

thing on the Press regarding the code. I believe if such a code is evolved, precious right, as you say, of the citizen may be taken care of.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Sir, there is a kind of character assassination and scandalising of public men both who are within and outside the House which is going on. Does the Government contemplate to tackle this problem so that the respectable citizens are protected from the kind of scandalising that has been going on in some of the newspapers in this country?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I thought that this can be dealt with only by evolving a code. We cannot do it by law. Of course, the normal law of the land is there. A person can file a defamation suit in the court. But that itself is not enough. A damage is done. The pen is more powerful. I quite agree with my hon. friend that when damage is done by newspapers by writing something about a citizen, he has very little right to defend himself. Therefore, I am very keen that this matter should be dealt with by a proper authority like the Press Council and by evolving a code. We are attending to this.

SHRI RATAN SINGH RAJDA: Will the hon. Minister tell us whether it is the thrust of the present policy of the Government to impose measures

against several newspapers of the country, like the Times of India, Hindustan Times etc. so as to bring them within the ambit of the Government influence and thus exert indirect pressure on the freedom of the press?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I think this is the guilt complex which is speaking. We do not have.

Delay in Declaration of Results of Assembly Elections in Bihar

*340. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an unprecedented delay in declaring the results of a number of Assembly constituencies in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the names of such constituencies and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The declaration of results of some constituencies was withheld by the Returning Officers concerned for a few days.

(b) A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement Showing the Names of Constituencies in Bihar State where the Declarations were held back with the Reasons therefor.

Sl. No.	Serial No. and name of assembly constituency	Serial No. of Polling booth affected	Reasons in brief
1	2	3	4
1	53—Paru . . .	33 and 141	Invasion of polling unsocial elements and tampering with the ballot boxes, ballot papers and forcible voting.
2	65—Belsand . . .	61, 109, 142 and 154	Snatching of ballot boxes, ballot papers and tampering with ballot boxes by miscreants and forcible voting by them.

1	2	3	4
3	71—Sursand . . .	10, 13 and 99	Snatching of ballot papers, possible insertion of ballot papers in the ballot boxes, assault of polling personnel and Presiding Officer forced to put signatures on the ballot papers.
4	75—Harlakhi . . .	152	Snatching of the ballot papers, forcible insertion of ballot papers into ballot boxes and several ballot papers were taken by miscreants.
5	93—Kalyanpur . . .	23, 52, 120, 126, 169, 170 and 175	Looting of ballot papers and polled ballot boxes and forcible voting.
6	97—Mohiud'in Nagar	11, 64, 77, 88, 98, 109 and 110	Taking away of the ballot papers forcibly by rowdy elements casting of bogus votes forcibly.
7	112—Supaul . . .	7, 26, 39, 55, 57, 79, 100, 101, and 109	Over-powering of polling personnel by armed miscreants, snatching of polled ballot boxes and decamping, forcible voting etc.
8	113—Tribeniganj-	19, 20, 21, 22, 43, 55, 68, 69, 70, 78, 79, 107, 108, 110, 111, 136 and 157	Raiding of the booths by armed miscreants, explosion of bombs, over-powering of polling personnel, tampering with the polled ballot boxes, forcible voting, snatching of ballot papers etc.
9	187—Surajgarha . . .	21, 61, 150 and 151	Ballot boxes forcibly snatched by miscreants and taken away.
10	188—Jamui . . .	11, 21, 72, 124, 132, 182 and 183	Essential material like ballot papers unlawfully snatched away from the custody of presiding Officers.
11	190—Lakhisarai.	17, 45, 76, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 106 and 107	Polled ballot boxes snatched and taken away by miscreants, tampering with the polled ballot boxes, breaking seals and forcible insertion of ballot papers into ballot boxes.
12	197—Islampur . . .	22, 24, 25, 33, 47, 96, 145, and 176	Booths captured by unsocial elements and only one man at one polling station and four or five persons at other polling stations marked entire ballot papers and inserted them into the ballot boxes.
13	218—Branmpur . . .	188, 189, 217, 218 and 219	Booths captured by the supporters of one candidate. Polling personnel terrorised. Bogus voting resorted to under the threat of dire consequences to the polling personnel.
14	236—Naibnagar . . .	1, 26, 31, 45, 53, 55, 73, 76, 82, 129 and 155	Forcible voting by intimidating polling personnel. Looting and snatching of ballot papers and ballot boxes. Forcible insertion of ballot papers into ballot boxes.
15	238—Aurangabad . . .	30, 37, 39, 40, 48, 74, 76, 89, 91, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115 and 116	Forcibly snatching of ballot papers and casting of votes illegally by persons other than the voters. Snatching of the polled ballot boxes, ballot papers and other election material.
16	250—Gaya Town . . .	16, 57, 99, 104, 135, 141, 152, 155 and 156	Forcibly snatching of ballot papers and ballot boxes, forcibly putting marks on the ballot papers and dropping them into the ballot boxes etc.

1	2	3	4
17	252—Gurua . . .	60, 64, 83, 89, 96 and 109.	Anti-social elements armed with fire arms forcibly and unlawfully snatched the ballot papers from the polling personnel. Some were stamped and dropped in the ballot boxes, other ballot papers were either torn or taken by the miscreants.
18	253—Both Gaya (SC)	7 and 36	Large number of ballots paper were forcibly snatched and dropped into ballot boxes and some ballot papers also torn.
19	289—Potka (ST) . . .	82, 88, 102, 104 and 105	Booths invaded, ballot papers were taken by force, stamped in favour of a particular candidate and inserted into ballot boxes by armed miscreants.
20	317—Manika (ST) . . .	11, 15 and 16	Booths captured by undersirable persons, forcibly snatching of ballot papers from the polling personnel and illegally casting them.
21	15—Ghorasahan . . .	44	Snatching the ballot papers and dropping in the ballot boxes by armed miscreants.
22	16—Madhuban . . .	66 and 161	Snatching of ballot papers, forcibly inserting them in ballot boxes, tempering with seal of ballot boxes.
23	17—Pipra (SC) . . .	12	Snatching of ballot papers and ballot boxes by unruly mob.
24	18—Kessaria . . .	157	Snatching of ballot boxes and polling material by armed miscreants.
25	20—Gobindganj . . .	84	Snatching of ballot papers by armed miscreants.
26	21—Kateya . . .	33	Snatching of ballot boxes by unruly mob.
27	42—Garkha (SC) . . .	109	Forcible taking away of polled and sealed ballot boxes & ballot papers.
28	47—Madnar . . .	28	Booth capturing by unsocial elements and votes cast forcibly.
29	48—Jandaha . . .	39	Snatching of ballot boxes and ballot papers.
30	51—Lalgani . . .	51, 52, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 105, 115, and 144.	Destruction of ballot boxes, firing of gun shots by assailants, looting of ballot boxes, snatching of ballot papers and forcible insertion of votes in ballot boxes.
31	64—Runisaidpur . . .	5, 30, 31, and 32	Snatching of ballot papers by persons armed with lethal weapons.
32	66—Shechar . . .	114, 133, 140, 143, 144	Taking away ballot boxes and ballot papers.
33	67—Sitamarhi . . .	162	Snatching of ballot papers by an armed group of miscreants.
34	77—Babubarhi . . .	38	Taking away ballot papers and electoral rolls and casting of votes in ballot boxes forcibly.
35	81—Phulparas . . .	43, 44, and 50	Removing of ballot boxes and inserting ballot papers inside them by armed forces.

1	2	3	4
36	86—Ghanshyampur	. 187, 191 and 192	Unlawful possession of ballot boxes and ballot papers and forcible insertion of ballot papers in the ballot boxes.
37	87—Baheri	. . 110 & 111	Snatching of ballot papers and marked copy of electoral rolls.
38	91—Jalley	. . 58 & 59	Snatching of ballot papers and electoral rolls and insertion of ballot papers into ballot boxes.
39	94—Warisnagar.	. 90	Unlawful taking away of ballot boxes and ballot papers by a mob.
40	95—Samastipur	. 81, 99 and 164	Snatching of ballot papers and forcibly casting them in the ballot box and also tearing ballot box.
41	100—Rosera	. . 69, 70, 132, 133, & 136	Unlawful taking away, snatching and tampering of ballot boxes by a violent mob.
42	103—Ballia	. . 13, 67, 74, 123, 134, 135, 137 and 158	Snatching of ballot papers and forcibly inserting them in the ballot boxes.
43	104—Matihani	. . 126	Taking away of partially polled ballot boxes by anti-social elements.
44	116—Singheshwar	. 80 and 81	Snatching of ballot papers and inserting them in the ballot boxes after raid of the polling booth by miscreants armed by fire arms and other lethal weapons.
45	118—Mahishi	. . 140 and 141	Snatching of polling materials including electoral rolls, blasting of three bombs.
46	120—Madhopur	. . 9, 11, 134 and 135	Snatching of ballot papers and inserting them in the ballot boxes after raid of the polling booth by miscreants armed by fire arms and other lethal weapons.
47	121—Sonbarsa	. . 118	Snatching of ballot papers by force.
48	166—Colgong	. . 47	Dropping of ballot papers in the ballot box forcibly by miscreants.
49	170—Bihpur	. . 140	Snatching of ballot papers by miscreants.
50	178—Jhajha	. . 3, 88, 135 and 137	Snatching of ballot papers, ballot boxes and other polling materials.
51	186—Jamalpur	. . 51, 52 & 169	Snatching of ballot papers and insertion in the ballot box.
52	189—Sikandra (SC)	. 128	Snatching of ballot papers and insertion in the ballot box.
53	191—Sheikhoura	. 105 & 106	Forcible looting away of polled ballot boxes.
54	193—Asthawan	. . 4, 58 & 60	Snatching of ballot papers and insertion in ballot boxes.
55	194—Bihar	. . 91	Do.
56	195—Rajgir (SC)	. 59	Unlawfully taking away of marked copy of electoral roll and counterfoil of used ballot papers.

1	2	3	4
57	196—Nalanda . . .	17	Forcible insertion of 97% of votes in the ballot box.
58	200—Harnaut . . .	91 and 177	Unlawful removal of ballot box and snatching away of the marked copy of electoral roll.
59	202—Darh . . .	102 & 103	Taking away of ballot papers, ballot boxes and other polling material.
60	203—Bakhtipur . . .	93	Snatching away of ballot papers and forcibly casting in the ballot boxes.
61	205—Masaurhi . . .	122, 133 & 139	Forcibly taking away of ballot boxes, ballot papers and other polling material.
62	225—Karakat . . .	136	Looting of ballot boxes by armed persons.
63	227—Dinara . . .	93 & 136	Do.
64	230—Bhabhua . . .	104, 145 & 147	Forcibly taking away of ballot boxes by armed persons, snatching and forceful insertion of ballot papers in ballot boxes, tampering of ballot boxes etc.
65	234—Nokha . . .	48 & 74	Looting of ballot boxes.
66	239—Rafiganj . . .	15, 60, 61, 67, 76, 119 & 146	Snatching of ballot papers and forcibly inserting them into ballot boxes etc.
67	240—Obra . . .	47, 82, 105, 107, 152 & 182	Booth capturing and illegal voting.
68	241—Goh . . .	133	Irregularity and malpractice committed.
69	244—Makhdumpur . . .	Details not given by the observer	Removal of ballot boxes.
70	246—Ghosi . . .	57 & 58	District Magistrate Gaya had ample proof of evidence that booths have been captured and large scale bogus voting had been done.
71	255—Fatehpur (SC) . . .	67, 136, 138 and 139	Forcibly snatching away of ballot papers and dropping in ballot boxes by armed anti-social elements.
72	256—Arti . . .	48, 87, 116, 121 and 124	Snatching of ballot papers and dropping them in ballot boxes forcibly.
73	Gobindpur . . .	99, 131 & 179	Forcibly snatching away of ballot paper and ballot boxes by miscreants.
74	260—Warsaliganj . . .	67, 87, 92, 97, 115, 123	Snatching away of ballot boxes.
75	262—Kodarma . . .	98 & 99	Snatching away of ballot papers and forcibly putting inside the ballot boxes.
76	264—Chatra . . .	47	Snatching the ballot papers and dropping in the ballot boxes by armed miscreants.
77	272—Bagodar . . .	76, 77 & 78	Explosion of bombs and forcibly taking and inserting ballot papers into ballot boxes.

1	2	3	4
78	280—Tundi	126	Forcibly stamping and inserting the ballot papers into ballot boxes.
79	303 .Khunti (ST)	48, 50, 57, 86 and 90	Snatching and inserting of ballot papers in ballot boxes.
80	318—Panki.	108, 112, 113, 116, 133	Snatching away of ballot papers and forcibly put inside the ballot boxes.
81	322—Bishrampur	91	Snatching and inserting of ballot papers in ballot boxes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, the polling in Bihar Assembly elections was completed on the 31st May. 31st May was the last date of the polling. I want to know whether it is not a fact that in the constituencies where the declaration of results, the announcement of results, was held up, the last announcement, the final announcement had not come at all for 11 or 12 days after the polling? Can the Minister tell us whether he does not consider this to be an absolutely unprecedented thing which has never happened before that even after the polling date, the results are held up for 11 or 12 days? He has submitted a list—I wish I could have read it but I have no time to do that—which is a horrible thing. 81 constituencies are listed here. That means in 25 per cent of the total seats in Bihar Assembly the reasons given for not announcing the results are because of capturing of booths, looting of ballot papers snatching away of ballot boxes by using guns, beating the persons, etc. I would like to know from him in how many of the 81 constituencies repolling had to be ordered—in some booths if delay of two or three days takes place I can understand—as a result of which there is a delay in announcing the results? But in those cases no repoll was ordered. Why were the results held up for so many days? What is the reason for it? Is it that the Congress Party was not sure of getting majority and, as such, was trying to manipulate?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: The Members of the Opposition know the reasons much better but I can say this much that in twenty constituencies repoll had to be ordered by the Election Commission. So far as the rest are concerned what was done was that having regard to Section 58 (2) of Representation of Peoples' Act the Election Commission directed the Returning Officers that wherever these irregularities have taken place if the winning candidate is getting much more votes as compared to the places where irregularities have taken place and the second candidate is much lower then you could declare the result; otherwise you seek the instructions. Because the Returning Officers wrote back in such cases for further action to be taken and the Election Commission had to direct what further steps to be taken, therefore, with reference to the rest there was delay in pronouncing the results. Otherwise there was nothing wrong.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Registration of Companies

*325. **SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state State-wise number of companies registered