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ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: 5
election.

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Times of India ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE: 21/10/20



**Congress files
plaint against
Munirathna**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK
21/10/20

Bengaluru: Congress on Tuesday filed a complaint with the Election Commission (EC), accusing BJP's RR Nagar candidate, **N Munirathna**, and his team of trying to bribe voters with cash and gifts.

The complaint alleges that Munirathna's campaign workers are offering Rs 5,000 each to residents who promise to vote for him in the November 3 bypoll. In certain cases, they are keeping residents' voter identity cards with them, the complaint states.

Congress has mentioned the 2018 allegations of election malpractice against Munirathna. That year, he contested the assembly election in RR Nagar on a Congress ticket and won. The BJP candidate then accused him of creating fake voter ID cards. "Purchasing votes and voter IDs is not new for Munirathna," Congress claimed on Tuesday. Accusing him of being a "habitual offender", it urged the commission to register an FIR against him and disqualify him from the byelection.

There was no reaction from Munirathna, but BJP functionaries rejected the allegations.