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Title: Regarding alleged irregularities in recent Panchayat election in West Bengal.

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY (JALPAIGURI): Yes.

Sir, I stand to draw the attention of this House to the prevailing law and order situation in West Bengal. In accordance with the Constitution of India, voting is a constitutional right and every Government, be it Union or State, is bound to protect this right of the citizens. Unfortunately, on 25th of July, 2013, my constitutional right of casting the vote was snatched away by force by the known goons of ruling party in the presence of State and Central Forces, who expressed their inability to do anything, so that I could not cast my vote. This is simply a case of violation of a constitutional and human right.

If this is the condition of an elected Member of Lok Sabha, my hon. fellow Members of Parliament may well imagine how the rights of common people are being bulldozed by the ruling party and its Government in West Bengal.

Though Law and Order is a State Subject, the Union Government should not deny its responsibility to protect the human rights of the citizens. I demand protection.

An unprecedented situation has arisen due to the widespread brazen attacks, intimidation and rigging that took place in West Bengal during the recent panchayat elections. There were large scale media reports of violation of human rights during the recent panchayat elections in West Bengal. Thousands of candidates were prevented from filing their nomination papers. In many places, opposition candidates were prevented from conducting their election campaign among the people while in many places, people were prevented from casting their votes.

Sir, I demand protection.