

Title: Need to draw attention to the mass atrocities and rigging in the Panchayat elections in West Bengal.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH (INNER MANIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw your attention to the mass atrocities and rigging in the Panchayat elections in West Bengal. It has been reported that about 65 persons have been killed in the pre and post Panchayat elections in West Bengal. The dead include candidate and women also.

The Panchayat elections involve participation of political and social workers at the grassroots level. The massive rigging and capturing of booths along with violence of this magnitude is not a healthy sign for democracy.

The CPI(M) cadre has been engaged in terrorising the workers of the Trinamul Congress and BJP before and after the Panchayat elections. The atrocities are more pronounced on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and minorities. Many houses have been burnt down making thousands of workers of Trinamul Congress and BJP supporters homeless. There are reported cases of rape and extortion also ... (Interruptions)

The victims affected by the post-election violence have migrated to Calcutta as they feel insecure in their own homes, villages and towns. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaoba Singh, you should not read, but you can make your points. During the Zero Hour, you should not read from any papers.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Sir, I have given my notice under Rule 377.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Sir, he is making baseless allegations.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaoba Singh, you can mention your point, but you should not read. Please conclude now.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : The smooth conduct of Panchayat elections is the sole responsibility of the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : In case of West Bengal, not only the State Government has failed in maintaining the law and order during the elections ...

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record. Shri Ahamed to speak now.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, whatever he has stated should be removed from the records.