

## 2nd Fodder Scam Case

### Why in news?

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A special CBI court sentenced former Bihar CM Lalu Prasad to 3.5 years imprisonment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fodder scam case

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### How did the case evolve?

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- The 900-crore fodder scam cases first cropped up in 1996 and charge-sheet was filed against Mr. Lalu by CBI in 1997.

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- Trial began in 2002 in the special CBI court at Ranchi.

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- In 2013, Mr. Lalu was convicted in the 1<sup>st</sup> fodder scam case and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment along with Rs25 lakh fine.

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- Recently, the CBI court had convicted Mr. Lalu and 15 others and the current one is for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of six fodder scam cases.

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- The 2<sup>nd</sup> case pertains to embezzling of about Rs89 lakh from the Deoghar Treasury in the 1991-94 period.

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- Significantly, Mr.Lalu and 7 others were sentenced with 3.5 years imprisonment along with a fine of 5 lakhs each.

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- After the verdict, Mr. Lalu was taken into custody and taken to the Birsa Munda Prison in Ranchi.

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### What were the implications?

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- After spending 2 months in jail in the 1<sup>st</sup> conviction, Mr. Lalu was granted bail and the case is now pending before the HC.

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- However, it did cost him his Lok Sabha seat as any conviction would mean automatic disqualification.

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### **How has the political reactions been?**

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- Mr. Lalu's RJD is expected to appeal against the verdict in Higher Courts.
- The NDA allies have welcomed the judgement and have stressed that their view on Lalu has been vindicated by the courts.

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- The verdict is bound to have long term political ramifications in Bihar and beyond.

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**Source: Live Mint**

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