



MULAYAM HAS BEEN CONFINED TO HIS HOME, NOT ALLOWED TO GO OUT, SAYS SHIVPAL | 14

THERE WILL BE NEW PM EVERY DAY IF GRAND ALLIANCE FORMS GOVT, SAYS AMIT SHAH | 14



Pak envoy gets night summons after Qureshi dials Mirwaiz

New Delhi: Foreign secretary Vijay Gokhale summoned Pakistan high commissioner Sohail Mahmood on Wednesday night and registered a strong protest over Pakistan foreign minister S M Qureshi's phone conversation with Hurriyat leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq.

Gokhale accused Pakistan of encouraging individuals associated with terrorism and anti-India activities. "The foreign secretary conveyed the Government of India's condemnation in the strongest terms of this latest brazen attempt by Pakistan to subvert India's unity and to violate our sovereignty and territorial integrity, by none other than the Pakistan foreign minister," said the government.

Gokhale conveyed to Mahmood that this deplorable act had violated all norms for the conduct of international relations even by Pakistan's own standards. "The Pakistan foreign minister's actions are tantamount to direct interference in the internal affairs of its neighbour. Foreign Secretary underscored that by this action Pakistan has confirmed yet again that it officially abets and encourages individuals associated with terrorism and anti-India activities. It has exposed to the entire international community Pakistan's duplicity in professing their desire for normal relations with India on the one hand, while openly inciting anti-India activities on the other," it said further.

Rahul used courtesy visit for political gains: Parrikar

Never Discussed Rafale In 5-Min Talk, Says CM; Didn't Share Details Of Meet, Says Cong Chief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Goa/New Delhi: Goa CM Manohar Parrikar on Tuesday slammed Rahul Gandhi for using a courtesy visit for political purposes by making a false claim on the Rafale deal while the Congress chief defended himself, saying that his references were drawn from what was in public domain and not their meeting. Speaking in Kochi on Tuesday after having met Parrikar briefly in Goa in the morning, Rahul had claimed the Goa CM had said he had no knowledge of the "new Rafale deal" inked by PM Narendra Modi. This came after Rahul's "personal" meeting with Parrikar in the Goa assembly.

In a letter refuting the claim, and questioning Rahul's attempt to insinuate that the leaders discussed the Rafale issue, Parrikar expressed disappointment over what he called "political opportunism" and for "paying a courtesy visit and then stooping so low as to make a false statement for petty political gain." "Yesterday, i.e. on January 29, without any prior information, you called on me and inquired about my health condition. We have a healthy political tradition in India to rise above bipartisanship considerations and wish even opponents a quick recovery," Parrikar wrote. "You have said quoting me that I was nowhere in the process of procuring Rafale nor did I have any information then about it... In the five minutes you spent with me, neither did you mention anything about Rafale nor did we discuss anything about or related. Nothing whatsoever about Rafale was even mentioned in your meeting with me," the CM added.

Even as Congress defended its president and asserted Rahul never claimed that Rafale was discussed, the leader wrote back to Parrikar: "My dear Parrikarji, I am disturbed to hear about a letter which you have supposedly written to me, but instead leaked to the press before I have had a chance to read it," Rahul said. "Respectfully, my visit to



Goa chief minister Manohar Parrikar arrives at the Goa assembly to present the state budget, in Panaji on Wednesday

Will serve Goa till my last breath: CM

Sending a strong signal to opposition Congress and his detractors, Goa CM Manohar Parrikar on Wednesday presented a surplus budget in the Assembly and said he had very high 'josh' (enthusiasm) and was in full 'hosh' (sense). He also promised to the house that he would serve Goa "till my last breath". Parrikar, who has been battling pancreatic ailment since February 2018, said his circumstances prevented him from delivering a detailed budget speech as he outlined a Rs 19,548.7-crore budget for 2019-20, drawing up a Rs 455-crore surplus that would keep Goa on a path of 6.2% economic growth. Parrikar sought a vote-on-account for Rs 8,145 crore to meet the government's expenditure for the first five months of the financial year. He also chose not to introduce new schemes or tax proposals and said he would announce details of new schemes and policies in due course.

you was strictly personal and driven purely by my empathy for your situation... I haven't shared any details of my conversation with you when we met in Goa yesterday. In my two speeches since we met, I have referred to what is already in the public domain," he said, adding that while he would have normally refrained, the leaked letter forced him to clarify his position on this "unfortunate and unnecessary controversy". Rahul also emphasised his responsibility as a "democratic representative" and said he had the "absolute right to attack the corrupt PM on his blatant dishonesty in the Rafale deal". "It is a fact that in April 2015, while you were inaugurating a fish market in Goa, PM Modi announced the Rafale deal in France with the then French President, Hollande. It is also a fact that you clearly stated to the press that you had no idea about the new deal engineered by the PM. This has been widely reported in all sections of the media," the Congress chief said. With Parrikar countering him, Rahul said the CM was under pressure which "forced you to take the highly unusual step of demonstrating your loyalty to the PM and his cronies by attacking me in this uncharacteristic manner".

CAG report on Rafale finalised, may be tabled in Parliament

New Delhi: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has finalised its report on the Rafale deal to acquire 36 fighter jets in a flyaway condition from France.

According to sources, the audit report is ready for tabling in Parliament in the budget session beginning on Thursday with the CAG ready to submit it to the government within a week.

The report may not be a standalone one and is likely to be combined with several other recent defence acquisitions, sources said. The auditor's observations on Rafale are likely to be summarised into a chapter. It is also likely to look into the 50% offset contract given to private parties in India by Dassault, the French manufacturer. The federal auditor has taken more than a year-and-a-half to review the Rafale deal and has gone into its pricing, request for proposal received from competitors, and also analysed comparative pricing of other fighter jets available globally.

HINDU OUTFIT 'SHOOT AT' GANDHI ON HIS ANNIV



On a day the country observed the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Hindu Mahasabha members in Agra held celebrations by calling the day 'Shourya Diwas'. Its national secretary Puja Shakun Pandey 'shot' at an effigy of Gandhi with a toy pistol and also got the act recorded. The 1.37-minute video has gone viral and an FIR has been filed against Pandey. Gandhi's killer Nathuram Godse was an alleged member of the Mahasabha

Only god can help if you don't cooperate with ED: SC to Karti

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New Delhi: Former finance minister P Chidambaram's son Karti faced the ire of the Supreme Court on Wednesday with the court holding that he was not cooperating with Enforcement Directorate's probe into Aircel-Maxis and INX Media cases, and sternly warning that he will face the rigour of the law if he did not help the investigation.

A bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Sanjiv Khanna permitted Karti to go abroad but asked him to appear before the ED on March 5, 6, 7 and 12 for questioning. "If there is an iota of non-cooperation from you in the investigations, we will come down heavily on you," the bench warned, directing him to deposit Rs 10 crore as security for his return to India. This is the first time the SC has imposed so many conditions on Karti while allowing him to go abroad. Earlier, he has been able to get permission quite easily on the many occasions he has been abroad.

The CJJ disagreed when Karti's counsel K V Vishwanath said his client was scrupulously cooperating with the investigations. "You are not cooperating. If you don't cooperate, don't appear before the ED and if you play around with the law, only god can help you."

SC told Karti to file an undertaking in 3 days giving his flight details and deposit Rs 10 crore before the SC secretary general as a guarantee



The bench told him to file an undertaking in three days giving his flight details and deposit Rs 10 crore before the SC secretary general and said the money would be returned after he came back. "Karti Chidambaram shall not open or close any bank account overseas. He shall not enter into any kind of property transactions abroad," the bench added. "If the undertaking is not filed within three days, Karti shall not be allowed to go abroad," the bench said.

The ED told the court, "Karti in the garb of liberty to travel abroad, granted by the SC in INX Media case, is blatantly and brazenly hampering, subverting... the investigation, which SC had directed the ED to complete in a time-bound manner".

Hema slams BJP leader for 'chocolate face' jibe at Priyanka

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Mathura: Maintaining that there was no place for sexist remarks in politics, actor-turned-politician Hema Malini denounced the 'chocolate face' remarks made by BJP's MP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya against Priyanka Gandhi. Talking exclusively to TOI, the Mathura MP said that "many beautiful women have entered politics but that did not give anyone the right to comment on their physical appearance".

Recently targeted by Congress for her dance performances, she said the remarks against her and the statement made by Vijayvargiya, calling Priyanka a "chocolate face", were uncalled for. Talking about herself, she said, "It's unfortunate that my opponents still can't understand that besides being a politician, I'm an accomplished artist and actor. If I'm invited for a dance performance, it's not because I'm a politician but because I'm an artist".

When asked whether film stars or pretty faces make an impact on voters, she said: "People aren't fools. They may gather to see an actor but don't vote for the face".

Prove I profited from paintings & I'll quit: Didi

Someshwar Boral @TNN

Suri: West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee has dared BJP president Amit Shah to either prove that she had profited "even a single paise" from the sale of her paintings or quit politics.

"If he [Shah] can prove what he claimed, I will quit politics or else he should quit," Banerjee said on Wednesday at a rally in Suri town of Birbhum district.

This was in reaction to Shah's allegation on Tuesday that Banerjee's paintings were bought by ponzi firm owners for crores of rupees. "How much do you think a painting can fetch? Thousands or lakhs may be. But Mamataji's paintings were sold for crores. All such paintings were bought by chit-fund-walas," Shah had claimed.

"We have already filed a defamation case," the CM added, referring to state minister Chandrima Bhattacharya sending Shah a defamation notice within hours of his painting-sale jibe.

India, China review situation in border areas

New Delhi: India and China held the 13th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China border affairs here on Tuesday. Both sides reviewed the situation in the border areas with a view to ensure peace and tranquillity, said the government in a statement, in accordance with the strategic guidance given by PM Modi and President Xi during the Wuhan Summit.

CBI court charges Marans in phone exchange case

Chennai: A special CBI court on Wednesday framed charges against former communications minister Dayanidhi Maran, his brother Kalanithi Maran and five others in the alleged illegal telephone exchange case. The charges were framed under Sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 409 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating), and the Prevention of Corruption Act. The judge then posted the case to February 19, when the trial would begin with the examination of the witnesses.

Advertisement for Lok Swasthya Abhigyanta Vibhag, Bihar, Patna. It mentions a draft merit list and provides contact details for Ashok Kumar, Joint Secretary.

Advertisement for Government of Odisha, Office of the Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, Rural Works, Bhubaneswar. It includes details for building works for 2018-19.

Advertisement for Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), a statutory body under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. It lists various posts and their consolidated remuneration.

Advertisement for the National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi, Court IV, regarding appeal No. 784/252/ND/2018. It details the matter between an Income Tax Officer and an appellant.

Advertisement for Govt. of Odisha, Office of the Superintending Engineer, North Eastern Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar. It provides procurement details for road work.

Advertisement for Office of the Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur. It details a national competitive bidding process for bridge works.