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SOMASHEKAR BLAMES CONG FOR CD GATE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

COOPERATION Minister ST Somashekar on Wednesday blamed the opposition Congress party for the CD gate, which has singled former Water Resources minister Ramesh Jarkiholi.

Somashekar, who was with Congress before joining BJP, stopped short of naming any leader for the release of the sleazy CD, which shows Ramesh in a compromising position. He said, "Karnataka knows the morality of Congress."

He said, "We had credible information about four months ago that there was a conspiracy against us." Ramesh too had made a similar statement during his first appearance after the CD gate on Tuesday.

Hitting back at Somashekar, KPCC president DK Shivakumar said, "I know ST Somashekar. He served in responsible positions in our party for 20 years. I request him to reveal what are the other similar instances that our party was involved in. Not only him, but all

those who have gone with him too can also give proof of any such wrongdoing by Congress as alleged by them."

He said, "I don't know whether Somashekar has made this statement on his own, or made to make this statement."

Shivakumar said, "BJP legislators Vishwanath and Basanagouda Patil Yatnal have revealed that someone within the saffron party is resorting to blackmail by possessing a similar CD. Will the CM

order a suo motu investigation into this?"

Shivakumar said, "In the CD, Ramesh Jarkiholi has spoken lowly of Kannadigas. Why are Kannada outfits silent?"

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DK Shivakumar, KPCC president



Cooperation Minister ST Somashekar (right) addresses the media in Bengaluru on Wednesday | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

Satish met kin of woman seen in CD at Nidagundi

MAHESH M GOUDAR
@ Bagalkot/Vijayapura

BESIDES a full-fledged investigation by the police and other investigating agencies to trace the people involved in the CD gate scandal, the family of former Water Resources Department Ramesh Jarkiholi has launched its own investigation into the case.

Even before the sleaze CD turned viral on social media a few days ago, Ramesh's brother and KPCC working president Satish Jarkiholi flew from Gokak in his helicopter to Nidagundi village, near Bagalkot where the family of the woman seen in the sleaze CD was believed to be residing.

A top police source said, "Satish came to Kudalasangama-

ma in his private chopper on March 5. He first visited a quarry owned by his family members near Hunagundi and Khushtagi villages, and then visited the relatives and family of the woman allegedly seen in the CD on the same day at Nidagundi village."

A couple of days after Satish's visit, a police intelligence team also visited Nidagundi, but by then the family had vacated the house. None from the woman's family was present in the village for an inquiry, the source added.

No one in the Congress party in Bagalkot or surrounding areas were aware of Satish's visit to Nidagundi, even as he flew 162 km from Gokak to Kudalasangama, near Bagalkot.

