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'CD scandal': State govt. sets up SIT

Terms of reference restricted to unearthing those involved in the making of CD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government late on Wednesday announced a Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the alleged scandal involving the former Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi.

Soumendu Mukherjee, Additional Commissioner, Bengaluru City Police, will head the team.

The team's terms of reference will be restricted to unearthing who was involved in the making of the widely circulated CD that purportedly showed Mr. Jarkiholi's intimate moments with a woman and their motives. It will, however, not go into the allegation that the woman in the video was promised a job in



Soumendu Mukherjee

return for sexual favours.

Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai made the announcement on the probe after attending a meeting chaired by Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and senior police officers.

Mr. Jarkiholi had written to Mr. Bommai on Tuesday seeking a probe into the scandal. "He stated that the CD case was a conspiracy aimed at character assassination,

HC notice to govts.

The Karnataka High Court has ordered issue of notices to the Centre and the State government and 70 media platforms on a petition filed by a lawyer and BJP member, seeking a direction to the authorities to take steps to safeguard the right to privacy of individuals. PAGE 6

causing political damage and for defaming him," Mr. Bom-

Earlier Mr. Jarkiholi, who said he had hired private detectives to probe the people

behind the alleged scandal to implicate him, had said that "four leaders" were involved in the "conspiracy." Mr. Jarkiholi had demanded a probe either by the CBI or the CID.

The former Minister had to step down from his post as Large and Medium Irrigation Minister after allegations were levelled against him that he had sought sexual favours from a woman after promising her a job. However, the complainant in the case, Dinesh Kallahalli, withdrew the complaint days after filing it. Meanwhile, the Cubbon Park police are continuing their effort to track down the woman in the video clips and will hand over the details of the probe to the SIT.