## <u>16 May, 2023</u>

## PRESS NOTE

In an urgent communication to "The Election President" Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Regd), Jammu we has raised the issue Non Transparent / Bias Polling Team / Bogus Voting/ Rigged Election on April 23 and sought answers to our genuine queries . The letter to the Election President reads as under:

13<sup>TH</sup> May,2023

TROUGH SPEED POST

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SH. SHIV PARTAP GUPTA

ELECTION PRESIDENT

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Regd),

Jammu.

Sub: Non Transparent / Bias Polling Team / Bogus Voting/ Rigged Election on April 23

Sir,

May we the esteemed members of CCI Jammu most humbly ask for clarification on the below:

- That, why no meeting of the contesting candidates was convened to discuss and disclose the List of Polling Agents / Polling arrangements before the elections were conducted.
- ➤ That , under what provision in the CCI's Constitution your good self allowed a meeting of the Executive Committee 3 days prior to the election date inside the Chamber House.
- That, on the day of elections which was duly video graphed & photographed we were all shocked to see that majority of people present in the polling hall on polling duty were either Kith & Kin of your good self / of the contesting President Sh. Arun Gupta / of retiring Secretary General Sh. Gaurav Gupta or those who had campaigned openly and were supporters of one of the Contestants for the post of President. The members on polling duty also included your close friends from your group of morning walkers.
- > That , under what provision in the CCI's constitution were the members of the



Presidium namely Sh. Romesh Chander Gupta, Sh. YV Sharma, Sh. Prithvi Raj Gupta, Sh. Ravinder Sawhney, Sh. Ravinder Goel and Sh. Anil Gupta allowed throughout the day in the Polling Hall. Also in what capacity was Sh. Yash Pal Gupta (Member CCI) who also was one of the founders of "Associated Chamber of Commerce" allowed at the polling venue throughout the voting process.

- That , how did your good self at the Biennial General Council Meeting announce the clearance of financial accounts without distributing the current balance sheets which was objected too but you carried on.
- That, even after registering complaints of bogus voting no action was taken by your good self even when polling had to be stopped after clear evidence of rigging was noticed.
- That, why no cross check of the voters was done with their photos on the voters card slips.
- That, how were the votes of many members polled even when they were not in Jammu city on the polling day or those who had not got their names corrected in the record after the demise of many members.
- That , why was firstly a MARKER and then PEN used to cast votes and why did your good self not announce the same .
- That when the polling stopped around 3pm after complaints of bogus voting it was announced that 1373 votes have been polled. How come that in one and a half hour at 4-30 it was announced that 2600 votes have been cast.
- That, why did your good self ask only few of the contesting candidates to leave the polling hall after the voting resumed and the rest stayed inside.
- ➤ That, why was the polling hall looking like a fish market with no check on the entry and re entry of members / non members.
- ➤ That, as per the final voters list the number of voters stood at 2816 and only one person was allowed per firm to enter the election venue. Then how come the Royal Park Management claim to have hosted more than 4000 CCI members in their advertisement circulated in social media.
- That, many voters were told firstly that their votes have been cast but after they protested your good self issued slips to them to cast votes under what provision in the CCI's Constitution.
- That, it has also come to our notice that your good self instructed the management of Royal Park to keep CCTVs off. May we ask why?
- ➤ That, the Government Officials on duty deputed by the worthy District Magistrate and the Police Officials were present just to maintain Law and Order and were in no way a part of the Election Process that was to be conducted under the Registered



Constitution of CCI Jammu. Hence the sole responsibility to follow the guidelines was yours.

May we kindly request your good self kindly to preserve the Election Record that includes the Ballot papers / Video footage / Camera Clicks and please reply to all our concerns listed above within 3 days of receipt of this communication and also provide us with the below:

- 1. List of Polling Agents.
- 2. List of Counting Agents.
- 3. Complete Copy of the Video footage and Clicks that was arranged by your good self during the Biennial General Council Meeting and the Election Process.
- 4. Copy of the Bill of Royal Park for the food & arrangements on April 23.

Yours Faithfully,

Sunil Gupta (Mob: 9419194725) Prop M/S Sunil Traders, 38 D, Nehru Market, Jammu CC to Sh. Manish Gupta (Secy General) CCI for Inf and na CC to The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble LG , Raj Bhawan for Inf CC to The Divisional Commissioner Jammu Province for Inf CC to Deputy Commissioner Jammu for Inf CC to Registrar of Societies , Rail Head Complex Jammu for Inf

