

SL 32
26.07.2023
AGM

**In The High Court At Calcutta
Constitutional Writ Jurisdiction
Appellate Side**

W.P.A 17126 of 2023

**Bilkish Bibi & Anr.
-versus
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

**Mr. S. P. Lahiri
Mr. Habibur Rahaman
Mr. Rajesh Naskar
...For the Petitioners.**

**Ms. Sonal Sinha
Mr. Tarun Kumar Chatterjee
Mr. Sujit Gupta
Mr. Sayan Datta
Mr. Soumen Chatterjee
...For the Election Commission.**

**Mr. Santanu Mitra
Ms. Raha Halder
... For the State.**

**Md. Nawroz Rabbar
Ms. Anjana Mehabub
Mr. Muhammad Jawwod
... For the private respondent.**

The petitioners contested the Panchayat General Elections, 2023.

Issue has been raised with regard to the discrepancy in the number of votes polled and the number of ballot papers counted.

It appears that complaint was lodged before the Panchayat Returning Officer on 16th July, 2023.

The said complaint was lodged long after the declaration of the result.

In view of the above, no relief is granted to the petitioner in the instant case.

Dismissal of the writ petition will however not stand in the way of the petitioner to approach the appropriate forum with an election petition for redressal of their grievances, if so advised.

The CCTV/Video footages and the ballot papers in respect of the concerned constituency shall be properly preserved and be produced before the Court as and when directed.

Urgent certified photocopy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties expeditiously on compliance of usual legal formalities.

(Amrita Sinha, J.)