

Date: November 7, 2025

To,
Sh. Vinod Singh Gunjiyal, I.A.S.
Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar
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Sh. Vinay Kumar
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CC:
Sh. Gyanesh Kumar
Chief Election Commissioner
Election Commission of India, New Delhi
Email: cec@eci.gov.in

Subject: Complaint under the Model Code of Conduct and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 – Criminal intimidation, abusive speech, and threats issued by AIMIM candidate Tausif Alam (Bahadurganj constituency, Kishanganj) against RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav at Laucha Naya Haat on November 4, 2025

Respected Sirs,

We, at Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), are filing this complaint regarding the explicitly violent, abusive, and threatening remarks made by AIMIM candidate Tausif Alam, contesting from Bahadurganj constituency, during a public meeting at Laucha Naya Haat, Kishanganj, on November 4, 2025, while the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) remains in force for the Bihar Assembly elections.

The statements made by Alam constitute criminal intimidation, use of abusive language, and threats of physical harm against a rival candidate — Tejashwi Yadav, Leader of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) — and directly contravene both the MCC and provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

Background

During a campaign rally in Laucha Naya Haat, on November 4, 2025, AIMIM candidate Tausif Alam reacted to RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav's recent public remarks describing AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi as "an extremist." In response, Alam issued a violent threat, stating that he would "cut Tejashwi Yadav's eyes, fingers, and tongue."

He further insulted and demeaned Tejashwi Yadav in front of the assembled crowd by calling him the “son of a fodder thief”, in an obvious reference to his father and former Chief Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav.

These statements were delivered from a campaign stage, before a large audience, and captured on video that has since circulated widely on local media. The tone and content of the remarks were explicitly violent, meant to provoke hostility, and wholly inconsistent with the decorum required of a candidate under the MCC.

Transcript (relevant excerpts)

“Tejashwi Yadav called our leader Asaduddin Owaisi an extremist. Tell Tejashwi — I will cut his eyes, fingers, and tongue if he dares to insult Owaisi Sahab again.”

“He is the son of a fodder thief; he has no right to talk about our leader.”

The media report dated November 4, 2025 has been downloaded by CJP and is marked and annexed hereto as Annexure A.

Link for the report: <https://www.bhaskarenglish.in/local/bihar/patna/news/tensions-flare-on-final-day-of-bihar-campaigning-aimim-candidate-threatens-tejashwi-yadav-136330952.html>

Analysis of violations

The statements made by Tausif Alam constitute a grave threat to democratic integrity and the safety of participants in the electoral process. The intent is clear — to intimidate, insult, and incite violence against a rival political leader.

1. **Criminal intimidation and threats of violence:** By declaring that he would “cut the eyes, fingers, and tongue” of another candidate, Alam directly threatened grievous bodily harm. This is a clear violation of Section 115 (Criminal Intimidation) and Section 326 (Threats of grievous hurt) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Such violent language endangers not only the targeted leader but also the climate of peace and safety in the constituency.
2. **Abusive and defamatory remarks:** The insult referring to Tejashwi Yadav as the “son of a fodder thief” constitutes defamation and character assassination, violating Section 349 (Defamation) of the BNS, 2023, and Section 123(4) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which prohibits dissemination of false or derogatory statements concerning the personal character or conduct of any candidate.
3. **Violation of the Model Code of Conduct:** The MCC (Part I: General Conduct) prohibits candidates from making any personal attacks, using abusive language, or inciting violence. The Election Commission’s circulars of March 15, 2024 and September 29, 2023 explicitly reaffirm that campaign speeches must remain free from intimidation, insult, or threats.

4. **Undue Influence and obstruction of free choice:** Threatening physical harm to a rival political leader constitutes undue influence under Section 123(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. It seeks to subvert the electoral process by replacing reasoned debate with coercion and fear.
5. **Degradation of democratic discourse:** The remarks set a dangerous precedent — normalising violence as a legitimate tool of political expression. The tone, imagery, and intent of Alam’s words run counter to every constitutional value underpinning democratic contest.

Legal violations

Under the Representation of the People Act, 1951:

- **Section 123(2):** Undue influence — using threats and intimidation to interfere with free exercise of voting rights.
- **Section 123(4):** Publishing false or defamatory statements in relation to a candidate’s personal character.
- **Section 125:** Promoting enmity and hatred that disrupt public order during elections.

Under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023:

- **Section 115:** Criminal intimidation.
- **Section 326:** Threatening to cause grievous hurt.
- **Section 349:** Defamation and intentional insult.
- **Section 356:** Outraging the dignity and security of a person.

Under the Model Code of Conduct (MCC):

- *Part I (General Conduct):* “Criticism of other parties or candidates shall be confined to their policies and programmes... Parties and candidates shall refrain from criticism of all aspects of private life not connected with public activities.”
- Alam’s words constitute an explicit breach of this clause.

Effect on electoral environment

The violent and abusive remarks by Alam have seriously vitiated the campaign atmosphere in Kishanganj district. The threat to mutilate a rival political leader not only erodes public confidence but also incites followers to potential acts of reprisal.

The language used normalises physical harm as political retaliation. It is not protected political speech; it is incitement. Such conduct fuels intimidation, especially in a high-stakes election climate. The Election Commission has repeatedly emphasised that hate or violence-based rhetoric, whether communal or personal, poisons electoral integrity.

If left unchecked, this incident will embolden further acts of aggression and irreparably damage the fairness of the ongoing electoral process in Bihar.

Prayer

In view of the foregoing, we respectfully urge that the Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar, and the Director General of Police, Bihar, may:

- Take immediate cognisance of this complaint.
- Direct registration of an FIR against Tausif Alam under the relevant provisions of the BNS, 2023, and the RPA, 1951.
- Debar Alam from campaigning pending inquiry.
- Issue a public censure and advisory reaffirming that the use of threats or violence in election campaigns will invite strict penal consequences.

Conclusion

The statements made by AIMIM candidate Tausif Alam are not mere political hyperbole — they are acts of open intimidation that strike at the foundations of democratic civility and lawful contest. His words violate every standard of decency, law, and constitutional morality governing elections in India.

We therefore request the Election Commission of India and State authorities to take prompt, deterrent, and exemplary action to uphold peace, dignity, and the rule of law in the ongoing electoral process.

Yours faithfully,

Nandan Maluste

President, Citizens for Justice and Peace

Teesta Setalvad

Secretary, Citizens for Justice and Peace

Annexure

Annexure A: Media report dated November 4, 2025 quoting the speech