ಪುಟ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: [illegible]

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POLICE NOT INTERESTED IN TRACING WOMAN: ACTIVIST

MANJU SHETTAR @ Bengaluru

ACTIVIST Dinesh Kallahalli on Friday appeared before Cubbon Park police to give a clarification on the tape involving BJP leader Ramesh Jarkiholi. Police issued a notice to Kallahalli to appear before an investigation officer on Wednesday.

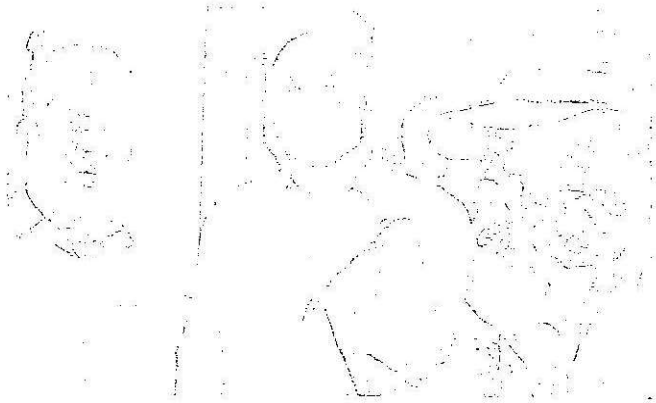
A senior police officer from Cubbon Park police station said Kallahalli has given some clarifications over the CD, after he filed a petition before approaching the city police commissioner.

The investigating officer sought more details on receiving the video footage and source. Since the woman involved did not come forward to file a case against the minister, the police questioned him on his intention to file a petition on behalf of the woman's family.

However, police examined CCTV footage of Kallahalli meeting the woman's family member to receive the video, and holding a 12-minute conversation with the man.

Kallahalli told *The New Indian Express*, "Police are giving some technical reasons to file an FIR. They are intentionally delaying it, instead of taking up a suo motu case based on a video said to have been uploaded on a website before I approached them. It is not difficult to trace the woman but police are not interested in probing the case."

Reacting to former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy's allegations that the CD was old and the blackmailers had demanded ₹5 crore, he said Kumaraswamy was diverting public attention, and he should have revealed this to the media earlier.



Activist Dinesh Kallahalli coming out of the Cubbon Park Police Station, in Bengaluru on Friday | ASHISHKRISHNA H P

Jarkiholi supporter jumps on burning tyre

Belagavi: Protests over the resignation of former minister Ramesh Jarkiholi continued for the third day, with a 55-year-old supporter allegedly attempting to end his life by jumping on to a burning tyre in Gokak. However, alert police personnel pulled the man out of the flames and rushed him to Gokak Taluk Hospital, where his condition is stated to be out of danger. The man suffered burns on the right side of his body. Ganapati Rajput, a resident of Gokak, said he knows Jarkiholi since his childhood. "He has suffered injustice and the CD is nothing but a conspiracy by some leaders to tarnish his image. I was upset, and decided to commit suicide," he said. Speaking to a section of media from the hospital bed, Ganapati cursed that person who he alleged had conspired against Jarkiholi by releasing a fake CD. ENS

HDK wants govt to crack down on blackmailers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

FORMER Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy on Friday demanded that the government arrest those claiming to have CDs on leaders and blackmailing them. He alleged that there are a few vested interests who are blackmailing others, and the government should release such CDs into the public domain.

Referring to claims of a CD involving a former chief minister, he said the state has many chief ministers, including H D Deve Gowda and S M Krishna. Clarifying that he is not afraid as he nothing to hide, Gowda said he wanted to put an end to blackmail tactics.

Kumaraswamy hinted that a Rs 5-crore deal was struck on the CD involving former minister Ramesh Jarkiholi. "Some big people are involved in this case and it is the responsibility of the government to order a probe. I am not happy over this episode. I believe the purpose behind the CD was to get Ramesh Jarkiholi to resign and they were successful in their mission," he said. Such politics would further dent the image of those in public life, he said.

Asked about Congress MLA Tanveer Sait being targeted for allying with the JDS in the Mysuru City Corporation mayoral polls, he said his party would extend protection if Sait is orphaned politically.

Asked about the 'One Indian, One Election' debate, he said the government should stop holding polls based on money power, and wanted electoral reforms to set right any lapses. It is time for all political parties to introspect, he said, accusing the Congress of [illegible] U-turn.