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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Times of India ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE 27/1/21

Sub-registrar: Ashoka's secy asked for money from me

Udaya Kumar and
Kiran Parashar | TNN
27/1/21
Chikkamagaluru/Bengaluru: A sub-registrar from Chikkamagaluru district has filed a complaint against Karnataka revenue minister R Ashoka's personal secretary for allegedly demanding bribe on Sunday. HS Chaluvvaraju, 46, has said

in the complaint that personal secretary Gangadhar met him during the minister's visit to Sringeri.

"When I met him, he asked me to pay him money," Chaluvvaraju has alleged. Gangadhar, an employee in Vid-



HS Chaluvvaraju and Gangadhar



hana Soudha secretariat's office and deputed as personal secretary for Ashoka, has since been transferred, sources said.

Sringeri Town police registered a non-cognizable complaint on Monday and said they

will seek the government's permission to register an FIR. Chikkamagaluru SP Hakay Akshay Machindra confirmed receiving the complaint. Chaluvvaraju said he received a WhatsApp message from an unlisted number on Jan 20 about Ashoka's travel to Sringeri.

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'Took me to room, sought money'

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On January 24, I received a call from a person who identified himself as Gangadhar working as PS to the minister. He asked me to meet the minister at Adichunchanagiri Convention Hall at Sringeri after 6pm. When I reached there, Gangadhar arrived around 7pm. I met him in a room attached to the convention hall where he asked me to give him money," he stated.

Chaluvvaraju said: "On January 24, the caller asked me, 'Bartheera?' (are you coming?) Then he said, 'Tartheera?' (will you bring?) I asked him what should I bring? He said that 'we will speak' about it later. On Sunday, when the minister was attending an event in the convention hall, Gangadhar took me to a room and sought money. I said I don't have the habit of taking/giving money. On Monday, he asked for money on phone. I asked him whether his conscience permits him to demand bribe. I filed a complaint and wrote to the minister against Gangadhar."

Chaluvvaraju, from Hunsur in Mysuru, said he has not taken or given bribe in his career as a government officer for 21 years. He was promoted as a sub-registrar in 2005. KPCC president DK Shivakumar said a sub-registrar has, finally, come forward to file a complaint while many others suffer in silence. "There are so many cases like this in the state," he said.

BJP national general secretary CT Ravi said the personal secretary was allegedly collecting money, which the minister was unaware of.