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# PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Candidate Indian National Congress

9th May, 2019

The Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, U.T Chandigarh.

Subject: Notice regarding understatement of election expenditure register – Reply thereto

Ref: Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/71 dated 7.5.2019

Dear Sir,

In response to the referred notice received by me from you on the basis of observations/objections raised by the Expenditure Monitoring Team I have to submit the following:

- 1. On 26.04.2019 when I came to file my nomination papers, there were a large number of enthusiastic supporters who came on their own in their private cars in my support. In my communication, I had only sought support while announcing the time of my filing the nomination papers at your office. I am now surprised to find that a "Notional Expenditure" of about Rupees Four lakhs has been added in the shadow observation register. Attributing an expenditure of Rupees 1500 per four wheeler for 250 vehicles and Rupees 500 each for 40 two wheelers is wholly unjustified. None of them was asked by me to accompany me to your office. As such, addition of any such expenditure to my account is wholly unjustified as no expenditure was incurred by me on this account. It is pertinent to say that not a single vehicle was hired by me or anyone on my behalf. In any case, not more than the cost of three liters of petrol per vehicle could have been consumed by anyone who came there.
- 2. The expenditure attributed to tents used at meetings is unrealistically high. During this lean marriage and festival season, tent stores slash down their rates substantially and also given my long association with them, they are even willing to provide the services wholly gratis. However, I have entered into an agreement with Awal Tent Service for a total lump sum payment of Rupees Three lakhs for providing tentage, light, generator (including tables, chairs, etc.) services for daily small meetings during the entire election period. Given the reality, it is beyond comprehension, why higher rates should be imposed on me when what I actually pay is much less. The same holds good for singers, artists, orchestra and sound for which I have an agreement for Rupees 1,70,000/- with M/s Raj Gill Sound Service. It is pertinent to mention here that commercial sound system is not used at most of the meeting and lights are used only for the night meeting of the day. As regards the artistes, it is only on some occasions that professionals are deployed and they too are not those who charge heavy amounts. Majorly these are party workers of the concerned area who themselves enact and carry out some music and singing/drama activities, on their own. Furthermore, I have an agreement with M/s Innovation Media for providing campaign vehicles (including fuel, drivers, branding, LED etc.) at a lump sum of Rupees 60,000/-.



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- 3. For items like water, tea, samosas, I pay at lower rates than those shown in the shadow observation register. When I actually pay lesser price to vendors and they still make a profit, I should not be supposed to have paid higher amounts just because the rates normally charged from the govt. agencies by the vendors are high.
- 4. It is also stated here that I do not incur any expenditure on refreshments (including water) served at the venue of my meetings. These all are done by the local persons at their own expense. I only go to attend any meeting or welcome event as a normal democratic activity and cannot be expected to boycott one if any snack is served there.
- 5. As regards, Flower garlands and bouquets, it is stated that I do not present any such things to anyone and if anyone is presenting to me or anyone else during the meetings, these cannot be added to my election expenditure as, even otherwise, these items do not amount to promotion of my candidature in the elections. Similarly, no sweets are distributed by me or on my behalf.
- 6. Expenditure on Mufflers and Flags has been shown each time for each meeting in the shadow expenditure register. The expenditure on mufflers and flags is done once only and is already shown by me in my expense register accordingly as notional expenditure, having been received from the AICC. Further, the mufflers and flags are not consumables and are re-used repeatedly and, therefore, adding such expenses each time, in different quantities, is totally unwarranted.
- 7. Charges for Car with Flag @ Rs. 1500/- is also without any basis, as I have not authorized any vehicles to carry the Flags. Only the two campaign vehicles for which due permission has been taken and my personal vehicle for which I am showing the actual fuel expenses incurred, carry the Party Flag.
- 8. Even if, for the sake of arguments, the items shown in the shadow expenditure register are taken as it is, there are several contradictions and duplication in charging for the items. I am giving below only some of the examples:
- a) For a single meeting, charges of Rs. 4,000/- have been shown for the Sound System and then surprisingly, separately for speaker, mike, electric wire etc. Speaker, mike, wire etc. are an intrinsic part of any sound system and there can be no separate/additional charges for the
- b) Under S. No. 2 of Events 2 Speakers and 1 mike for Rs. 900/- in one row and in another row again 2 speakers for Rs. 300/- and 4 Mike for Rs. 2400/- are shown. This is a clear DUPLICATION of the relevant items.
- c) Under S. No. 4, under the heading Chairs with Cover, per unit rate is shown as Rs. 50/-, whereas at other places the same item rate is shown as Rs. 15/-.
- d) Charges have also been shown for Photographer at the rate of Rs. 2500/- for each meeting. Firstly, I have a personal arrangement for a photographer for my personal records. It is not part of the election campaign. Even otherwise, the rates are highly exhorbitant as no photographer charges so much amount even for a full day.



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- e) Charges for Shamiyaana have been shown for each meeting. Charges for poles (which are used for erecting shamiyaana) are shown additionally. This is another example of duplication and wrongful charges. In any case, it is reiterated that I am paying only as per the contract, referred to above.
- f) Charges towards Waiters, Ice Block, Gates are also without any basis as no such expenditure has been incurred by me or on my behalf. No gates have been erected anywhere.
- g) Under various serial nos., charges have been shown for samosas/pakodas and also for gas cylinder and cook for the same meeting. This is also DUPLICATION. Furthermore, full charges of Rs. 2800/- for two gas cylinders has been charged for a single meeting, when the fact is that even one full gas cylinder cannot be exhausted in any one single meeting.
- h) It is strange that the quantities of Samosas and Pakodas are in high numbers and always in round figures such as 250, 500 etc. Have these been counted? It is impracticable to do so.

Adding up such notional expenditure by the Expenditure Monitoring Team, is wholly without basis and divorced from reality. Kindly look into the matter and order the withdrawal of expenditure worked out by the Expenditure Monitoring Team. Also they may please be refrained from adding expenditures just for the sake of inflating my election expenditure and scuttling my campaign.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

# PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL andidate Indian National Congress

H.No. 64, Sector 28A, CHANDIGARH.

> 1315)19 1145

13th May, 2019

The Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, U.T Chandigarh.

Subject:

Notice regarding understatement of election expenditure register - Reply thereto

Ref:

Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/97 dated 11.05.2019

Dear Sir,

In response to the referred notice received by me from you on the basis of observations/objections raised by the Expenditure Monitoring Team I have to submit the following:

- 1. The main difference, like the earlier reply, is on account of difference in basis of calculating expenses on Public meetings. Whereas we are booking expenditure as per our agreements, from your side, it is item rate basis and that too highly exorbitant and repetitive.
- 2. The other main difference is of FM expenses. Whereas the shadow register shows the expense before 7<sup>th</sup> May, we booked it on 9<sup>th</sup> May, the date on which we started this campaign. The amount is, however, the same.
- 3. Other differences again are for vehicles, allegedly with flags, refreshments rates and charging again and again for flags, mufflers, badges etc., which we have received from AICC, N. Delhi, and we have already shown this as notional expenditure. Flags, in particular, are reused for different functions.

I, hereby, request you to kindly get the shadow register rectified so that actual expenses are only reflected.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

## PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Candidate Indian National Congress

H.No. 64, Sector 28A, CHANDIGARH.

18th May, 2019

The Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, U.T Chandigarh.

Subject: Notice regarding understatement of election expenditure register – Reply thereto

Ref: Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/111 dated 17.05.2019

Dear Sir,

In response to the referred notice received by me from you on the basis of observations/objections raised by the Expenditure Monitoring Team I have to submit the following:

- 1. The main difference, like the earlier reply, is on account of difference in basis of calculating expenses on Public meetings. Whereas I am booking expenditure as per our agreements, from your side, it is item rate basis and that too highly exorbitant and repetitive.
- 2. The other main difference is of Mr. Rahul Gandhi Rally. Whereas, in the shadow register my half share is booked as 251687/-, I have spent 160000/- as my half share and booked accordingly.
- 3. An amount of Rs.122973/- has been shown in the shadow register as expenditure on Social Media facebook, wheras no such expenditure stands incurred by me.
- 4. Other differences again are for vehicles, allegedly with flags, refreshments rates and charging again and again for flags, mufflers, badges etc., which I have received from AICC, N. Delhi, and have already shown this as notional expenditure. Flags, in particular, are reused for different functions.

Please note that I am booking expenses actually being incurred and am not OMITTING or SUPPRESSING any expenditure.

I, hereby, request you to kindly get the shadow register rectified so that actual expenses are only reflected.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

# PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Candidate Indian National Congress

H.No.64, Sector 28A, Chandigarh

May 27, 2019

To,

The Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, U.T Chandigarh.

Subject:

Decision of DEMC regarding election expenditure.

Ref:

- I. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/71 dated 07.05.2019 (Notice).
- II. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/97 dated 11.05.2019 (Notice).
- III. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/103 dated 14.05.2019 (Decision).
- IV. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/107 dated 16.05.2019 (Decision).
- V. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/111 dated 17.05.2019 (Notice).
- VI. Memo No. DEO/EMC/Lok Sabha Elec-2019/123 dated 20.05.2019 (Decision).

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your notices referred to above, alleging understatement of expenditure by me in Election Expenditure Register; my replies dated 09.05.2019, 13.05.2019, 18.05.2019 and the decisions of DEMC thereon. In this connection I have to state as under:-

- That it has been unfairly and casually alleged by the DEMC that actual expenditure incurred by me has been suppressed in the Election Expenditure Register. My replies have been rejected casually without a judicious application of mind to the points raised by me.
- That in my reply dated 19.05.2019, I had stated that my supporters and sympathizers had come on their own to your office at the time of my filing of Nomination Papers on

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26.04.2019 and that I had not hired or authorized use of any car or other motor vehicle. This has been casually ignored. Attached herewith as Annexure-A is the screenshot of my Facebook post dated 25.04.2019 that I would file my Nomination Paper on 26.04.2019 at your office. I had not invited people to accompany me on cars from Congress Bhawan to your office. A large number of workers ran all the way up to your office. Further, it is beyond comprehension how Rs.1500 per car have been attributed towards "expenditure" for 250 private cars, particularly when the distance travelled was not more than five kms. This would, have at the most, incurred an expenditure of Rs. 60 per car on petrol.

- 3. That a candidate at an election is accountable for the expenditure incurred by him, his Election Agent or any person authorized by him to undertake any particular expenditure. The "notional expenditures" in the Shadow Expenditure Register have been shown at abnormally high rates and my replies rejected repeatedly on the ground that the rates had been fixed in the presence of the representatives of political parties. It is pertinent to state here that no meeting of the candidates was held in this regard and the rates presumed by the DEMC are not the market rates which goods and services are easily available but the rates of which the Government Departments often pay for provision of similar service or goods. Annexures 'B' and 'C' are screen shots of my facebook posts requesting organizers to keep meetings most frugal.
- 4. That the above averment holds good for all items including tents, sound system, chairs, simple snacks like pakoras and water. In case of sound system, the service has been charged twice, second time sub-dividing it into heads like mikes, speakers, leads (wires) while in case of pakoras etc. separate expenditure has been presumed for pakoras as also for gas cylinder etc. used for preparing the same.

 That the approach of DEMC led to unnecessary distraction during the campaign. Also, it proved to be counter-productive as more official time, energy and money have been expended on an undemocratic exercise.

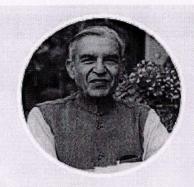
In view of the above, this is to request that the notices cited above be withdrawn and the expenditure shown by me in the Election Expenditure Register be accepted.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(Pawan Kumar Bansal)





# Pawan Kumar Bansal ⊘

@PawanKumarBansal

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Posts

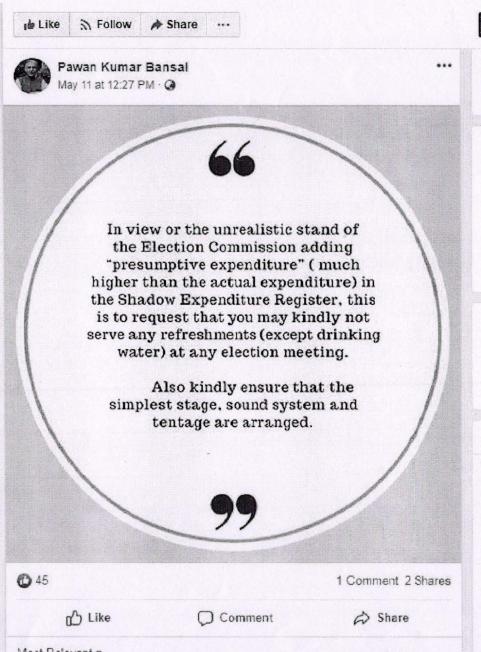
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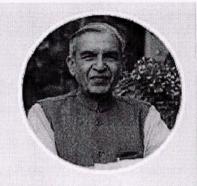
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In view or the unrealistic stand of the **Election Commission adding presumptive** or "Notional Expenditure" in their Shadow Expenditure Register, this is to request that the following points may kindly be followed for holding public meetings

- No Shamiana or matting
- Only 6 ordinary chairs behind 3 ordinary tables
  - No Sofas
- No refreshment. Only drinking water
- No sound system or generator
- Not more than 200 (two hundred) uncovered chairs

This is very important to ensure that the expenditure presumed by Election Commission remains within the prescribed limit.

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