

India's scandal-embroiled government

India's ruling Congress Party has been rocked by a series of scandals exposing bribery and favouritism. Even Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's anti-corruption watchdog chief faces charges of wrongdoing



▲ **Manmohan Singh:** Has pledged to root out corruption

■ **Cash-for-votes:** Leaked secret U.S. government cable alleges that Congress Party earmarked some **\$20 million** to bribe opposition MPs in confidence vote over support for nuclear deal between India and U.S.

■ **Anti-corruption chief:** Vigilance commissioner **P.J. Thomas** forced out of office over corruption charges in palm oil imports scam

■ 2010 Commonwealth Games:

Allegations of financial malpractice include manipulations of tenders to build stadia, games infrastructure, and inflating bills. Cost to country: **\$22 million.**

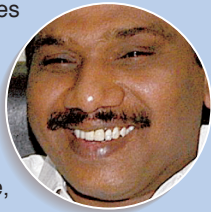
Congress Party head of organizing committee, **Suresh Kalmadi** (above), charged with criminal conspiracy



■ Telecoms scandal:

Allegations that phone licences were sold at below-market prices, costing country up to **\$39 billion** in lost revenue.

Minister in charge, **Andimuthu Raja**, has denied any wrongdoing



■ **War widow scam:** Homes meant for disabled veterans and war widows allegedly replaced by luxury apartment building. Valued at **\$1.8 million** each, 100-plus apartments sold to politicians, bureaucrats and military chiefs for as little as **\$130,000.** Loss to tax payer: **\$167 million**

■ **Loans-for-bribes:** Top officials of Indian public sector banks and financial institutions have been accused of taking bribes to facilitate large corporate loans

◀ **Anna Hazare:** *Protests swell across India in support of self-styled Gandhian anti-corruption crusader, "fasting to death" in jail*

