



भारतीय जनता पार्टी
Bharatiya Janata Party

26 October 2022

**The Chief Election Commissioner & Commissioners,
Election Commission of India,
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashok Road,
New Delhi-110001.**

**Sub: -Bye-election to 46-Dhamnagar Assembly Constituency, Odisha, 2022 -
Violation of Model Code of Conduct (MCC) by ruling Biju Janata Dal**

Sir,

We wish to bring to your notice several instances of crass violation of Electoral laws and Model Code of Conduct by the state government as well as the Biju Janata Dal, the ruling party:

The MCC applies from the moment the press note is issued by the Commission and no transfers can take place without the express consent of the Election Commission of India. Chief Electoral Officer of the state, the very officer who is responsible for the enforcement of the MCC in the state, in his other capacity as the Secretary to the Government of Odisha, Department of Panchayati Raj transferred two BDOs out of the district where the bye election is being held. This is in clear violation of the Model Code of Conduct, a violation committed by an officer of ECI.

This has raised serious doubts in minds of the electorate regarding the conduct of free and fair poll. We seriously apprehend that such a gross violation of the Model Code of Conduct by the ruling party will adversely impact the conduct of free and fair elections in the Dhamnagar Assembly constituency of Bhadrak district.

The representation in this regard was made to the Commission and CEO on the 11th October 2022 and firm action in the matter is still awaited.

Further, a lady called Razia Bibi working as Community Resource Person (CRP) as well as Swachha Sathi in Dhamnagar NAC (Ward No.6) was seen openly distributing money for the BJD amongst women of SHG Groups in Ward No.4, Bania Sahi, Dhamnagar NAC. This video has been viral in local media and social media. Copies of the video are in the enclosed pen drive.



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In a blatant bid to bribe the voters and in the presence of Biju Janta Dal Minister Priti Ranjan Ghadei, local Zilla Parishad Vice-Chairperson, Candidate Abanti Das, Shri Jayant Bhoi and other BJD leaders, promises of award of Rs. One crore to the Panchayats voting in favour of BJD candidate were made. This is yet another instance of blatant violation of MCC and applicable electoral laws.

The aforesaid instances are corrupt practices within the meaning of section-123 of the Representation of Peoples Act, 1951 and punishable under sec-171E & 171F of the Indian Penal Code.

It is highly unfortunate that both the instances of violations of MCC and corrupt practices were promptly brought to the notice of the CEO, Odisha by our Party, with documentary evidence but no action has been taken so far by the CEO which emboldens the ruling BJD to violate the election code.

We, therefore, request the Commission to;

1. Reverse the transfer orders of the two BDOs transferred out of the district after the release of the Press note announcing these bye elections.
2. Take punitive and all other actions against those attempting to bribe the voters and those who actually were bribing the voters by distributing cash on behalf of the B.J.D. candidate and his party.

Therefore, we request you to take serious cognizance of this matter and direct strong action against the culprits, so that free and fair election can be held in Dhamnagar AC.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,


Dharmendra Pradhan


Sambit Patra


Om Pathak

Sanjay Majukh