



Kumar Sambhav Shrivastava [REDACTED]

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**URGENT: Media Query from Al Jazeera**

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Kumar Sambhav Shrivastava [REDACTED]

9 March 2022 at 17:25

To: [REDACTED]

Rohit Dubey,  
Vice President - Corporate Communications & Advocacy  
Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

Atul Dwivedi,  
Assist. Vice President, Corporate Communications,  
Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

Tushar Pania  
Spokesperson,  
Reliance Industries Limited

Dear Sirs,

I am a journalist with [The Reporters' Collective](#). We are currently working on a series of stories commissioned by Al Jazeera. The reportage has references to the Reliance Group Companies Reliance Industrial Investment and Holdings Limited (RIIHL) and Jio Platforms Limited (JPL) and their actions through a company it holds 75% equity in, New Emerging World of Journalism Ltd (NEWJ).

According to the Meta Ad Library, New Emerging World of Journalism Ltd (NEWJ), a subsidiary of JPL and previously owned by RIIHL, has been placing political advertisements on Facebook. In this regard we have the following queries.

**Kindly respond to the queries by 6 PM on Friday, March 11, so that we can appropriately incorporate the information you provide into our reportage.**

1. A large number of political ads placed by NEWJ on Facebook glorified Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders, projected voters' support for the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stoked nationalistic and religious sentiments — the poll planks of BJP — or mocked opposition during the election campaigns. Did BJP or its candidates pay and authorise RIIHL, Jio Platforms Limited or its subsidiary NEWJ to publish these political ads on Facebook? If yes, please share the details of the amount and the records of the payments

made by the party and its candidates to your companies for placing these ads?

2. Some of the political ads published by NEWJ presented inaccurate information about the election candidates while others showed candidates with distorted context. Some political ads even pitted one religious group against the other. NEWJ produces content under the Content Guidelines of the Board of NEWJ and its Investor. Any comments that you would like to make on these facts.
3. Reliance group companies RIIHL and JPL have consistently invested money in NEWJ. Could you please provide details of the terms and conditions of the investment made by RIIHL and JPL in NEWJ, a company that has made no substantial revenues or incomes from supposed 'news' operations?
4. Any other comments that the Reliance Group would make on its investment in NEWJ and the subsidiaries actions, products and expenses related to political advertisement on Facebook.

We look forward to your responses to the queries. The information you provide is important to comprehensively report the facts in the story.

Thank you,

Kumar Sambhav

[REDACTED]