

Anna to shut blog after row erupts

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NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

Team Anna on Saturday found itself mired in a fresh controversy, as the Gandhian's blogger decided to go public with a blog which was kept under wraps to blunt his claim that he had not spoken to him about reorganising his anti-graft core team. Following this, Mr Hazare, while admitting that he had thought of changing his team many times, announced that he would shut down his blog.

Mr Hazare's blogger Raju Parulekar, a journalist, while making public "the undisclosed blog" also claimed that the Gandhian wanted to remove "undemocratic and fascist" Arvind Kejriwal, Kiran Bedi, Prashant Bhushan and "their pawns" from his core group.

The fall-out between Mr Hazare and Mr Parulekar came as the former claimed

that he never ever spoke to the journalist or met him on the issue of re-structuring of the core committee and forming a new pan-Indian organisation with immediate effect.

Mr Parulekar posted his version as well as an unpublished blog by Hazare in Marathi along with its English translation in the Gandhian's blog Saturday morning, claiming that he had not uploaded an order dictated by Mr Hazare after October 30 following a core committee meeting asking to hold the core team.

"I am thinking on the lines of restructuring the core committee. I am hereby informing all the members of Team Anna," Mr Hazare said in the unpublished blog. Mr Parulekar said, "I am saying again and again Annaji was fed up with the core team and especially these four members (though he won't say this in public as he is

decent enough) wanted to re-structure core team and build pan-Indian organisation." Mr Parulekar said that Mr Hazare "spontaneously" wrote the blog on restructuring the team on October 23 afternoon "when he made up his mind to get away from Mr Kejriwal, Ms Bedi and Mr Bhushan and their pawns in the core committee". "Sureshbhau Pathare (Hazare's close aide) was present there. He tried to stop Annaji but Annaji was unstoppable. Then Sureshbhau requested me not to upload Annaji's this particular blog on his blog at least immediately."

Mr Hazare said, "I used to feel that allegations which people made against Ms Bedi and Mr Bhushan were true. That was why I was thinking, should I make some changes in the team... But now I have understood that crores of rupees have been spent to tarnish our image."