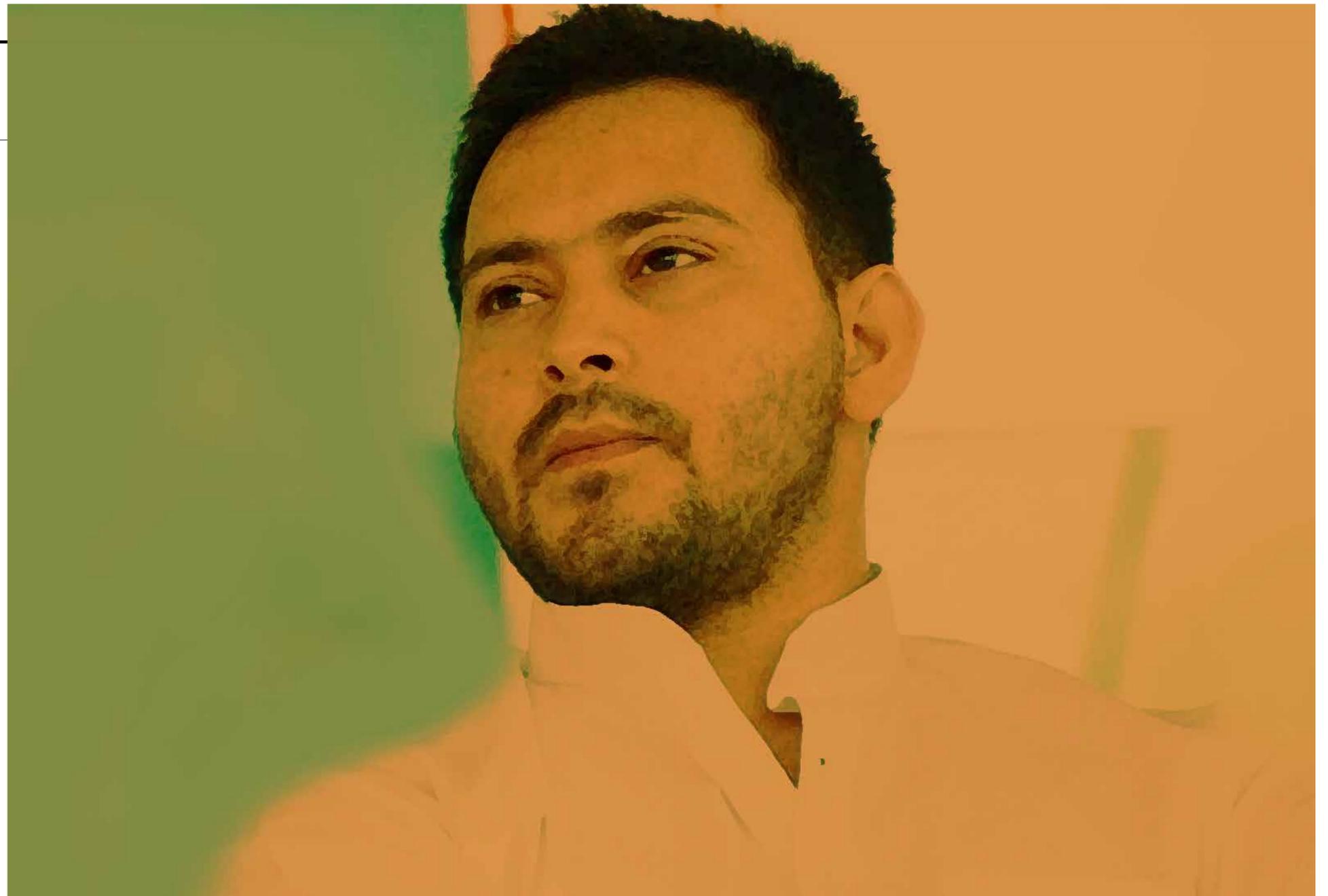


# A NATIONAL YOUTH ICON

Son of the political legend Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav and Smt. Rabri Devi, Shri Tejashwi Yadav has emerged as the new National Icon of Youth in Indian politics. He is taking concrete steps towards the development of youth as he believes only the youth is capable of transforming the Indian politics

**BY MAMTA KUMARI & ANAM KUMAR**



**T**ejashwi Prasad Yadav is the current Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar. At a very young age, he has assumed huge responsibilities on his shoulders. He is the second most important person in Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's cabinet. His political and administrative wisdom is appreciated by all as he has taken impactful initiatives since he took his oath on 20th November 2015 to serve the people of Bihar. He was elected to the Bihar Legislative Assembly from the Raghapur Constituency as a member of the Rashtriya Janata Dal.

#### **TRANSFORMING BIHAR**

Following the footsteps of his parents, Tejashwi entered politics to transform Bihar into the most developed State in India. His sharp political acumen has helped him make an impact in a very short period. He has earned a huge number of followers as he always puts others' interests before his own.

He wants to change the face of Indian politics through reforms. He brings fresh and innovative ideas through his unique style of politics, by combining an ideal and practical approach of administration. He constantly learns

from his political guru Nitish Kumar, and his every decision and action is full of wisdom and energy.

His ideas towards reformative politics inspire the youth of Bihar, and under his able guidance results would be evident very soon. He believes in participative democracy and openly advocates inclusive growth. His greatest asset is his hold on the youth, who look up to him as the one who would go to any extent to create a just social order in Bihar.

"I'll take Bihar on the path of development; and would ensure the

State becomes a model for others," asserts Tejashwi.

#### **PRIOR TO POLITICS**

Before he set his foot in the political arena, Tejashwi was an international-level cricketer. He had played as a middle-order batsman in one Ranji Trophy match. He also played two games for Jharkhand in the limited overs format. Further, he played internationally as part of the Delhi Daredevils team in four IPL League seasons: 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012.

He also played as a medium-paced

bowler, and was an all-rounder. In the words of his coach, "He was an impressive player in his age-group cricket."

"The choices we make lead up to actual experiences. It is one thing to decide to climb a mountain. It is quite another to be on top of it." Herbert A. Simon's words prove to be true in context of Mr. Tejashwi Yadav. When he decided to leave cricket for politics, there was no looking back and today he is looked upon as the future of Bihar and the next iconic political leader at the national level.

#### **LIKE FATHER LIKE SON**

His family has influenced his upbringing, and he learnt his first lesson of politics from his father. Both his parents have served Bihar in the capacity of Chief Minister. His brother Tej Pratap and sister Misa Bharti are also ministers in the Bihar government. Together, they have pledged to create a new and developed Bihar.

Lalu Prasad Yadav has been the Chief Minister of Bihar for about ten years, and has served the nation in the capacity of Minister of Railways from 2004 to 2009. He is known as one of

the smartest politicians and statesmen in India's history. Tejashwi has been trained in the art of politics first-hand by his father. His success and political stature is expected to surpass that of his father.

### **POLITICAL GROOMING**

The need of the present politics is development, and youth are the key as they understand the issues from a fresh perspective. Tejashwi has been successful in creating a lasting impact in Bihar politics because he brings a fresh angle to old political and administrative problems.

Political stalwarts like Alok Kumar Mehta, the current Cooperatives Minister in Bihar government praises Tejashwi profusely. "He has proved that age is just a number. He is much more mature than others of his age. His decision-making ability is unparalleled. He solves complex political issues so easily yet innovatively leaving everyone else awed."

He ignited the interest of the entire national media when he was sworn

in as the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar. His ideas reflect his profound understanding of politics and administration, and his capacity to manage a developing State such as Bihar.

Bihar is considered a difficult State for politics where surviving requires street smartness. Tejashwi has not only survived for about a year, in a very short time span he has managed to fortify his position amidst the veterans of Bihar politics.

He dreams of making Bihar the most progressive State in India. His efforts towards improving education in Bihar have already started yielding results.

### **AGENDA OF DEVELOPMENT**

The people of Bihar have immense confidence in Tejashwi that he would do justice to his responsibilities, and would give primary importance to the overall development of Bihar, especially to the weaker sections devoid of means of growth. Tejashwi has also vowed to expedite Bihar's development to prove that he would fulfill their expectations.

*"FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS PARENTS, TEJASHWI ENTERED POLITICS TO TRANSFORM BIHAR INTO THE MOST DEVELOPED STATE IN INDIA. HIS SHARP POLITICAL ACUMEN HAS HELPED HIM MAKE AN IMPACT IN A VERY SHORT TIME"*



He has promised to the people of Bihar that by 2020, Bihar would be counted among the developed States of India. He believes in growth with justice and is actively working towards it. Some of the initiatives he is involved with include Agricultural Roadmap, Human Resource Development Mission and Skills Development Mission. He has also ensured continuance of policies such as industrial encouragement and investment.

**7-Point Agenda for Bihar's Development:** Tejashwi is committed towards achieving good governance at a mission mode in Bihar through the 7-point agenda of the Nitish Kumar government. These seven points are strengthening youth economically, certain employment to women, tap water to every household, toilets in every household, electricity without outage in every household, drains to every household and growing opportunities towards education.

### **ROAD TO NATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Tejashwi Yadav is being recognized as not only a Youth Icon of India, but also as a Rising Star in Recent Times. He has already proved himself a dynamic youth leader at the State level, and the national leadership can't be far behind.

His recent handling of flood-affected regions of Bihar earned him an all-round praise. Under his leadership development status of Bihar has improved considerably. "Our government has started delivering results in just six months. This is just a beginning and we will work hard to fulfill our promises," he explains.

Political pundits have started predicting his national rise soon. Since beginning he had shown the traits of a leader of national stature. As Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) has already embarked on its expansion plans ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Tejashwi is very actively working towards strengthening the party's organisational structure across the country. He is also getting the youth wing of his party ready under his leadership to play an important role. As it is said – it would definitely come true for him, "Ab Dilli Door Nahi".