

Money power not to influence voters: NGO

BY HERALD REPORTER

PANJIM, JAN 20 - Sounding an alarm bell for the 40 MLAs at the coming hustings, Goynche Niz Mogi (GNM) asserted that 'money power' and 'muscle power' would fail to intimidate Goan voters this time as was evident from the de-notification of the Regional Plan 2011 where people's power worked.

Speaking at a press conference in the city, GNM President James Fernandes reiterated that every administrative sphere was mired in corruption. If Goa is to be saved then the 40 legislators manning the assembly should be defeated at all costs, he stressed.

Fernandes categorically held MLAs from Saligao, Navelim, Panjim, Poriem.

Taleigao, Madkai, Aldona, Ponda and Curotrim responsible for the major destruction caused around Goa. These nine have challenged us by stating "does GNM have the money to defeat us."

He went on to express that these and the other 31 MLAs think they that they can buy Goans and win elections all the time.

At the coming hustings people are going to teach these 40 a lesson for they've been taken for a ride. I am sure all these will be humiliated making them forfeit their deposits, he added.

Vice President, Jacinto Barreto, retired Additional Collector, also addressed the press on the corruption he encountered during his working tenure.

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OFF THE CUFF

James Bond 007!!

As the government, compelled by people's wrath, decided to de-notify the Regional Plan 2011, builders particularly from North India, are angry, obviously as they feel let down. But more worried are some of our politicians who directly or through their relatives acted as brokers in land deals. Heard their modus operandi was simple: that they bought land - forest areas, hills, etc for a paltry price and as soon as the Regional Plan 2011 was notified in August, they sold the same land as Settlement to top builders while some were middlemen in the deals. Some Goan builders who in connivance with land owners had got their plots changed from Green to Red, are also in trouble. But the politicians and/or their children or in-laws fear a backlash from the top builders as their settlement zone for which they had bought land, would be reverted to what it was earlier - Green. And if the Plan is de-notified with retrospective effect (from 10th August 2006), then the worse will follow. Heard some in the corridors of power saying you should not be surprised if Goa witnesses some actions from James Bond (2)007!!! Action thrillers!!