



Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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L. No. FGG/ECI/REP/ 151 /2021

Hyderabad
16th December, 2021

To
The Chief Election Commissioner
Election Commission of India
Nirvachan Sadan
New Delhi

Sir,

Sub : Telangana State – By-elections to Huzurabad
Assembly constituency held on 30th October 2021 –
Large scale distribution of money – Not booking the
cases – Reg.

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During the recently held by-elections to Huzurabad
Assembly constituency in Telangana, large scale money was
distributed to voters. Votes were purchased at the rate of Rs. 6
thousand per vote. Persons who did not get or got less amounts
resorted to Dharnas and Rasta-Roko is a sad reflection of how the
elections are conducted. Contesting elections in Telangana is
becoming a costly affair. A trend has set in that votes are for
sale. Without exception voters are expecting money from all the
contesting candidates.

Analysis made by Forum for Good Governance from the data
obtained from the concerned Police authorities with regard to the
cases booked for distribution of money to the voters reveal how
the election machinery functioned and discharged their duties
during elections.

1. Total number of (money seized) cases reported - 94.
2. Amount involved Rs. 380 lakhs
3. Out of 94 reported cases only in 5 cases F.I.R. issued and
in the rest of 89 reports no case was registered and money
released to person from whom it is seized.

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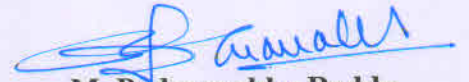
4. Out of 5 cases registered, 2 cases are booked under gaming Act, leaving only 3 cases booked under Sec. 171 – E (bribing the voters).

Day in and day out money was distributed and votes were purchased by all political parties. A rough estimate put it anything up to Rs. 300 crores were distributed for purchase of votes by all political parties. The inaction of official on election duty in the field to control the money distribution has put the election process in bad light.

In the final analysis the cases booked for bribing the votes are merely 3 and amount involved is only about Rs.18 lakhs. Further no case for distribution of money was registered against contesting candidates. The statement of C.E.O. Telangana that an amount of Rs. 3.5 crores was seized during elections is far from the truth.

Forum for Good Governance requests the Election Commission of India to issue clear guidelines in the cases of money seized during elections. The money seized should be deposited in the Court, F.I.R. issued making contesting candidates also one of the accused. At present there is no uniform procedure in dealing with the cases of money distribution to the voters in the elections.

Yours Sincerely



M. Padmanabha Reddy

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance

Copy to

Chief Electoral Officer, Telangana State