

Sex tape existed for past four months; Investigators checking if Shivakumar was part of the conspiracy

Did DKS 'weaponise' sleaze CD that was floating around?

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DID KPCC president D K Shivakumar merely weaponise the sleaze CD and use the sex tape, which was already floating around, for political gains? Investigators, who are looking into the controversy, are trying to find out whether the CD was in existence for the last four months.

It is said that even former minister Ramesh Jarkiholi, who is allegedly the man appearing in the video, knew that the CD existed four months ago. Investigators are now checking if certain members of the gang had contacted Jarkiholi to extort him.

If many people, including Ramesh, knew about the CD, the big question is whether Shivakumar only used the explosive material, which was already available, for political ends.

The suspicion that the criminal gang might have employed a similar modus operandi to target other politicians and prominent personalities too is being probed.

Sources said that Shivakumar may not have been part of the gang, which appears to be a professional, criminal setup. But he may have used it to target his arch-rival Jarkiholi,

they added. Congress sources said that as a member of the opposition, it was Shivakumar's duty to bring to light the misdeeds of a member of the government.

Shivakumar on Tuesday alleged that the State Government "is actively supporting former Jarkiholi".

He said, "I have nothing to say on this. It is the former minister who is involved and the government is supporting him. I don't know why the government is protecting him." The woman's family has been blaming Shivakumar for the scandal and accusing him of playing dirty politics at the expense of their daughter.

Asked whether there was any pressure on the woman's parents to name him, he said, "Let them do whatever they want for their convenience. The investigation will happen, I don't want to speak much."

Did not get letter from SIT: DKS

Kalaburagi: KPCC president DK Shivakumar said in Kalaburagi that he had not received any letter from the SIT asking him to appear before it. "Why should they ask me to appear before them, when I am not connected with the case?" he said. However, if the SIT summons him, he would appear before it and cooperate with the agency. **ENS**

'Jarkiholi to join bypoll campaign'

Belagavi: Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Tuesday said that his government was handling the CD case with full responsibility to bring it to a logical end. Stating that CD-gate would not impact the bypolls, the CM said that Ramesh Jarkiholi would join the election campaign in Belagavi. Speaking to the media in Belagavi, Yediyurappa said the home minister was handling the case effectively. He said the investigation was going in the right direction. Denying that he was silent on the issue, the CM said he was getting regular updates and that his government was handling it effectively. **ENS**



Police deployed at Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, in Bengaluru, where the woman involved in the CD case was expected to give her statement on Tuesday | SHRIRAM BN

Medical test on woman after investigation

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SOON after court proceedings, the special investigation team (SIT) appealed to the court for voice samples and to question her in connection with the case under Section 161 of CrPC (examination of witnesses). High Security, provided to her around the court, was supervised by senior police officers.

The woman's lawyer, KN Jagadish Kumar, said, "SIT has not taken her into custody and she only recorded her statement. There is no question of taking her into police custody,

while Ramesh Jarkiholi, who has been charged with rape, is out free. I demand that the SIT arrest Jarkiholi as she has recorded her statement before the court and the government has to prove that SIT is probing the case without any prejudice."

A senior police officer said the woman was questioned by the investigating officer at the SIT's Technical Cell in Adugodi. The woman told the officers that no one had kidnapped her and that she was at a place in isolation "as I have a life threat from Jarkiholi, who is an influential person. Even my family is being

controlled by Jarkiholi."

She will be taken for medical tests once the investigation is over. SIT officials in their submission to the court said there were three cases related to the woman, filed at Cubbon Park, Sadashivnagar and RT Nagar police stations, which need to get her statements as part of the investigation. Senior police officials, including SIT chief Soumendu Mukharjee and Joint Commissioner of Police Sandeep Patil, oversaw the security at the court premises, where over 200 police personnel were deployed.



The woman involved in the CD row arrives at the SIT office to record her statement in Bengaluru on Tuesday

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