

SECRETARIAT OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

F.No.437/MP-LA/2013

Dated:-27th November, 2013

In re: - Violation of Model Code of Conduct by Shri Vishwas Sarang, MLA from 151, Narela Assembly Constituency, Madhya Pradesh.

ORDER

Whereas, the Commission announced on 4th October, 2013, the election schedule for general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Chhattisgarh and Mizoram vide its Press Note No. ECI/PN/43/2013, dated 4th October, 2013 and on the announcement of such election schedule, the Model Code of Conduct became effective from 4th October, 2013, in the above said States; and

Whereas, it was brought to the notice of the Commission that during a function at Jain Mandir in Shankracharya Nagar, Bhopal on 27th October, 2013 in the course of your address, you gave Rupees one Lakh to the Temple authorities; and

Whereas, sub para (4) of para (1) of the Model Code of Conduct states that "All parties shall avoid scrupulously all activities which are 'corrupt practices' and offences under the election law such as, bribing of voters....."; and

Whereas, a notice of the Election Commission of India dated 12th November, 2013 was issued to you asking you to explain by 15th November, 2013 as to why action should not be taken against you for violating the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct; and

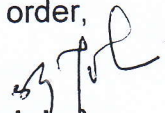
Whereas, vide your reply dated the 14th November, 2013, you have denied the charges mentioned in abovesaid notice; and

Whereas, the Commission has carefully considered your reply and also viewed the video clippings of your speech; and is not convinced that you were just passing through the temple and went inside the temple, as a person making a chance visit would not carry a packet of Rs. One lakh in his pocket, particularly when the Commission's instructions lay down, that any amount exceeding Rs. Fifty thousand found on the person of a political functionary is liable to be seized; and

Whereas, the Commission is thus satisfied that you have violated the provisions of sub para (4) of para 1 of the Model Code of Conduct;

Now, therefore, the Commission hereby reprimands you for violating the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and cautions you to be careful in future.

By order,


(Bernard John)
Secretary

Shri Vishwas Sarang, MLA
151, Narela Assembly Constituency.