

# Veteran back with RSS, BJP wants 'more loyal' leader

**New Delhi:** In a significant restructuring of the partnership between the BJP and its ideological parent, the RSS, the national general secretary (organisation) Ramlal has been moved back to the Sangh as its Akhil Bharatiya Sah Sampark Pramukh.

Mr Ramlal, who was the national general secretary (organisation) of the BJP since 2005, will now be part of RSS and conduct the Sangh's ambitious outreach programme, sources said. It is understood that Ramlal's removal comes as the top BJP leadership wants someone in the position who is "more loyal" to the present dispensation. Party sources stated that another thing that went against Ramlal was that "he had a mind of his own".

The talk of Mr Ramlal being shifted out of the organisation to a newer role in the Sangh was being speculated upon for several months. Given the fact that he had looked after organisation for over a decade, the BJP top brass decided to let him continue for the Lok Sabha elections. "It was felt that change of guard at that time could upset the power equations within the party and this would impact the structure at the state level as well. The change was waiting to happen," a senior BJP leader said.

Sources stated that there are three frontrunners for the post – V. Satish, joint general secretary organisation in the party; Shivprakash, the BJP's national general secretary and an old RSS hand who was credited with being part of the team that successfully conquered the Trinamul bastion in West Bengal; and the third contender is B.L. Santosh, national joint general secretary of the BJP.

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