

# GenNext set for a boost in Modi govt

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The reshuffle of the Modi government is expected to recognise emerging leaders in the BJP like Piyush Goyal, Dharmendra Pradhan, Nirmala Sitharaman and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi who have all held organisational positions in the past.

The induction of the GenNext leaders when the Modi government assumed office in May 2014 had sent more than a few ripples through the BJP as they made it over the head of seniors and were seen to reflect the faith reposed in them by PM Narendra Modi.

The leaders are also seen to have the confidence of BJP chief Amit Shah.

Sitharaman made her mark as party spokesperson when BJP was in the opposition and was given a demanding assignment as minister of state with independent charge for commerce. It was a role she has grown into after an initial period when her direct manner was different from what officials were used to. But in recent months, she has been seen to have come into her own, gaining confidence and control over her turf and dealing with trade negotiations with increasing certainty.

She was recently in China for a BRICS meeting where she was engaged in discussions even as a protracted India-China border row played out in Doklam.

## No talk of slot for JD(U), says Nitish

**ND** ally JD(U) on Saturday claimed that it was not supposed to be part of the recast of the Modi government, scotching what it called "pure" speculation which has raged for weeks about the induction of its representatives in the central government.

"There was no such talk of JD(U) joining the Union Cabinet. No talks were held on the issue (between BJP and JD(U))," Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar said in Patna.

Nitish, however, clarified that JD(U) would definitely take a call if any proposal comes to join the Union cabinet. **TNN**

Goyal has been seen to have delivered on scam-free auctions in coal and brought about a turnaround in production, ending days of persistent domestic short supplies that had led to higher imports.

In the power sector, the difficult task of getting state utilities to recast their debt and improve accountability and viability in transmission and tariffs has got off the ground through the Udaan scheme.

Pradhan, seen as a likely BJP candidate as Odisha CM, has been a low profile worker, who is seen to have delivered in terms of keeping the oil ministry free of lobbies and leaks that have often plagued it.

## FACES LIKELY TO BE INDUCTED INTO CABINET

### SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA

A **Rajya Sabha MP** from UP, he is a member of the parliamentary standing committee on rural development. Has been **cabinet minister in UP for 8 years** and is known for work in rural development, education and prison reforms. A **Brahmin from UP**, comes as **replacement of Kalraj Mishra**, who resigned on ground of age

### RAJ KUMAR SINGH

**First-time Lok Sabha MP from Arrah** (Bihar). He is a **member of the parliamentary standing committees** on health and family welfare, personnel, pensions and public grievances and law & justice. A **former IAS officer** of the 1975 batch (Bihar cadre), he rose up the ranks to become the home secretary

### VIRENDRA KUMAR

A **Lok Sabha MP from Tikamgah**, Madhya Pradesh, he has had a distinguished career in public service as a **six-term MP**. He is the **chairperson of the parliamentary standing committee on labour** and has been chairman of the joint committee on office of profit and a **member of National Social Security Board**

### ANANTKUMAR HEGDE

A **Lok Sabha MP from Uttara Kannada**, Karnataka. He is a **Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs and Human Resource Development**. He is now a **5th term Lok Sabha MP**. He has been a **member of several parliamentary standing committees**



### ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY

**Lok Sabha MP from Buxar** (Bihar). He is a **member of the parliamentary committee on estimates and standing committee on Energy**. He is also a **member of Central Silk Board**. A five-time **MLA**, he was a **cabinet minister in Bihar for eight years**



### HARDEEP SINGH PURI

An **IFS officer of 1974 batch**, he is known for his **experience and expertise in foreign policy and national security**. He had four-decade career in diplomacy, including critical role of **Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and ambassador to Brazil and the United Kingdom**



### GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT

**Lok Sabha MP from Jodhpur** (Rajasthan), he is a **member of the parliamentary standing committee on finance**. He is one of the most followed political leaders on Quora globally (a popular Q&A blogging site)

### ALPHONS KANNANTHANAM

A **distinguished former IAS officer of the 1979 batch** (Kerala cadre), he is also a **practising advocate**. He became famous as **Delhi's Demolition Man** when he was **commissioner of Delhi Development Authority**, having cleared DDA areas of encroachment removing around **15,000 illegal buildings**. This got him listed in **Time Magazine's list of 100 Young Global Leaders in 1994**.

### SATYA PAL SINGH

A **Lok Sabha MP from Baghat** (Uttar Pradesh), he is a **member of the parliamentary standing committee on home affairs and chairperson of the joint committee on offices of profit**. A distinguished former **IPS officer of 1980 batch** (Maharashtra cadre), he was the **Commissioner of Police of Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur** – and is credited for breaking the backbone of organised crime syndicates in Mumbai in the 1990s

# Recast aimed at showing bench strength

Continued from P 1

**Rajyavardhan Rathore** and **Jitendra Singh** are being considered for more significant assignments in keeping with their record as diligent and competent ministers.

The elevations, exits and inductions are intended to address perception of a poor bench strength and competence. The selection of Alphons Kannanthanam and Hardeep Singh Puri, along with the promotion of Naqvi, marks an effort to reach out to minorities and also keeps in mind BJP's efforts in Kerala.

The defence portfolio is likely to remain with finance minister Arun Jaitley.

According to official sources, six incumbent ministers — MSME minister **Kalraj Mishra** joined the list on Saturday — have resigned as part of a restructuring exercise and have been "freed" for other responsibilities.

The new ministers, it was said, have been selected with a "clear mandate" to deliver on PM Narendra Modi's vision of a "New India", articulated in his Independence Day speech. "The focus is on poor, exploited and deprived sections in terms of policies," said a source.

**There was considerable action in the BJP camp as Piyush Goyal, Dharmendra Pradhan and Nirmala Sitharaman look set for a leg-up**

There was considerable action in the BJP camp as Piyush Goyal, Dharmendra Pradhan and Nirmala Sitharaman, ministers of state with independent charge, look set for a leg-up. Goyal is being seen as Suresh Prabhu's replacement in railways with the BJP leadership feeling he has done a competent

job in implementing reforms in the power and coal sectors.

Similarly Pradhan has earned praise for rollout of schemes like Pahal and Ujjwala and reducing the influence of lobbies in the oil sector policy-making while Naqvi is seen to have been a competent parliamentary affairs minister and holding charge of minority affairs.

Sitharaman is seen to have gained in confidence in handling the commerce ministry and has done well in multi-lateral negotiations, said party sources. Rathore, who is minister of state for information and broadcasting, and Jitendra Singh,

MoS in PMO, are expected to be given more responsibilities. Both have impressed the leadership with their diligent and non-controversial style of functioning.

But the choice of new ministers reflected, as official sources said, diverse backgrounds and sound qualification in terms of political experience. Jodhpur MP Gajendra Shekhawat's induction seems, at least in part, intended to address Rajput anger over the shooting of criminal Anandpal. The issue was politicised. Also, Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Rajje has had a tussle with the Jaipur royal family.

# Private text as proof? May hit privacy wall

## HC Cites SC Ruling After Qureshi Plea

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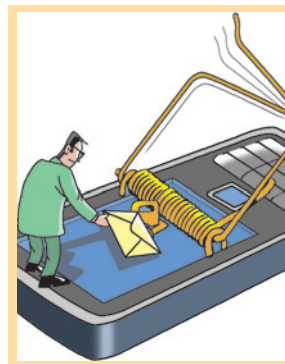
**New Delhi:** Citing the recent Supreme Court ruling on privacy, the Delhi high court has questioned if private messages can be relied upon as evidence in a criminal investigation.

In a recent hearing, a bench of justices Siddharth Mridul and Najmi Waziri asked if messages sent on BlackBerry Messenger (BBM) can be treated as evidence following the SC ruling declaring privacy as a fundamental right.

The HC said the government and the Enforcement Directorate will have to address this point while hearing a plea by meat exporter and businessman Moin Qureshi challenging his recent arrest by ED in a money laundering case. He has filed a writ arguing that the investigating agency arrested him without citing grounds of arrest, violating the Constitution.

"What kind of reverse investigation is this? No grounds of arrest have been furnished," Qureshi's lawyer R K Handoo argued, asking why his client was being targeted.

During the hearing, the HC underlined that ED may have to spell out its stand on whether reliance on private messages exchanged between



We would like to know, can we look into these BBM messages after the Supreme Court's nine-bench privacy judgment, whether these private messages would be admissible as evidence

A Delhi HC bench

en the accused in a criminal case can fall under "reasonable restriction" in the context of Article 21 of the Constitution.

While issuing notice to the Centre and ED, HC noted, "We would like to know, can we look into these BBM messages after the Supreme Court's nine-bench privacy judgment, whether these private messages would be admissible as evidence. Privacy has been held as integral part of Article 21 (life and liberty) of the Constitution. Please examine, as we would like to know it."

As per ED, Qureshi was arrested on the basis of BBM messages exchanged between him, former CBI chief A P Singh and several persons accused in other criminal cases.

The court listed the matter for September 13, pointing out that "in view of the submissions of the counsel for the petitioner that he has not been informed of grounds of his detention in terms of constitutional imperative under Article 22, it is necessary to issue notice," the bench

said. The bench reiterated the settled law that a person cannot be taken into custody without telling him/her the grounds and giving him/her effective legal aid.

"Information is not just to make a person read the grounds of arrest. You have to give him a copy of it. You cannot deny liberty to someone without grounds. We are afraid that this may take us to the dark ages. It is negating the constitutional mandate," the bench observed, asking ED to "show us the files" as "courts have to uphold constitutional mandate. There are rights which you cannot take away. That is why we want you to go through the privacy judgment of SC."

The records collected by ED from the income tax department in the form of BBM messages allegedly "revealed that Qureshi has taken huge amount of money from different persons for obtaining undue favours from public servants after exercising his personal influence", the agency has claimed.

# LeT terrorist killed in J&K

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**Srinagar:** Ishfaq Padder, a Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist involved in the abduction and killing of Lt Omar Fayaz on May 10 at Shopian, was killed on Saturday morning in a brief encounter with security forces at Tantraypora village in Kulgam district, police said. One AK-47 and some ammunition were recovered from his possession.

**Ishfaq Padder and his associates had abducted and killed 22-year-old Lt Omar Fayaz on May 10**

Padder and his associates had abducted and killed 22-year-old Lt Fayaz of the Rajputana Rifles unit in Akhnoor (Jammu) from his maternal uncle's home at Heman village in Shopian district,

where he had gone to attend the wedding of his cousin.

Padder, who hailed from Yaripora in Kulgam, was part of the group headed by Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani. He later joined LeT. Meanwhile, clashes between locals and the police were reported after Eid prayers at Anantnag and Srinagar. The reports of stone pelting were received from north Kashmir too, the police said.

# High On Health

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## Fit for Festivity

The right approach to looking good and staying healthy is the best way to enjoy the fun and frolic



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people indulge in a lifestyle that defeats their strict exercise and diet regimes.

### THE HEALTHY WAY

Medical practitioners and experts share a word of caution for the ensuing festive season. Says Dr Dipankar Sarkar, consultant, general medicine at Columbia Asia Hospital, "There are two aspects to remaining fit during the festivities. First, this is a period when the rainy season is towards its end and a number of viral infections, such as influenza, are in vogue as they spread fast in a crowd. Second, gastro intestinal diseases too create havoc depending on the type of food taken, personal hygiene etc and this propagates throughout communities. Lack of proper sleep or rest affects the immunity too."

### A DIFFERENT IMPLICATION

There's also a socio-economic side to medical issues during this period, feels Dr Partha Pratim Sen, consultant, general surgery, NH Superspecialty Hospital, Howrah. "People residing in the periphery often come over to treat complicated surgical cases during this period as against planned surgeries. This is because many doctors are on leave and other issues, like a drop in blood donation, make things difficult for them. However, road blocks and traffic diversions, bank holidays and non-availability of blood often pose serious issues," feels Dr Sen.

### FITNESS FIRST

"It is the time to look good and stay in shape as the festive period approaches. Not just the regulars, first timers too often hit the gym to be back in shape. Some may take to other forms of exercise such as cycling, running marathons or doing yoga. Basically, it is a time when there needs to be positive energy with physical activity," feels Gagan Sachdev, MD of Bodyline group of companies. "A keto diet is just right

for those who have a target to achieve. Others should consult a nutritionist and follow their advise," he adds.

During the festivals, with long hours of walking, late nights and pandal hopping, sleep patterns need to be regulated. "High intensity workouts are not the need of the hour; a brisk walk or jog of 10 to 15 minutes with five to 10 minutes of yoga or crunches can do the trick," advises Irfan Javed, director of Burnout Fitness Studio.

The exercise regime and momentum should be maintained round the year, feels Mamata Kapoor, director, GK Sportsline. "Sporting the right apparel and footwear for a particular kind of physical activity is very essential and must be adhered to," she adds.

### HAIR AND SKIN STORY

Not just the body but skin and hair too need pampering pre and post festive season. Says Dipan Pal, hair and skin expert of Mèlange. "A good hair cut is a must. Split ends must be taken care of as this gives a very dry look. Some amount of styling, like curling or straightening, can also work wonders as will soft colours."

Post-festivals, some common home remedies are much needed, he feels. "A lukewarm mixture of olive, coconut and almond oil should be used on the hair and scalp followed by a hot towel regime for 15 to 20 minutes, twice a week. Coconut oil can be used to take off any makeup followed by a face wash and moisturiser. The dull, dark

look that becomes evident after being outdoors for long hours, can be dealt with a cleaning, toning and

moisturising regime. A sunscreen with SPF 30-50 is a must before stepping out," he adds.

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