

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

W.P.A 17171 of 2023

Gazlur Rahaman @ Gajlur Rahaman
versus
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Arka Maiti
Ms. Saloni Bhattacharjee
Ms. G. Pervin
Mr. Arka Ranjan Bhattacharya
...For the Petitioner.

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

Mr. Santanu Kumar Mitra
Ms. Rama Halder
...For the State.

The petitioner contested the Panchayat General Elections, 2023.

His allegation is that there is discrepancy in the number of the ballot papers found in the ballot boxes and the number of ballot papers counted on the day of counting.

A complaint was lodged before the respondent authority on the day of counting but the same is yet to be disposed of.

Without going into the merits of the allegation made in the complaint filed by the petitioner, the instant writ petition is disposed of by directing the State Election Commission to consider and decide the complaint filed by the petitioner at the earliest, but positively within a period of ten days from the date of communication of a copy of this order.

A reasoned order shall be passed and communicated to the petitioner immediately thereafter.

The learned advocate for the petitioner is directed to forward a copy of the complaint dated 11th July, 2023 to the State Election Commission at the time of communicating the order of the Court.

The Panchayat Returning Officer is directed to properly preserve the CCTV/Video footages and the ballot papers and to produce the same as and when called for.

The writ petition stands disposed of.

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

(Amrita Sinha, J.)