

Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi Demands PM Modi Probe ₹70 Crore Assam Apex Bank Scandal



Comments 0



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Respected Prime Minister,

Date: 28th Marc

Subject: Inquiry into Assam Apex Bank Irregularities and Press Suppression-r

I write to bring to your attention a matter of grave concern involving the State Co-operative Apex Bank and the unjustified arrest of senior journalist Shri Hussain Mozumder. The unfolding developments raise serious questions about the functioning of the bank, the misuse of legal provisions, and the suppression of freedom in Assam.

On March 25, 2025, Shri Diluwar Hussain Mozumder, a journalist with The Cross Current, was covering a protest outside the Assam State Co-operative Bank, a financial institution where the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam is Director and BJP MLA Shri Biswajit Phukan is the Chairman. When seeking to meet the bank's Managing Director, Shri Dombu Saikia, the journalist was invited to the premises. However, what followed was deeply alarming—he was subsequently arrested by the Pan Bazar Police Station without justification.

The grounds of his arrest initially included false accusations of cash abuse, which were debunked when the Magistrate found no evidence. Despite being granted bail, he was re-arrested the next day under exaggerated charges of robbery and trespassing into the bank premises to steal confidential documents. These actions strongly indicate an attempt to suppress journalist reporting on alleged irregularities.

Media reports suggest that the bank has been operating without a formal IT vendor since June 2024, raising serious security and operational concerns. The cost of banking infrastructure has allegedly surged from ₹28 crores in 2018 to ₹68 crores in 2025, with ₹14 crores allegedly funnelled to KPMG under a



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Congress MP and Lok Sabha Deputy Opposition Leader Gaurav Gogoi has written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, demanding an investigation into alleged financial irregularities worth approximately ₹70 crore at the Assam Cooperative Apex Bank. According to Gogoi, the scandal involves an outsider businessman, Rajesh Bajaj, who is accused of misappropriating around ₹20 crore, along with an additional ₹50 crore irregularities under the guise of a tender for a data storage system. Gogoi has urged the Prime Minister to order an independent probe into the matter.

In a post on his official X handle, Gogoi stated, “I have written a letter to Hon’ble PM Shri Narendra Modi ji regarding the need to investigate financial irregularities at Apex Bank, as the state government is busy arresting people and intimidating Assamese media.” The letter also mentions the arrest of journalist Dilawar Hussain Mazumdar, which Gogoi cites as an example of misuse of power by the Assam Police. He alleges that Mazumdar was arrested on March 25 while protesting against the Apex Bank scandal, highlighting an attempt to suppress press freedom.

The letter details that Mazumdar, a journalist with Cross Current, was gathering news about a protest outside the bank and had approached bank director Dombaru Shaikia for comments. However, Panbazar Police Station arrested him without any justification. Although he was later released on bail, he was rearrested on charges of robbery and unauthorized entry into the bank. Gogoi claims this is a deliberate effort to stifle media independence.

Gogoi further alleges that the bank’s director, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, and chairman, BJP MLA Biswajit Phukan, are overseeing this scandal. He claims that since June 2024, the bank has been working with an IT businessman without a formal contract, and the cost of banking infrastructure has risen from ₹28 crore in 2018 to ₹50 crore in 2025. Additionally, suspicions have been raised over ₹14 crore allegedly transferred to KPMG under questionable circumstances.

Meanwhile, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, while campaigning for the Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council elections in Boko on Friday, criticized the opposition, stating that the NDA government has freed itself from the burdens of corruption, chaos, and criminal patronage. He claimed that Assam has set new benchmarks for development under NDA rule.

Gogoi has called on the Prime Minister for an immediate financial audit of the scandal, an investigation into managerial misconduct, and intervention to protect the fundamental rights of journalists and citizens.

I have written a letter to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji about the need for an inquiry into the financial irregularities at Assam Cooperative Apex Bank because the state government is busy arresting and intimidating the Assamese media. [@PMOIndia pic.twitter.com/Cw91TiGENY](https://twitter.com/Cw91TiGENY)

— Gaurav Gogoi (@GauravGogoiAsm) [March 30, 2025](#)

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