, who was inducted on Sunday as Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy at the Centre, was instrumental in the arrest of BJP leader L.K. Advani in 1990 in Bihar.

The 1975-batch Indian Administrative Service officer, who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party after his retirement in 2013, was the District Magistrate of Samastipur in Bihar when in October 1990, on then Chief Minister Lalu Prasad's orders, he was tasked with the arrest of Advani.

Advani was at that point in time taking out a Rath Yatra in the state en route to Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh from Somnath in Gujarat to build up a popular movement in favour of a Ram Temple at Ayodhya.

Raj Kumar Singh's official action, however, did not come in the way of Advani who picked him for the post of Joint Secretary in the Home Ministry from 1999 to 2004, when the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) was in power.

Later, the officer served as Union Home Secretary un-

der the Congress party-led United Progressive Alliance government from June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2013.

Raj Kumar Singh has served both in Bihar and at the Centre in different capacities, including as Secretary of Defence Production in the UPA government, and head of the Bihar government's departments of Home, Industries and Public Works.

He successfully contested the 2014 Lok Sabha poll from Arrah. He is known for his contributions to schemes for modernisation of police and prisons, and laying down a framework for disaster management.

It was during the officer's tenure as Union Home Secretary that Mumbai attack terrorist Ajmal Kasab and Parliament attack case convict Afzal Guru were hanged.

As Union Home Secretary, Raj Kumar Singh also oversaw alleged saffron terror cases involving blasts in Malegaon in Maharashtra and the Samjhauta Express train in Haryana and courted controversy by releasing the names of some suspects.

He also handled as the Home Secretary the public outrage after the December 16, 2012, gang rape of a Delhi woman. IANS

Cabinet panel on security to have two women now

New Delhi

With appointment of Nirmala Sitharaman as the new Defence Minister on Sunday, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), will now have two women ministers.

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj is member of the CCS, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which is responsible for decisions on external and internal security. Its other members are Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

Sitharaman was on Sunday elevated as cabinet minister in the reshuffle and expansion of the council of ministers and given the defence portfolio.

She is the first full-time woman defence minister of the country after late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had twice held charge of defence portfolio - from December 1 to 21, 1975 and January 14, 1980 to January 15, 1982. IANS

Sitharaman new def min, Piyush gets Rlys

New Delhi

Nirmala Sitharaman was on Sunday named India's Defence Minister in a reshuffle-cum-expansion of his ministry carried out by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that also saw Piyush Goyal take charge of Indian Railways.

Of the other two new Cabinet ministers, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan got additional charge of Skill Development Entrepreneurship while Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi retained the Minority Affairs Ministry.

The three new Ministers of State with independent charge are R.K. Singh (Power, New and Renewable Energy), Hardeep Puri (Housing and Urban Affairs) and K.J. Alphons (Tourism, Electronics and IT).

Woman as Defence Minister sends global message: Jaitley

New Delhi

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Sunday hailed appointment of Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as the country's first, full-fledged Defence Minister, saying it sends "a message globally".

"It is great for the country, not just for the women. It also sends a message globally," said Jaitley, who had held charge of Defence after Manohar Parrikar left the post to become Goa Chief Minister earlier this year.

The six new Ministers of State are Shiv Pratap Shukla (Finance), Ashwini Choubey (Health and Family Welfare),

Woman as Defence Minister sends global message: Jaitley

Noting that the Cabinet Committee on Security would now have two women ministers, with Sitharaman joining External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, he said: "Both ladies in CCS have established their competence, both are recognised as ladies with substance, who have earned a front-line position for themselves."

Asked if women in combat maybe a reality with a woman as Defence Minister, Jaitley quipped: "That was one area in which I wasn't able to do much."

Virendra Kumar (Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs), Anantkumar Hegde (Skill Develop-

ment and Entrepreneurship), Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) and Satya Pal Singh (Human Resource Development, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation).

Suresh Prabhu, who lost his Railway portfolio, has been shifted within the Cabinet to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, earlier held by Sitharaman.

Nitin Gadkari, who was holding Road Transport and Highways and Shipping, will also head the Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Ministry.

Cabinet minister Uma Bharti, who lost the Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, is now left with Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Gadkari gets Water Resources, Ganga Rejuvenation

New Delhi

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari was on Sunday also allocated portfolios of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

Uma Bharti, who had these portfolios, has now been given charge of Drinking Water and Sanitation which was held by Narendra Singh Tomar.

Tomar, who retains his other portfolios of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, has also been given Mines, which was earlier with Piyush Goyal, now the new Railways Minister.

Harsh Vardhan, who was given charge of Environment Ministry retains portfolio, while Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, who held Minority Affairs as Minister of State (Independent Charge), IANS

CHANGE IN NAME

I POOJA CHAWLA Here by Declare That after marriage I have change My name as KASHISH RADHWANI W/O SUDHISH RADHWANI so, from now and in future I will be known by my new name: KASHISH RADHWANI/W/O SUDHISH RADHWANI
ADD: 3, RAJMAHAL COLONY, FLAT NO. 201-202, MANIK BAGH ROAD, INDORE (M.P.)

CHANGE IN NAME

I MANOJ KUMAR RADHWANI Here by Declare That I have change My name as MANOJ RADHWANI S/O SHYAMLAL RADHWANI so, from now and in future I will be known by my new name: MANOJ RADHWANI S/O SHYAMLAL RADHWANI
ADD: 201-202, UNIQUE SKYLINE, 3 RAJMAHAL, COLONY MANIK BAGH ROAD, INDORE (M.P.)

IN THE COURT OF THE V ADDL. JUDGE, FAMILY COURT AT BANGALORE

M.C. No. 5642/2016
BETWEEN:
Kantesh Malviya, ... PETITIONER
AND:
Kriti Malviya, ... RESPONDENT
SUMMONS TO THE RESPONDENT
To:
Kriti Malviya,
W/o. Kantesh Malviya, Aged about 30 years,
Rt. at: 1508 A, Railway Nurse Colony,
Opposite CIV. OFF. RATLAM-457001,
MADHYA PRADESH. ... RESPONDENT
The above named petitioner has filed a petition in M.C. No. 5642/2016 before the V Addl. Judge, Family Court, Bangalore, against you for a Decree of Divorce. The case is posted for hearing on 31.10.2017. You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on 31.10.2017 at 11 a.m. in person without fail, failing which the case will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 29th day of August 2017.
By order of the Court
SHERISTHEDAR,
Family Court,
BANGALORE

Cabinet expansion to divert attention from govt 'failure': Mayawati

LUCKNOW: The expansion of the Narendra Modi cabinet at the Centre is an attempt to divert the attention of the people from the government's "failure" in tackling burning issues the country is facing, BSP chief Mayawati said on Sunday. The former Uttar Pradesh chief minister, while referring to the induction nine new ministers, also said that retired bureaucrats were being relied on more than politicians. The expansion is an attempt to divert attention of the people from the "failure of the government on burning problems like poverty, unemployment, Ganga cleaning" as well as promises made by the BJP during the Lok Sabha polls, Mayawati said. "This is new drama being enacted by the BJP. The people have lost hope and are angry with the government. In place of politicians, retired bureaucrats are being relied on more in the expansion and an attempt is being made to propagate the agenda of RSS," she said in a statement. The expansion reflects the tensions in the BJP and in the NDA, she added. She alleged that due to the policies of the Centre, the atmosphere is getting vitiated and development has taken a back seat. PTI



President Ram Nath Kovind administers oath to the newly inducted ministers of state, left to right in the top row, Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Virendra Kumar and Shiv Pratap Shukla; left to right in the middle row, Satya Pal Singh, R K Singh and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat; from left in the bottom row, Hardeep Singh Puri, Alphons Kannanthanam and Anantkumar Hegde at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Sunday

JD(U) not even invited to join NDA government, claims Lalu

Patna

RJD supremo Lalu Prasad claimed that Nitish Kumar's JD(U) was not even invited to join the NDA government by Prime Minister Narendra Modi or BJP chief Amit Shah in the Cabinet reshuffle on Sunday.

"Some JD(U) leaders had got new Kurta Pyjama and Bundi stitched for the swearing-in ceremony, but the elusive invitation did not come," he alleged.

The JD(U) national president and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had on Saturday admitted that his party had not been invited to join the government nor consulted by the BJP brass on the expansion issue, Prasad said.

"Why should Prime Minister Modi or BJP president Shah consult Kumar when they know about his character?" the RJD supremo said in a dig at the JD(U) chief, who had dumped the

Grand Alliance in July to form a government in Bihar with the BJP.

"Modi and Shah are unlikely to bow before their new ally, the JD(U) and its chief Nitish Kumar," he said. The RJD supremo took potshots at Kumar for withdrawing a dinner invite to BJP leaders, including the then Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi, at Patna in 2010, over an advertisement row and alleged that the latter had not forgotten it.

Modi was right in not "accepting" the invite to visit Patna for having lunch with the chief minister at his official residence recently after an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas of Bihar, the RJD leader said.

Prasad claimed, in doing so the prime minister has returned "favour" to Nitish Kumar for having cancelled the dinner invite for the visiting BJP leaders seven years ago. PTI

Woman def min may speed up case for women in combat: MoS

New Delhi

Union Minister of State for Defence Subhash Bhamre on Sunday said he hoped Nirmala Sitharaman's appointment as the new Defence Minister will speed up the process of induction of women in combat roles in the armed forces.

"This is a big incident; she is the first full-time woman Defence Minister (of India)," Bhamre said after meeting Sitharaman at her residence here soon after she was named as the country's Defence Minister.

"She is known as one of the efficient ministers... the ministry is already examining the case of women in the armed forces. Now that a woman is the Defence Minister, I think the process will be faster," he told news channel CNN News 18.

Former Defence Minister and now Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar also lauded Sitharaman. IANS

Uma Bharti saved from Cabinet axing by RSS: Sources

Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP chief Amit Shah had decided to show the door to Union Minister Uma Bharti, but RSS intervention ensured it was not to be, informed sources said on Sunday.

However, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) could not fully help Bharti - a parliamentarian from Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh -- as her political stature went down after Sunday's reshuffle and expansion of the Union Cabinet -- her Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation portfolio was handed over to Nitin Gadkari while she was left with only Drinking Water and Sanitation Ministry.

The sources said that the Bharatiya Janata Party President, who participated in the RSS three-day coordination committee meeting in Vrindavan in Uttar

Pradesh from September 1, discussed the then impending Cabinet reshuffle and the "bad performance" of Bharti and other ministerial colleagues and the plans to remove them.

However, the sources added, the RSS leadership advised Shah not to go ahead with her removal since "it will send out a wrong message".

After former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Kalyan Singh parted ways with the BJP, the party had faced a setback as his Lodha community had shifted its political alliance too. Since Bharti also enjoys influence in the backward community, the BJP leadership too did not want to open a new front by sacking her.

Cut to size in the reshuffle, Bharti vented her anger by remaining absent from the swearing-in event held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. IANS

'Reshuffle reflects max govt, no governance'

New Delhi

Claiming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi does not trust his political colleagues, the Congress on Sunday said the cabinet reshuffle earlier in the day "reflects maximum government and no governance" and, by dropping ministers, the government has admitted its "gigantic failure".

Termining induction of new nine Ministers of State as "senior citizen's club", party spokesperson Manish Tewari said the average age of these ministers is 60.44 years when the "median age of India's 1.24 billion people is about 27 years and the Prime Minister has been waxing eloquent about the youth of this country".

He also claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi seemed "strangely disconnected from the exercise".

"It seemed as if BJP President Amit Shah is the Prime Minister and not Modi. Never ever has the absence of the Prime Minister in a cabinet reshuffle process been more evident,"

he said, adding that the real story is in the dropping and that is where the admission of the gigantic failure of this government comes.

Relieving Skill Development Minister Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Labour Minister Bandaru Dattatreya, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Minister Kalraj Mishra of their portfolios meant "no skilling, no employment generation and, in addition, the MSME sector has been wiped out", said Tewari. IANS

Special court confirms Virbhadra's farmhouse attachment by ED

New Delhi

A special court here has confirmed an Enforcement Directorate (ED) order to attach a farmhouse in connection with its money laundering probe against Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh and his family.

The central probe agency had attached the property in March in upmarket south Delhi's area of Dera Mandi near Mehrauli, alleging it was purchased "out of money laundered through shell firms".

The agency had issued a provisional attachment or-

der for the farmhouse under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). It had said while the book value of the asset is Rs 6.61 crore, its market value is Rs 27.29 crore, as per a valuation done by the Income Tax Department.

A recent order of Tushar V Shah, Member (Law), Adjudicating Authority of PMLA, said the asset was "involved in money laundering". "I, therefore, hereby confirm the attachment of the properties made under sub-section (1) of Section 5 of PMLA," the order said.

"...the said attachment shall continue during the pendency of the proceedings relating to offence under the PMLA..." it said confirming the ED order of March 31. The farmhouse, the ED had said, is in the name of Ms Maple Destination and Dreambuild Private Limited, a firm in which Singh's son Vikramaditya is a major shareholder and his daughter Aprajita a minor shareholder. Both are also listed as the directors of the firm, it had said.

The ED had said its probe found that "illicit money of Singh was also invested in

purchase" of the immovable asset.

"The farmhouse was purchased for an amount of Rs 1.20 crore as per registry value. The payment was made by two cheques of Rs 15 lakh each (Rs 30 lakh) and two cheques of Rs 45 lakh each (Rs 90 lakh).

"The investigation further revealed that a sum of Rs 5.41 crore was paid in cash to purchase the farmhouse. Investigation...revealed that the funds had been provided through Vakamulla Chandrashekar, Promoter/Director of Tari-ni Group of Companies, engaged in hydro power proj-

ects," the agency had said.

It said that "incidentally Chandrashekar's company was awarded Saikothi plant in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh" and the cheque amount for purchase of the farmhouse was given from his personal bank accounts. "He (Chandrashekar) had given a total of Rs 5.9 crore to Singh and family members out of which Rs 90 lakh was transferred from the account of Singh to his son Vikramaditya which was ultimately utilised for purchase of farmhouse by Ms Maple Destinations and Dreambuild Private Limited," it had alleged. PTI