

# Rahul, TMC's Sircar target govt over Cyprus Confidential revelations

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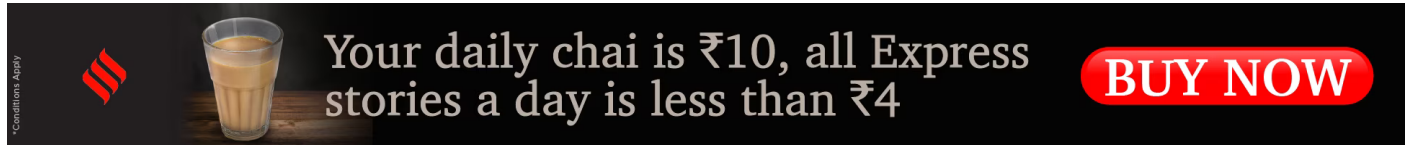
THE OPPOSITION Wednesday targeted the government over the [Cyprus Confidential](#) revelations on Indian businessmen and NRIs acquiring citizenship of Cyprus, a destination for floating offshore companies, and keeping a safe distance from Indian law enforcement agencies.

On Wednesday, [The Indian Express](#), as part of a global investigation in collaboration with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) and other media partners, reported that Gautam Adani's elder brother Vinod Adani, industrialist Pankaj Oswal and real estate baron Surendra Hiranandani were among 66 Indians who took the Golden Passport route to Cyprus under a scheme that was called the Cyprus Investment Programme – it was scrapped in 2020.

In a post in Hindi on X, Congress leader [Rahul Gandhi](#) said: "Why did the brothers of the 'Param Mitr' leave India in Amrit Kaal? 'Golden Passport' means a golden opportunity to steal – loot public money, float shell companies and spend abroad."

TMC MP Jawhar Sircar, in a post, said: “Endless scams by black-money racketeers, many Indians. How many Indians named in Offshore Leaks (2013), HSBC [Swiss Leaks](#) (2015), [Panama Papers](#) (2016), [Paradise Papers](#) (2017), [Pandora Papers](#) (2021) prosecuted in last 9 years? Now add [Cyprus Confidential](#).”

Responding to Rahul Gandhi's remarks, [BJP](#) IT Cell in-charge Amit Malviya said it was under the UPA that the India-Cyprus tax treaty was signed, creating a haven for tax evaders.



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“You practically rolled out the red carpet for investors to bypass Capital Gains tax, with Cyprus not imposing such taxes either. Add to that the low withholding tax rate, and you have got yourself a perfect recipe for creating a tax haven, luring businesses and individuals to funnel money into Cyprus,” he said in a post on X.

“The so-called ‘Golden Passport’ that you accuse us of promoting? It’s a relic of your governance, a symbol of the opaque, underhand dealings you endorsed. ...Those who have left are your ‘Param Mitras’. ...Your legacy of promoting tax havens and opaque financial practices is what drove them out.”

He said that when the NDA came to power, it took immediate and decisive action.