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Reg. Chidambalam bail appeals

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## Sibal casts doubts on ED's motive

Chidambaram appeals against bail order

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, through his lawyer and senior advocate Kapil Sibal, argued in the Supreme Court on Wednesday that the actual idea behind his incarceration in the INX Media case is "to keep him in custody as long as possible."

"Why did they not question me all this time in judicial custody? Now they are claiming they want to question him, knowing the case is in this court," Mr. Sibal argued before a three-judge Bench led by Justice R. Banumathi.

Mr. Chidambaram has appealed against a Delhi High Court decision denying him regular bail in the ED's charge of money laundering slapped against him in the INX Media case. Senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, also speaking for Mr. Chidambaram, pointed out that the latter has been in jail for 99 days.

Mr. Sibal contended that

## Priyanka, Rahul meet Chidambaram in Tihar

Former Congress president
Rahul Gandhi and party
general secretary Priyanka
Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday
met Congress leader P.
Chidambaram, who is in judicial
custody in Tihar jail in
connection with alleged
corruption cases for over three
months. Karti Chidambaram,
who was also present, said the
visit had made it clear that the
Congress party was with him.

the ED has not been able to find even "one undisclosed property or asset" against his client. "All they claim is Karti [Mr. Chidambaram's son and named an accused in the INX Media casel is an owner of the shell company, Advantage Strategic Consulting. Mr. Chidambaram is his father. So he crafted the entire scheme... But there is no proof of crime committed by the petitioner," Mr. Sibal argued. The ED is expected to argue against bail on November 28.