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'44% of new RS MPs have criminal charges'

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11 Have Rape, Murder Cases Against Them

New Delhi: Around 44% of the 62 Rajya Sabha members elected this year have different criminal cases registered against them, including 11 (18%) who are accused of serious crimes like murder, attempt to murder, rape, dacoity and theft and are connected to leading parties like the BJP, Congress, NCP, YSRCP and Trinamool Congress, an analysis of their self-declared poll affidavits indicate.

Of these 62 MPs, 16 (26%) have declared other criminal cases against themselves, an analysis done by National Election Watch (NEW) and Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) says.

Of the 11 MPs facing serious charges, one has declared a case of murder against him, two have declared attempt-to-murder cases, and three face cases of crimes against women. Out of these three MPs, one has declared rape charge against him. Those with criminal cases include two (11%) out of 18 BJP MPs, three

Those with criminal cases include two (11%) out of 18 BJP MPs, three (33%) of the nine Congress MPs, two (100%) of the 2 NCP MPs, two (50%) of four YSRCP MPs and one MP each from AITC, BJD, DMK, RJD and JD(U)



(33%) of the nine Congress MPs, two (100%) of the 2 Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MPs, two (50%) of four YSRCP MPs, one MP each from AITC (25%), BJD (25%), DMK (33%), RJD (50%), JDU (50%), RPI-A (100%) and Independent (100%).

Those facing criminal charges state-wise are four of the seven (57%) MPs from Maharashtra, two out of 5 (40%) MPs from Bihar, one out of six (17%) MPs from Tamil Nadu, one out of five (20%) MPs from West Bengal, two out of four (50%) from Andhra Pra-

desh and one out of four (25%) MPs from Gujarat.

The figures for other states are: One out of four (25%) MPs from Odisha, one out of three (33%) MPs from Madhya Pradesh, one out of three (33%) MPs from Assam, one out of three (33%) MPs from Rajasthan, and one out of two (50%) MPs from Jharkhand.

Out of the 62 newly elected MPs, 52 (84%) are crorepati. Alla Ayodhya Rami Reddy of the YSR Congress with assets valued at Rs 25,77,75,79,180 is the richest. Nathwani Parimal of the YSR Congress with assets valued at Rs 3,96,83,96,198 is the second richest, while Jyotiraditya Scindia of the BJP with assets valued at Rs 3,79,03,29,144 is the third richest.

Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba of the BJP has the least assets pegged at Rs 5,48,594. Ashok Gasti of the BJP with assets of Rs 19,40,048 is the second-lowest in the list, while Arpita Ghosh of the TMC with assets totalling Rs 23,89,913 is the third-lowest.

The oldest MP is JD(S) leader from Karnataka and former Prime Minister I.D. Devegowda at 87. The youngest MP is Mausam Noor, aged 40, from West Bengal. IANS