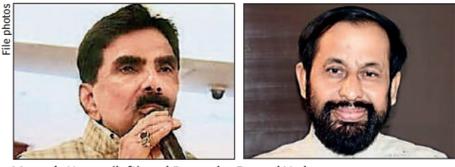


Two ex-MPs resign from core committee of PK's Jan Suraaj

'The Two Had Objections Over Size And Structure Of Panel'

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Monazir Hasan (left) and Devendra Prasad Yadav

Patna: Two former MPs—Devendra Prasad Yadav and Monazir Hasan—resigned from the 125-member core committee of Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj party, citing "unavoidable reasons". The core committee, formed on Sunday, was meant to strategise for the assembly elections next year.

"I am resigning from the 125-member core committee due to unavoidable reasons," said former Union minister Yadav in his resignation letter addressed to acting party president Manoj Bharti.

Hasan, a former minister in Nitish Kumar govt, also resigned but sent his letter di-

rectly to Kishor instead of the president. However, Hasan clarified that he would remain with the party. "I thank the party for giving me a place in the core committee, but I won't continue there. So, my resignation may kindly be accepted," Hasan wrote.

Party insiders said both were upset with how they were grouped with relatively

new and inexperienced members in the expanded committee. Sources close to them suggested dissatisfaction with Kishor's leadership style, which they believed undermined their seniority.

The party's national spokesperson Sadaf Iqbal said the netas have stepped down only from the core committee, not the party. "They have some

objections over the size and structure of the core committee and have conveyed their concerns to Kishor," she said.

The resignations follow Jan Suraaj's poor performance in recent by-elections, where the party lost all four assembly seats, and also the Tirth graduates' constituency for the Bihar legislative council, despite finishing as runner-up in the latter.

Kishor launched Jan Suraaj on October 2, following a two-year, 3,000-km-long 'padayatra' across the state. The journey, which began in Champaran, was aimed at building a "new political alternative" to address Bihar's chronic challenges of underdevelopment.

NDA partners flay oppn for opposing ONOE move

Abhay Singh | TNN

Tejashwi's jibe at 'One nation, one election' Bill

Patna: State BJP chief Dilip Kumar Jaiswal and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM) chief Upendra Kushwaha from the NDA camp on Tuesday flayed the stance of the opposition on the two amendment Bills related to 'One nation, one election' (ONOE), aimed at facilitating simultaneous Lok Sabha and assembly polls.

Union law and justice minister Arjun Ram Meghwal on Tuesday tabled the two Bills in the Lok Sabha, where 269 MPs voted in its favour and 198 against it. However, for the passage of the two Bills, two-third majority of the House was required. Eventually, on the intervention of Union home minister Amit Shah, Meghwal withdrew the Bills for a fuller and more detailed discussion on them by a joint parliamentary committee.

In Patna, Rajya Sabha MP Kushwaha battled for 'One nation, one election'. "It is a very good proposal. If the LS and assembly elections are held simultaneously, it will save time and money. The ruling parties, both at the Centre and in

leader of opposition in assembly, Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, took a jibe at 'One nation, one election' Bill on Tuesday. "This will finally lead to 'one nation, one leader'. Holding simultaneous Lok Sabha and assembly elections would be a tough task. When elections in states are conducted in three to four phases, would it be possible to hold simultaneous elections," Tejashwi asked before participating in a workers' meet held at Dak Bangalou ground in Madhepura.

The RJD leader lauded his party's proposal of 'Mai Bahin Maan Yojana', under which women would be given Rs 2,500 every month, if the party was voted to power.

states, would be more concerned with running the govts. Otherwise, the political parties are busy participating in elections in one or the other part of the country. As a result, the political discourse has become foul, acrimonious and abusive," Kushwaha said, adding the opposition parties should not have insisted on opposing the Bills just "for the sake of it".

Echoing him, state BJP chief Jaiswal said, "If simultaneous LS and assembly elections are held, the govts would work for the good of the people without any distraction caused by polls in one or the other part of the country."

Among the opposition INDIA bloc or Grand Alliance partners in the state, the RJD has been the most vocal against it. The party's state general secretary, Bhai Arun, with other functionaries put on protest posters at Income Tax roundabout, R-Block, outside the RJD headquarters and a few other places in Patna.

"The proposal is against the basic structure of the Constitution and federalism, and will lead to the presidential form of govt. The elections will be fought on national issues, and the local issues will be sidelined. It will lead to more unethical election malpractices," Arun said.

14 wanted criminals surrender

Continued from P 1

The operation drew large crowds, who witnessed the bold action being carried out by the police force.

The impact of the police's strong stance was evident as 14 wanted criminals surrendered voluntarily before the property attachment proceedings began. Among them was Dilsher Rai, who had a bounty of Rs 15,000 on his head. In total, 18 criminals from various police station areas, including Malahi, Harsidhi, Turkauliya, Mufassil, Chhatani and Chhodadano turned themselves in.

In a recent review of long-pending cases, DIG of Champaran police range, Jayant Kant, and SP Swarn Prabhat took decisive action, ordering the arrest or property attachment of criminals. "We directed the police officers to identify assets acquired through crime, smuggling and illegal liquor trade and prepare a list for confiscation," the SP said. The police are now intensifying their efforts against criminal gangs and people involved in the illegal liquor and narcotics trade along the border.

DIGEST

New PU proctor

Patna University (PU) geophysics department teacher Manoj Kumar Sinha has been appointed the new proctor of the varsity in place of Rajnish Kumar, who has completed his term. Sinha joined on Tuesday.

Criminal arrested: An arms supplier was arrested from Danapur area of Patna on Tuesday. Danapur ASP Bhanu Pratap Singh said Govind Kumar of Bibiganj Bhatta Road is a history-sheeter. "Govind had provided weapons to the killers involved in the murder case of one Jitendra Rai under Danapur police station area in July," he said.

Electricity theft: Fatuha SBPDCCL officials, under STF-Patna, raided an industrial premises on Tuesday and detected an electricity theft in a plastic factory at Gauharpur in Didarganj. A penalty of Rs 31.9 lakh was imposed on owner Ashok Kumar.

PATNA WEATHER

Max 25.1°C
Min 12.5°C
Sunset: 5:03pm
Wednesday: 5:03pm
Sunrise: Thursday: 6:30am
Partly Cloudy sky.
Maximum & Minimum temp likely to be around 24°C and 13°C respectively
Max humidity 78% min 68%

'IIT-D engaged in survey for AIIMS-Darbhanga'

New Delhi: IIT-Delhi has been engaged in undertaking topographical survey, geotechnical investigation and vetting of structural design drawings for establishing an AIIMS in Darbhanga, Union health minister J P Nadda told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

Responding to a question, he said the Bihar govt in April 2023 offered 151.17 acres of land at Ekmi Shobhan Bypass, Bahadurpur, in Darbhanga for the establishment of the AIIMS in lieu of land on Darbhanga Medical College and Hospital campus, which was earlier approved by the

state for transfer in November 2021.

The central (technical) team comprising experts from IIT-Delhi has found the alternate site feasible for the establishment of AIIMS subject to structural modification based on geotechnical

MIN IN RAJYA SABHA

and hydrological investigation due to site-specific conditions, Nadda said.

"Now, the Bihar govt has handed over 187.44 acres of land for the establishment of AIIMS at Darbhanga," Nadda added.

Three teenagers die in bike-truck collision

Faryal Rumi | timesofindia.com

Patna: Three teenagers lost their lives when their motorcycle collided head-on with a truck on National Highway 131A (Purnia-Katihar) near Govindpur Chowk under the Rautara police station area in Katihar district on Monday evening. According to police, they were not wearing helmets and they died on the spot.

The deceased were identified as Mohidur Alam (17), Dilbar Hussain (16) and Asfir Alam (17). All three were residents of Joka Jalmare village in Purnia district. Upon receiving information, police took the bodies into custody and informed their families.

Eyewitnesses said the bike was travelling toward Purnia at high speed when it collided with an oncoming truck. "After the incident, the driver fled with his vehicle," said Sonu Kumar, SHO of Rautara police station. "The police have seized the mangled bike and a cellphone from the accident site. The bodies have been sent to Sadar Hospital for post-mortem and investiga-

tions are on," the SHO added. Sub-inspector Bhola Kumar said the incident occurred as the youths were returning home after visiting Mohidur's sister, Mustari Khatoun, who lives in Katihar. "All of them sustained severe head injuries after being hit by a truck," he said, adding that the vehicle involved in the accident is yet to be identified.

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Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre

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File a complaint at www.cybercrime.gov.in or call 1930

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CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Debating laws for protection of citizens

The Times of India launched 'Times Talk', an exclusive series designed to foster meaningful conversations on select topics. The first talk of the series was held recently, in which students spoke impromptu on the three new criminal laws

PHOTOS: RAHUL SHARMA



>> From R-L: RC Saw, director, HGC; Uma Shankar, chairman, Himalaya Group of Institutions; Prof RK Singh, VC, Patliputra University; KN Singh, addl solicitor general of India, Patna HC; Awadhesh Kumar Pandey, sr advocate, Patna HC; Neeraj Kumar Mishra, advisor, Patliputra University

High Court; Awadhesh Kumar Mishra, consultant, Patliputra University; Professor RK Singh, vice-chancellor, Patliputra University; and Nagendra Kumar Jha, registrar, Patliputra University. The programme started with

lighting the lamp, followed by a cultural programme in which the students showcased their talent. A welcome speech was delivered by the college principal, Rashtrakavi Dinkar's famous poem, 'Rashmirathi', was recited. The students enthralled the audience with their collective song, Vande Mataram, and dance performance on the song, 'Jai Ho'. Guests present at the event shared their views on the importance of Constitution Day and the role of citizens in preserving it.

EXPERTS SPEAK

Awadhesh Kumar Pandey, said, "Law is an area which every per-

The event also comprised a cultural programme in which students showcased their talent, followed by a recitation of Rashtrakavi Dinkar's famous poem, 'Rashmirathi'

son should understand. After becoming a lawyer, you should fight for justice for both the poor and the rich. Getting justice for the poor will be the greatest satisfaction of your life."

KN Singh, while discussing the Constitution and religion, said, "There should be no mention of religion in the Constitution. In today's times, there is talk of protecting the Constitution and religion. We should protect the Constitution from every kind of



>> Uma Shankar, chairman, Himalaya Group of Institutions, presenting a memento to KN Singh, addl solicitor general of India, Patna high court

discrimination." Neeraj Kumar Mishra said the four pillars to save the Constitution are Judiciary, Legislature, Executive and the Media, while highlighting the importance of the judiciary. "The Constitution is the foundation of our democracy, and it is protected through these four pillars," he said.

Inspiring the students, Prof RK Singh said, "All of you should become such lawyers who can en-

sure justice for every person." Uma Shankar, chairman of Himalaya Group of Institutions said, "In the interest of the country, every person should be aware of the law. This is necessary not only for law students, but for every person in the society." College director, Ram Chandra Saw, also shared his views and said all students should have basic knowledge of law.

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