



अमित मालवीय

24

27.03.2018

To,

The Election Commission of India,
New Delhi.

Subject : Information relating to Karnataka election dates scheduled to be held in May 2018

Dear Sir,

It was brought to my attention that my tweet on the likely dates of Karnataka election put out in the morning of 27th March 2018 posted at 11.08 am has raised certain apprehensions. I wish to clarify that the source of my information was based on a newsbreak put out by Times Now, a leading national TV channel at 11.06 am. Attached with this letter are the screen prints of the television channel along with the time stamps when they broadcast this news, which as you can see was done at 11.06 am, two minutes before I used the same information in my tweet.

I'm also attaching a similar tweet by the Social Media In-charge of Congress in Karnataka who, it seems, also used the same source to post the same information exactly when I did. As is evident now, the final dates announced by the EC were different from what Times Now had reported, that was the sole source of the information in my tweet.

I wish to reiterate that I firmly believe in the exclusive constitutional domain of the Election Commission to conduct free and fair elections in the country, and also in the confidentiality and secrecy mandated upon it in process of doing so. It is my kind submission that my tweet was in no way intended to infringe upon the constitutional mandate of the Election Commission. I hope your good self will take this submission in good faith.

Amit Malviya

Regards,
Amit Malviya,
National In-Charge, Information and Technology,
Bharatiya Janata Party

28th March 2018

To,

Shri Standhope Yuhlung
Principal Secretary
Election Commission of India
New Delhi

Apropos letter ref no: 193/6/2/2018. TIMES NOW news channel accessed the details from informed sources. Given that the information wasn't entirely accurate it is obvious it wasn't a leak.

Yours Sincerely,



Rahul Shivshankar
Editor-In-Chief
TIMES NOW

Suvarna News

No.36, Crescent Road, Bangalore - 560001, Karnataka, India
Tel +91 8030556300



Dated : 28th March 2018

No : 193/6/2/2018 (KT)

To,

Standhope Yuhlung
Principal Secretary
Election Commission of India
Phone: 011-23052241
Email: ystandhope@eci.gov.in

Subject: Reply for your letter (No : 193/6/2/2018) dated 27th March 2018 on alleged leak of election schedule

Respected Sir,

We have received your above mentioned letter and we would like to clarify certain things:

Suvarna News is the most reputed Kannada news channel having a glorious history of ten years of credible Journalism. We are the channel who have never crossed the lines of professional ethics in the news race.

Being a highly respected regional channel we have the presense of our news sources in nook and corner of Karnataka. But, as far as National news are concerned we largley rely on national news channel. Case goes same with related to schedule of Karnataka state assembly elections.

The News you are referring about was first broken by the national news channel Times now. After few minutes we took the same news at this point we would like to bring to your notice that one more Kannada news channel BTV was first to put this news. Then Suvarna News and followed by Public Tv aired the news almost simultaneously.

Absence of vast network in National Capital makes us follow the reputed national news. So was the case in election schedule. We do not have any source whatsoever inside election commission of India who could leak us the information's before the press meet.

The clarification given by us can be cross checked with timings of news break of Times Now, Suvarna News and other Kannada channels.

Yours faithfully

For Asianet News Network Pvt Ltd.,

(Ajit S.Hanamakkanavar)

Head - News & Programme



To,

28.03.2018

The Election Commission of India,

New Delhi

Subject: Source Of Information pertaining to schedule of General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Karnataka, 2018 before its official announcement – regarding

Dear Sir,

This is in response to letter No. 193/6/2/2018(KT) that I received from your secretariat regarding a request to intimate the source of information about my Tweet posted at 11.08 AM on 27th March, 2018 regarding the Karnataka Election Dates.

I hereby clarify that the source of my information was a newsbreak that I saw on TimesNow TV Channel at 11.06 AM, which I then used to post my tweet. It's my submission that my tweet wasn't intended to infringe upon the constitutional mandate of the EC to conduct free and fair elections.

I am attaching screen prints of the television channel as well as my tweet.

Regards,

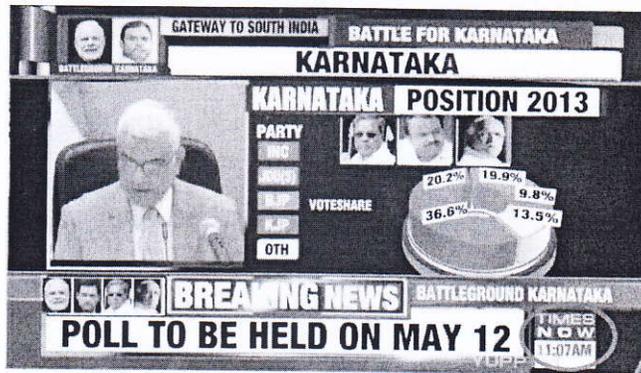
Srivatsa. Y.B

Karnataka State In-charge, Social Media,

India National Congress

Annexure

1. Screenshots of TimesNow channel newsbreak at 11.06 AM



2. Screenshot of my tweet at 11.08 AM



Srivatsa
@srivatsayb

Karnataka Elections on 12th May.
Results on 18th May.

#INC4Karnataka ↓

11:08 AM · 27 Mar 18

39 Retweets 45 Likes

