



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग सचिवालय
SECRETARIATE OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

निर्वाचन सदन, अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

तार: निर्वाचन
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GRAM: LECOM
NEW DELHI

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No. 437/GJ-LA/2012

Dated:19October, 2012

In re: Violation of model code of conduct by Shri Dilip Sanghani, Agriculture Minister, Govt of Gujarat

ORDER

Whereas, the Commission announced on 03rd October, 2012, the election schedule for general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. and the announcement of such election schedule, the Model Code of Conduct became effective from 3rd October, 2012 in the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh; and

Whereas, on 07th October, 2012, the Commission received through Chief Electoral officer, Gujarat a complaint (in Gujarati) of Sh. Nathalal V. Sukhadia Post Devalia Taluka & District Amreli and an enquiry report of Collector -cum-DEO Amreli and R.O.95 Amreli AC, along with video CD of a function alleging that Sh. Dilip Sanghani , Agriculture Minister, Govt of Gujarat had violated the Model Code of Conduct by laying foundation stone for road works in Batarvadi Area of Amreli Municipality on 4.10.2012; and

Whereas, the Commission obtained a CD and transcription of speeches made in the said foundation stone-laying function where Shri. Dilip Sanghani, Minister Agriculture, Govt of Gujarat, participated after announcement of election and after seeing them, was prima facie satisfied that Shri Dilip Sanghani had violated the provisions of sub-para (vi) (b) of Para VII of Model Code of Conduct for the Guidance of political parties and candidates; and


Whereas, the Commission, therefore, served Shri. Dilip Sanghani with a notice on 09th October,2012, to explain by 15th October,2012, as to why action should not be taken against him for violating the aforesaid provisions of the Model Code of Conduct; and

Whereas, Shri Dilip Sanghani filed his reply on 12th October, 2012, wherein, he denied having laid the aforesaid foundation stone on 04th October,2012, or having participated in any such foundation stone laying function, and stated that he only attended a public function organized by the B J P in which no government officer participated, nor any government expenditure incurred, and thus he had not violated the Model Code of Conduct provisions and the complaint made against him was frivolous and made with a malafide intention; and

Whereas, the Commission, after carefully considering his reply, and witnessing the CD of the said function and perusing the transcripts of the speeches made by Shri. Dilip Sanghani and others at the said function, is of the considered view that he duly participated in foundation stone laying ceremony(Khat Mahurat) of road works in Batarvadi area of Amreli Municipality on 4-10-2012, and thereby violated the Model Code of Conduct;

Now, therefore, the Commission hereby reprimands Shri. Dilip Sanghani, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Gujarat for the aforesaid violation of the Model Code of Conduct and cautions him to be careful in future.

By order,



(HARBANS SINGH)
SECRETARY

Shri Dilip Sanghani,
Agricultural Minister
Government of Gujarat,
Gandhinagar.