

PM Asks Cong To Come Clean On Its Allegations Against AAP

Reminds Party Of Its Accusations In Excise Policy Case Before Poll Alliance

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Continuing his attack on the “opportunistic alliance” among INDIA bloc parties, particularly between AAP and Congress in the Lok Sabha election, PM Narendra Modi on Wednesday dared Congress to come clean on the allegations it had made against AAP on the alleged liquor scam. He asked the party to tell people whether the allegations were true or false.

Speaking in Rajya Sabha, Modi said Congress was leading the campaign to “protect the corrupt”. He said first they used to ask why the govt didn’t take action against the corrupt and now when the corrupt were sent to jail, questions were being raised about the investigating agencies.

“AAP commits liquor scam, AAP commits corruption, AAP commits scam in building classrooms for children, AAP even commits water scam... Congress complains against AAP, Congress drags AAP to court and if action is taken then they abuse Modi,” the PM said. Opposition MPs had staged a walkout from the House by then.

Reiterating that the govt won’t spare the corrupt, Modi said, “Let me say without any hesitation that I have given full freedom to investigating agencies against corruption and



Modi slammed INDIA bloc's 'opportunistic alliance'

the corrupt. The govt will not interfere. They must work with honesty and work for the honest. No corruption will get away, that’s Modi’s guarantee.”

Charging Congress and AAP with double

standards, Modi referred to Delhi Congress leaders holding press conferences against the AAP govt and demanding CBI investigation into the alleged liquor scam.

“Congress had held a press conference against AAP and produced proof of corruption. Now can they say whether these proof were true or false? They will expose each other. They have no courage to answer such questions,” the prime minister said.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi’s demand for investigation against the Kerala CM, Modi said that in Delhi, Congress questioned the role of ED and CBI against opposition leaders but at the same time, they demand the arrest of the Kerala CM.

The PM said political parties which were formed and grew post-Emergency were giving clean chits to Congress. He cited Mulayam Singh Yadav’s statement in 2013 accusing the UPA govt of using ED and CBI against them. He also read out a statement of CPM leader Prakash Karat accusing Congress of using CBI to strike political bargains with many parties.

Modi said even the Supreme Court had called CBI a “caged parrot” during UPA govt and these were examples of who misused investigating agencies.

Renovation of CM house: Vigilance suspends two PWD engineers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK


New Delhi: Directorate of Vigilance has suspended two engineers of Delhi govt’s Public Works Department (PWD) for alleged irregularities in the construction and renovation of CM Arvind Kejriwal’s official residence at 6 Flag Staff Road in north Delhi’s Civil Lines.

It has also written to Central Public Works Department (CPWD) seeking suspension and disciplinary proceedings against five more engineers, who are now either posted outside Delhi or have since retired. Since Delhi PWD does not have its own cadre, such officials are posted and transferred by CPWD.


In a letter to the director general of CPWD, the directorate stated lieutenant governor VK Saxena had given his approval for the suspension and initiation of disciplinary proceedings for major penalty against the then chief engineer, superintending engineer and chief engineer, who were not posted in Delhi any more. LG has also approved disciplinary proceedings against the former principal chief engineer and the ex-executive engineer, both of whom have retired, the directorate said, also seeking an action-taken report in a time-bound manner in the case.

The former executive and assistant engineers, working with Delhi PWD, have been suspended by the directorate.

According to officials, the seven engineers, involved in planning and execution of the project, were served showcause notices on June 19 last year after the directorate observed they had allegedly “committed various lapses and irregularities” while constructing a new building “in guise of addition and alteration” of CM’s residence. No reaction was available from Delhi govt.



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Excise case: Court reserves order over Kejriwal’s plea

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Wednesday reserved its order on a plea moved by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal seeking his wife Sunita Kejriwal’s presence via videoconferencing during his medical checkup. Kejriwal told the court of special judge Kaveri Baweja that his plea was based on humanitarian grounds. The court will pronounce the order on July 6.

Advocate Vivek Jain, counsel for Kejriwal, stated that no prejudice would be caused to ED if his wife remained present through videoconferencing during the consultation by the doctors/medical board.

Kejriwal requested the court to direct the jail authorities to allow his wife to be his attendant during the medical checkups/follow ups/consultation with the medical board/doctors. He said that his wife’s presence was required to understand instructions of the doctors about his diet and medication.

Further, Kejriwal said, given his wife’s longstanding role and detailed knowledge of his health history, granting her access to his medical records was not only justifiable but essential as well. “Transparency in his medical care is not only a legal requirement but also a critical component of ethical medical practice,” the plea read.

Meanwhile, the court extended the judicial custody of Delhi CM in a “money laundering case” related to alleged irregularities in formulation and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22. The court extended the custody for nine days after Kejriwal appeared before the court through videoconferencing.

Kejriwal is already in judicial custody in the CBI case related to the policy till July 12. The court directed his production on July 12 for further proceedings in the matter.

The same court extended the judicial custody of former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia and Bharat Rashtra Samiti MP K Kavitha in an alleged money laundering case related to the excise policy. The court extended their custody after they were produced before the court through videoconferencing.

HC to examine CM’s bail plea in CBI case tomorrow

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Wednesday said that it would examine chief minister Arvind Kejriwal’s plea seeking regular bail in a case registered by Central Bureau of Investigation in connection with the alleged excise policy scam on July 5. The court fixed the date after his counsel mentioned the matter for urgent listing before a bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela.

Kejriwal’s counsel alleged that the applicant was taken into illegal custody without following the due procedure of law and he had therefore filed a bail plea. While the counsel insisted on fixing the plea for hearing on Thursday, the Acting Chief Justice said the bench concerned might need to go through the document and posted it for Friday.

The Aam Aadmi Party’s national convener was arrested by CBI on June 26 from Tihar Jail, where he is still lodged in judicial custody in a connected “money laundering” case filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Meanwhile, sources said Kejriwal had also challenged a trial court’s July 1 order rejecting his application for directions to the prison authorities for allowing two additional meetings every week with his lawyers through videoconferencing. He is currently allowed two meetings with his lawyers in a week.

He has already challenged his arrest in the CBI case and the plea is pending before the high court. The court had issued notice and asked CBI to file its reply while listing it for arguments on July 17.

Kejriwal, who was arrested by ED on March 21, was granted bail by the trial court in the alleged money laundering case on June 20. However, the trial court’s order was stayed by the high court.

The excise policy was scrapped in 2022 after lieutenant governor VK Saxena ordered a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities and corruption involving its formulation and execution. Both CBI and ED had alleged that irregularities were committed while modifying the excise policy and undue favours extended to the licence holders.




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