

Julio F Rebeiro



JULIO REBEIRO ACCUSES 4 TOP COPS OF CORRUPTION

RAVikiran DESHMUKH AND DEEPTIMAN TIWARY

A secret letter levelling serious allegations of corruption against some senior officers in the city police has sent the department into a tizzy. Written by former Mumbai police commissioner Julio F Rebeiro to Home Minister R R Patil, the letter questions the appointment of Crime Branch chief Joint Commissioner of Police Himanshu Roy, Additional CP (North Region) Ramrao Pawar, DCP (Zone 12) Ajit Patil and DCP (Zone 11) Sanjay Banerjee, to sensitive posts.

Mentioning the names of Pawar, Patil and Banerjee, the letter, sent to the Home Ministry on April 15, alleges these officers have a reputation for greed and corruption, Home Ministry sources say. According to the sources, the letter says that juniors of these officers find it difficult to function under them and are disturbed by the demands they make. The letter goes on to allege that Himanshu Roy's professional misconduct has even been discussed in the Assembly.

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Rebeiro accuses four top cops of corruption

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The letter asks the Home Department if there are no good officers left in Maharashtra. How long will politicians keep interfering with the appointments of police officers and even inspectors, it asks.

The home minister confirmed that he had received the letter from Rebeiro. "But I haven't perused through all the allegations carefully as yet," Patil said.

Rebeiro, who runs Public Concern and Government Trust, an anti-corruption NGO, told *Mumbai Mirror*, "I do not want to give away all the details of my letter. But I think it is my duty to keep things on record when I see them turning from bad to

worse. I do not go on hearsay. I investigate and check with a lot of people before coming to a conclusion.

"When I heard about this particular deputy commissioner of police, whose name is mentioned in the letter, I asked CP D Sivanandhan how he had appointed him to a sensitive post. Sivanandhan said that appointments were done not by him but by the Home Ministry. You can't hold the CP responsible for police failure if you appoint the wrong people. Then the government must take responsibility. The delivery system of police has to be good. It is not a demand but our right."

WHO ARE THE OFFICERS, WHAT THEY SAY

■ **Himanshu Roy:** A 1988-batch IPS officer who served as Nashik CP until recently. He moved to Mumbai last year and rose through the ranks fast. He was first appointed as Additional CP, South Region. Within months he was promoted as Joint CP, Law and Order, and then went on to become the Crime Branch chief. **His Defence:** I am not aware of the contents of the letter. It will not be appropriate for me to comment on this till I am intimated officially about it.



■ **Ramrao Pawar:** A 1994 batch IPS officer, Pawar headed Zone 2 in South Mumbai until he was promoted two years ago as additional CP. **His Defence:** Unless I am told of the specific allegations against me I cannot say anything.



■ **Ajit Patil:** A 1998 batch IPS officer, Patil has served in the state in various capacities and has also had postings in the special branch in Mumbai. He came back to the city two years ago as DCP, Zone 11, and was later transferred to Zone 12. He is known to have strong political connections in the state. **His Defence:** Don't write the story. I can't comment right now.



■ **Sanjay Banerjee:** A Maharashtra Police Service (MPS) officer, Banerjee was earlier posted in Thane and was transferred last year to Mumbai as DCP, Zone 12. **His Defence:** No comments.

