

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
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# Chidambaram arrested amid high drama



CBI officials arrest Congress leader P Chidambaram from his Jor Bagh residence in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

**CBI team scales wall  
of his house; former  
FM surfaces at Cong  
headquarters**

**SHEMIN JOY  
NEW DELHI, DHNS**

**F**ormer finance minister P Chidambaram was arrested by the CBI in the INX Media case on Wednesday night, soon after his dramatic appearance at Congress headquarters following the Supreme Court's refusal to grant him immediate relief.

The arrest came after almost 30 hours of high drama after the Delhi High Court rejected his anticipatory bail plea on Tuesday evening and the Supreme Court listed Chidambaram's appeal for hear-

The 73-year-old Rajya Sabha MP was taken to CBI headquarters from his Jor Bagh residence at around 9.45 pm, almost 90 minutes after his appearance at the Congress office and amid protests by a group of Congress workers, some of whom threw themselves on top of the car in which he was being driven.

Chidambaram is now likely to wait for the Supreme Court order before taking any legal steps. He will be presented before a court here where the CBI is expected to seek his custodial interrogation.

Though Chidambaram expected the CBI to wait till the Supreme Court heard his plea, the agency wasted no time. With the Supreme Court not giving him immediate relief, Chidambaram felt that it was better to make a political statement before the arrest.

He had the full backing of his party, led by Rahul Gandhi, Dravida Gandhi and others.

## In pursuit of PC

### AUGUST 20

- 3.20 pm: Delhi HC dismisses Chidambaram's anticipatory bail plea
- 4.05 Chidambaram's lawyers move SC against the HC order, case listed before bench headed by Justice N V Ramana

### AUGUST 21

- 10.30 am SC bench declines to pass any order, asks Chidambaram's lawyers to place matter before CJI Ranjan Gogoi
- 2 pm Lawyers move Justice Ramana's court again, court declines to pass orders without hearing.
- 3.30 pm Chidambaram lawyers move to CJI's court, which is hearing the Ayodhya case
- 3.55 pm Bench headed by CJI rises without taking note of Chidambaram's lawyers
- 4 pm SC registrar lists Chidambaram's case for hearing on Friday
- 8.15 pm Chidambaram makes dramatic entry at AICC headquarters, claims innocence
- 8.45 pm Chidambaram reaches his Jor Bagh residence
- 3.50 pm: CBI reaches his residence
- 3.55 pm

## Chidambaram arrested

CHIDAMBARAM,  
FROM PAGE 1

They came out in support with a battery of senior leaders, including Ghulam Nabi Azad, Mallikarjun Kharge, Ahmed Patel, KC Venugopal, Kapil Sibal, Salman Khurshid, Abhishek Singhvi and Vivek Tankha flanking him when he met the media.

seen in public for almost 27 hours after he left the Supreme Court on Tuesday evening only to surface at the Congress headquarters at around 8.15 pm to read out a statement to emphasise that he was not in hiding but was consulting his lawyers and monitoring proceedings in Supreme Court.

"I was aghast that I was accused of hiding from the law, on the contrary, I was seeking protection of law," Chidambaram read out from the statement but did not take questions. "I will respect the law, even if it is applied with an uneven hand by the probc agencies," he said, indicating that he was not going to evade arrest. The CBI has been attempting to arrest him since Tuesday after the Delhi High

Court order, which said Chidambaram was "pulling the kingpin" and offences should be dealt with an "iron hand".

However, the lawyers could not reach him as he surfaced at the Congress headquarters on Akshat. As soon as Chidambaram reached there, CBI officers went to his office but by then, he had prompted them to his residence where they tried to scale the wall to enter the premises.

His arrest comes 18 days after his son Karti was apprehended by the CBI in connection with the case in which Chidambaram was facing allegations of granting permission to INX Media to receive Rs 3 crore in foreign direct investment when he was Finance Minister under UPA government.

Karti is accused of using his father's clout to grant the clearance to INX Media. Chidambaram had also been accused of using his clout to help his son's business. Peter Mukerjee and Mukerjee that he asked them to help his son's business when they approached him.