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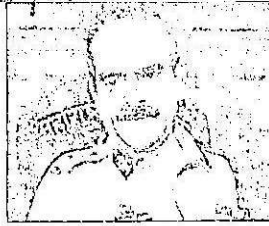
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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE 21/3/21

'Maha minister wanted Rs 100 cr a month'

MUMBAI, DHNS: Former Mumbai police chief Param Bir Singh on Saturday alleged that Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh had given a "collection" target of Rs 100 crore per month to suspended assistant police inspector Sachin Vaze. Deshmukh described the charges as "baseless" and said he will file a defamation suit against the officer.

Singh, who was removed from the top post earlier this week, made the allegations in a letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, with a copy to Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar. According to the letter, Singh



Param Bir Singh

has already briefed Thackeray, Pawar and NCP supremo Sharad Pawar about Deshmukh's "misdeeds and malpractices".

"The home minister told Vaze there are about 1,750 bars, restaurants and other establishments in Mumbai. If Rs 2-3 lakh was collected from each of them, a monthly amount of Rs 40-50 crore

was achievable. He said the rest could be made from other sources," Singh claimed.

Deshmukh said Singh was trying to save himself. "The involvement of Vaze is clear in the Antilia-Scorpio planting case and murder of Mansukh Hiran. The strings would have possibly reached Param Bir Singh," Deshmukh said, referring to the recent security scare at the residence of industrialist Mukesh Ambani and the subsequent death of a Thane-based businessman who owned the SUV.

Both the cases have been taken over by the MIA, which arrested Sachin Vaze on March 13.

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Anil Deshmukh to file a defamation suit

Pushed to the wall, Home Minister Anil Deshmukh described the charges of Param Bir Singh as "baseless" and decided to file a defamation suit against the police officer, reports DHNS.

"Why was Param Bir Singh quiet for so many days even after the arrest of Sachin Vaze... he is making such baseless allegations to save himself," he said, adding that the former Mumbai Police chief is trying to blackmail

the government.

Deshmukh pointed out that everyone in the police department knows that Sachin Vaze and Sanjay Patil are very close to Singh.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's office confirmed that it has received a communication from Param Bir Singh, but added that the letter was unsigned and has not come from the official e-mail ID of the officer.