

AITC PRESS RELEASE

BJP Has The Support Of All Agencies And Forces, But They Don't Have The Support Of The Public That Trinamool Has, Says Hon'ble National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee

“IN COMING ELECTIONS, PEOPLE WILL QUEUE NOT TO CHANGE NOTES, BUT TO CHANGE THE PRIME MINISTER”

Narayangarh (Paschim Medinipur) 04.07.2023

- During the *Trinamoole Nabo Jowar* campaign, I traversed across Paschim Medinipur making sure to cover all the Assembly Constituencies in the district. And even though Narayangarh and Keshiyari were among the constituencies that we had planned to cover, we couldn't as we were joined at our Adhiveshan by AITC Chairperson Mamata Banerjee in Paschim Medinipur
- I had promised the district leadership that I would visit Narayangarh during the Panchayat Election campaigning, and here I am today. **The sea of crowd that I see here today is a testament to the fact that the people are ready to strengthen AITC and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's hands**
- Our *Trinamoole Nabo Jowar* campaign began from Cooch Behar on April 25. I had made a promise to the people that we would reach out to all the Gram Panchayats in Bengal, and conduct referendum exercise (*Gram Banglar Motamot*) where people would decide who their candidate for AITC would be. **Today, I can proudly say that we have selected those candidates who have the people's certificate**
- Now the responsibility is with the people to make sure that the candidate you have selected for the Panchayat Elections, wins the polls. For that, the people have to go out and vote in huge numbers
- **In Paschim Medinipur, there are 211 Gram Panchayats. AITC will, every three months, review the work of these Panchayats to make sure that services are being provided to the common public.** Those leaders who derelict their duty, will be asked to resign from their posts. This is my assurance to the people from this stage
- We are a party that keeps its word. Throughout this past year, I have, repeatedly, stated that we will make Panchayats corruption-free. **The days of politics of violence, practiced in the past by the Left, is over**
- Before the election dates were announced, we had promised that this time around, we would ensure that each candidate, irrespective of his political ideology, will be able to file their nominations. **I am proud to say that over 2 lakh, 32 thousand nominations have been filed. Of them, about 82,000 candidates are from Trinamool Congress, while the remaining 1.5 lakh nominations have been filed by the Opposition. This is a record for Bengal's panchayat politics**
- This, exactly, was the reason why we had initiated the *Trinamoole Nabo Jowar* campaign. We want the people to go out, with their heads held high, and vote fearlessly in the elections

- Back in the 2019 General Elections, the people of Medinipur voted for the BJP candidate Dilip Ghosh. Today, Dilip Ghosh is the National Vice-President of the BJP. Yet, in these past four years, have the people of Medinipur seen Dilip babu holding one public meeting in this district? **Show me one instance of Dilip Ghosh raising issues related to 100 Days of Work funds, Awas Yojana funds, Sarva Shiksha funds in the Parliament.** If the people can prove me wrong, I promise I will never come and seek your vote again
- **Has Dilip Ghosh ever approached the Prime Minister, or the Home Minister, or the Panchayat Minister with issues related to the people of Bengal?** Have these leaders ever held even one meeting in Medinipur to discuss the issues related to this district?
- On the other hand, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has ensured that Duare Sarkar goes out to every single booth of Bengal, where people can get their issues resolved and the government's services reaches out to each and every person in the State
- **Hence, I am stating that this time, the people of Bengal have to vote with their eyes and ears open, and not on the basis of hearsay**
- Despite voting for BJP in 2019, the people of Medinipur ensured that in 2021, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's hand got strengthened and she returned to power with the votes of the people of this land
- **If people vote keeping in mind their interests, no force of nature or any political leader would be able to withhold Bengal's rightful dues.** Paschim Medinipur district has over 17 lakh families, who depend on the 100 Days' Work Scheme. There are 2 lakh, 23 thousand people who are currently sitting at home, as there aren't being paid for their 100 Days' work. The Modi government has blatantly withheld their funds, solely because of vendetta as they lost the 2021 Bengal Elections
- I would ask the job card holders who haven't gotten their rightful dues to raise their hands, and I will humbly request the media fraternity to show their faces, instead of mine. These are the people who are being unjustly treated by the Modi-led BJP government, out of sheer vendetta. **The BJP government has insulted the people of Bengal, because ours is the only State that hasn't yet received its rightful dues from the Centre**
- Today, the total amount owed by the Centre to Bengal stands at over Rs 1 lakh, 15 thousand crore. Of this, over Rs 7,500 crore is solely due for the 100 Days' Work Scheme, while over Rs 8,000 crore is pending for the Awas Yojana Scheme. This entire amount has been unjustly withheld by the BJP-led central government
- This money is not BJP's personal fund, but the funds of the people of Bengal. We have two options now, either cow down before Modi ji and BJP, or go to Delhi to snatch what we are owed. **We are Trinamool Congress, we will never bow down in front of BJP, we will go to Delhi and snatch what is ours. Dilli Cholo will be our clarion call from now on.** The responsibility of taking the people to Delhi is mine, I just want your support
- **If Modi government, through the press of a button can halt Bengal's fund, the people of our State also have a button, through which they can remove the BJP government from the country next year**
- I am also getting information, that a number of independent candidates are claiming to be representatives of Trinamool Congress. From this stage, I want to reassure everyone and clarify that no matter what, no independent candidate will be taken back into the party's fold. **The doors of the party has been closed forever for these independent candidates**
- Today, cooking gas costs Rs 1,200. Same with kerosene, and petrol and diesel. Prices have hit the sky. LPG cylinders cost Rs 400, but since the people voted BJP to power, they have

to pay the remaining amount as 'penalty' taking the total cost up to Rs 1,200. Hence I say, vote with your eyes open and not what you hear

- **Bengal government, in the past two years, has spent Rs 37,000 crore for the women of Bengal under the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme.** And of these Rs 37,000 crore, not even 10 paise has been given by the Centre. Whatever Bengal government promises, it fulfils. On the other hand, PM Modi is taking away money from you in the name of linking Aadhaar and PAN
- **In Paschim Medinipur alone, over 11 lakh, 22 thousand women have availed of Lakshmir Bhandar Scheme of Bengal government.** Over 9 lakh students from Paschim Medinipur have gotten Aikyashree scholarships in just Paschim Medinipur, while around 13 lakh, 23 thousand women have gotten benefits of Swasthya Sathi Scheme
- Not just this, 8 lakh, 11 thousand caste certificates have been distributed to the people of this districts from Duare Sarkar camps. **Around 4 lakh, 76 thousand girl child in Medinipur have availed of Kanyashree Scheme of the Ma-Mati-Manush government**
- Earlier, BJP leaders used to say that Lakshmir Bhandar was nothing but alms, but now the same BJP leader is claiming to increase Lakshmir Bhandar to Rs 2,000 if they are voted to power. Today, there is a competition between Sukanta Majumdar and Suwendu Adhikari over who can remain in the news by parroting about Lakshmir Bhandar. BJP is in government in 12 states across the nation, yet not even in one state are they giving Rs 1,000 to the people. If they can prove me wrong, I am ready to quit politics
- Trinamool is not just any other party. We are a party that you won't find during your good times, but when you are facing hardship, Trinamool will stand by your side. **Under Bengal government's Pathashree-Rastashree Prakalpa, 471 new roads are being built in Paschim Medinipur**
- Bengal government's PWD, PHE, Panchayat and Irrigation departments have over the past 10 years, invested Rs 7,000 crore for various projects for the development of Paschim Medinipur. This shows that Didi keeps her word, while PM Modi fails in keeping his promises
- Of the Rs 7,500 crore that the Centre has blocked for the 100 Days' Work Scheme, Rs 5,000 crore is being used by PM for his promotion and campaign, while Rs 2,500 crore is being spent for the construction of Ram Mandir in Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi has used the Rs 8,000 crore that is pending for Bengal under the Awas Yojana, to buy lavish planes for himself. Bengal's rightful dues are being sent to Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh for the development of those states where the BJP remains in power
- Today, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is the only women CM in our country, and the BJP government, which is unable to fight her politically, is letting lose ED-CBI and other agencies to harass Trinamool leaders. **BJP might have the support of all agencies, be it ED, CBI, Income Tax, Election Commission, Paramilitary Forces, but they don't have the support of the public**
- BJP government loves to change things, be it changing names of cities, or withdrawing 2,000 denomination notes, or changing the Parliament House. This time, the people of Medinipur will change the PM and the BJP from power. **In the coming days, the people will stand in queues to not change currency notes, but change the Prime Minister**