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Former MP sentenced to 2 years' jail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Former Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) parliamentarian from Gujarat Devji Fatepara on Saturday was sentenced to two years in jail and fined ₹2.97 crore in a cheque bounce case.

Fatepara had issued a cheque of ₹1,48,50,000 to one Prabhatsinh Thakor as a part of a land deal. However, the cheque was dishonoured on the ground of lack of sufficient balance in his account.

Principal Senior Civil Judge D.S. Thakur at Kalol in Gandhinagar district also, ordered that the former Surendranagar MP would have to undergo an additional jail term of three months if he failed to pay \$2.97 crore as penalty plus the principal amount and interest thereof to complainant Prabhatsinh Thakor.

Mr. Thakor approached the court after Fatepar's cheque of ₹1,48,50,000 bounced and the latter failed to reply to a notice sent through his lawyer.

As per the details, Fatepara had written the cheque to return money he had taken from Mr. Thakor in connection with a 2018 land deal that failed. Subsequently, he refused to return the money, prompting the complainant to approach the court.