

AITC PRESS RELEASE

“Modi’s Guarantee Is His Photograph But The People Of Bengal Are Our Guarantee: Mamata Banerjee Takes A Dig At PM Modi Over Misuse of Central Agencies, Silence on Jalpaiguri Storm

“WE HAVE WRITTEN TO ECI TO ALLOW THE STATE GOVT TO CONSTRUCT 5,000 HOUSES AND HELP STORM-HIT VICTIMS. BUT IT SEEMS THEY ARE WAITING FOR PM MODI, WHO DID NOT EVEN MENTION JALPAIGURI’S PAIN”

“NIA-CBI AND BJP ARE BHAI-BHAI. ED AND INCOME TAX ARE BJP’S FUNDING BOX. IF BJP HAS THE POWER, FIGHT US DEMOCRATICALLY. DO NOT ARREST OPPOSITION LEADERS”

“WE WANT THE EC TO ACT IMPARTIALLY AND WE DO NOT WANT BJP ELECTION COMMISSION. STATE OFFICERS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED BUT THE TORTUROUS ED-CBI-IT-NIA OFFICERS ARE FACING NO ACTION”

Balurghat & Raiganj, 06.04.2024

- Our Balurghat candidate Biplab Mitra – who is also a state minister – has been a veteran politician. During a barbaric incident in Kumarganj, the CPI(M) government arrested many students. I was involved in student politics back then. In the dead of the night, Biplab Mitra and I went to Shankar Chakraborty’s house. Later, with a team of local lawyers, we went to the court and ensured the release of students
- Whenever floods ravaged Balurghat, I would be here. It was my responsibility to stand by the people. I am aware of the Ganga Erosion issue here, the responsibility for which falls under the Centre. I also know that due to the dam on River Atreyee, Balurghat is facing water problems
- **Did Sukanta Majumdar – who won on a BJP ticket here – ever ask why a dam was constructed on River Atreyee? Did he ask why Balurghat and Gangarampur are not getting water?**
- I agree with the demands of my tribal brothers and sisters. **I have also written to the Centre multiple times over the recognition of the Sari and Sarna faith. I have submitted all necessary and relevant documents. Yet, they haven’t done anything till now.** If our government comes to power, we will do it. We want the BJP to lose Delhi
- **With every seat won by AITC, the INDIA Alliance in Delhi gets stronger. We want the BJP to lose as Modi’s Guarantee is to disenfranchise and oust the people of Bengal using NRC. We will not allow NRC and will not accept it. We are all citizens here**
- In Bengal, CPI(M), Congress, and BJP are fighting together whereas Trinamool Congress is the only one fighting the BJP here. CPI(M) and Congress are supporting the BJP here. While Trinamool workers and booth agents are being arrested, is there any action against CPI(M)?

- Do not apply under CAA. The moment anyone does that, they will be declared as foreigners and put in detention camps. They will have to source their father's birth certificates from Bangladesh. In Assam, over 19 lakh names were left out of the rolls in this way and so many died
- **Remember that CAA is the head and NRC is the tail. They will implement NRC after CAA. A BJP minister said that he will not allow any Trinamool worker to apply under CAA. First, he should apply for CAA and get branded as a foreigner. All our elected representatives – including the PM and MPs – are chosen by our voters who vote for the leaders during every election. Is it not an insult to brand them as foreigners just before elections?**
- BJP is angry that I am in Bengal. Their sole objective is to defeat Trinamool in some way
- Today, reporters questioned me about the Bhupatinagar incident. I want to ask, do you know who carried out the attack? **The women weren't the ones to lead the attack, it was the NIA. The Traitor knows he is going to lose. This is why they are going to people's homes. If women are assaulted at midnight in their own homes over an alleged incident in 2022, what should the women do? Do they have no right to self-defence and to protect their dignity?** I strongly condemn this incident. This is how they occupied Nandigram – through load-shedding, rigging of counting, and changing police officers. The matter is still pending in court. The Traitor must know that the same template cannot be repeated again and again
- First, the Traitor spoke only about arresting our booth agents. It was after this that 9 people were arrested by NIA. Today, they barged in without informing state police and arrested our booth president to ensure the Traitor's victory. They are arresting Trinamool workers because they cannot be sure of their own victory in their own area
- They want to arrest Trinamool workers and polling agents. **We want the EC to act impartially and we do not want BJP Election Commission. State officers are being transferred but the torturous ED-CBI-IT-NIA officers are facing no action**
- While the state police are active in maintaining law and order in the state all year round in various events, central forces such as BSF and CISF are deployed here ahead of polls. They shoot at people
- **Following the elections, guard the ballot boxes. Their first plan is to offer money to those guarding the boxes, the second plan is to offer spiked foods to get them to sleep, and the third plan is to capture and tamper the boxes through load-shedding**
- **NIA and CBI are BJP's Bhai-Bhai. ED and Income Tax are BJP's funding box. If you have the power, fight us democratically. Do not arrest Opposition leaders such as Arvind Kejriwal, tribal leader Hemant Soren, our party workers, and our booth agents. There should be a level playing field in the elections**
- I read in news reports that the Army [Sainik] schools have been handed over to the RSS and members of Sangh Parivar. What will they learn? Where are we standing right now? Even railway stations are being painted saffron. They stopped money for our Suswasthya Kendras saying they must be painted saffron. The colour saffron is for our saints and temples
- **Even Covid vaccinations had the PM's photo on it. They asked me to implement Ayushman Bharat. But why should I implement Ayushman Bharat when our Swasthya Sathi is more inclusive & over 9 crore people in Bengal can avail of the same? If we implement Ayushman Bharat, only 1 crore people will benefit from it as not everyone is eligible under their scheme. While we offer Swasthya Sathi to everyone, their Ayushman Bharat**

decides eligibility based on motorcycles, government jobs, and a roof over people's heads. Besides, 50% of the cost under Ayushman Bharat is borne by the state government

- In Bengal, women are the guardians of the houses and have Swasthya Sathi cards in their names. We have now extended Swasthya Sathi scheme benefits to 28 lakh migrant workers working in other states
- **More than 1.99 crore Lakshmir Bhandar beneficiaries have already received increased financial assistance – from Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 and from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,200 – announced during the state budget this year. More will receive in the coming days as the disbursal process is underway.** Over 6 lakh women – over 60 years of age – are receiving the old-age pension along similar lines whereas the Central government has stopped old-age pension
- Maa Maati Maanusher Guarantee is Lakshmir Bhandar, Kanyashree, Sabooj Sathi, Krishak Bandhu, Swasthya Sathi, smartphones for students, and old-age pension among others.
- In the past five years, the BJP-led Central government has taken away more than Rs 6.50 lakh crore whereas they have stopped Rs 1.80 lakh crore of our rightful due
- A few people from Delhi are coming here and claiming that funds are being held over alleged corruption. **I challenge Sukanta Babu – wasn't it you and the Traitor who demanded that Bengal should not get funds for MGNREGA, houses, and roads? Why haven't you spoken on the Sari and Sarna demands?** They are the ones who have stopped Bengal's money
- They don't like the land of Bengal. There was a storm in Jalpaiguri a few days ago and I had reached at midnight to oversee necessary relief work. **We have written to the Election Commission requesting clearance for the construction of 5,000 houses by the state government to help the victims. But it seems they are waiting for PM Modi to come and speak about it even after he did not even mention Jalpaiguri's pain during his public meeting. Why is there a delay by the ECI in permitting the construction of houses when the state government is ready to bear the costs? What about the people who don't have houses and are homeless? Why are they being made to wait?**
- It is our state government that cleared the wages of 59 lakh MGNREGA workers, who were made to wait for 2 years by the Modi government. I had challenged them yesterday. Hundreds of central teams were sent to the state and we have submitted the response for the same
- The Central government had sought verification of the Awas Yojana beneficiaries and we had given a list of 11.36 lakh names. They are using that data to make calls and ask people to apply at BJP's Call Centre if they want houses. I urge people to not fall for it. The state government will provide those 11 lakh houses for the people. On this list, around 6 lakh beneficiaries are from North Bengal. If they had houses today, they would not have had to suffer
- Within 2025, we will ensure that everyone has water in their houses. While the BJP is going around saying that they are giving water to every household, the reality is that the state government is providing a far greater share than them. Along with 40% of the funds, we give money for land and maintenance. When they claim that they are giving water, tell them they are behaving like Jomidars and just torturing people
- **Today, they are talking about Sandeshkhali. A few land-based incidents took place locally but arrests have already been made. It was our police who made the arrests. We have returned the land to the people. If we did not work for people, how did their candidate get the benefits of Swasthya Sathi?** I am happy that the people are getting the benefits of the scheme

- I received a photo of the wall graffiti in support of Khagen Murmu. The BJP leader is claiming that if people vote for him, he will ensure Lakshmir Bhandar is increased to Rs 3,000. First, they should give Rs 100 and then talk about increasing the financial assistance. They have snatched the existing funds and rights of the people
- BJP is giving messages on Sandeshkhali but why didn't they think twice before allowing the release of the convicts in the Bilkis Bano case? These convicts were charged with murdering and raping her family members. The mothers and sisters of Sandeshkhali are with us. There is no need to worry. Modi *Babu* will see the results as soon as the election results are in
- How many times did the BJP leaders or Modi *Babu* go to Assam where women were tortured over CAA-NRC? How many times did they go to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, and Gujarat where there have been atrocities against Dalits? Wrestler Sakshi Malik was forced to return her awards whereas the BJP MP accused of sexual assault got promoted. Did the victims of the Gujarat riots get any justice?
- Before branding Bengal as corrupt, look at what is happening in Uttar Pradesh where 85 lakh cases of corruption were reported. Furnish reports on what is happening in BJP-ruled states
- **We have submitted a complaint to the Election Commission as no one has the right to say that Bengal's politics is that of corruption. Five fingers are not the same. Nobody has the right to brand everyone as evil based on the actions of a few**
- Ahead of elections, he will speak two lines in Bengali with the help of teleprompters. When they speak of Rabindranath Tagore, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Mahatma Gandhi, and Birsā Munda, it is not their own thoughts and words. They do not know Bengal or its culture and heritage
- If they are so confident of getting 400 *Paar*, why are they arresting our agents and workers? I am asking all Trinamool units to have second-tier and three-tier leadership so that even if they arrest our first-tier leaders, the remaining workers can continue with the work. We are organisationally strong. The women, who cook in their houses, can be present in the booths as booth agents as they know everyone
- Ahead of the elections, they will reduce cooking gas prices by Rs 200 and then increase it by Rs 1,000 after the polls. They had promised Rs 15 lakh in bank accounts but did anyone get it?
- The MP who did no work in 5 years and only engaged in giving speeches should be given a farewell. The Jomidars must witness their Bishorjon
- Our minister Biplab Mitra has given up his ministerial position as he wants to go to the Parliament to be the voice of the people. The JUMLABAZ party must be defeated if we want to live. If that doesn't happen, they will decide how we get married or what we eat by imposing the Uniform Civil Code. As long as Trinamool is here, such things will not be tolerated
- The BJP candidate who won from Raiganj did not do anything for the people of the constituency but we kept all our promises for the entire state. What is Modi Ki Guarantee? To arrest Opposition leaders for 5 years and continue to entertain the Biggest Traitor in his own party
- **Modi's Guarantee is his photograph but our Guarantee is our Maa Maati Maanush. The people of Bengal are our Guarantee**
- We will lead a movement to protect the country. I have never spoken a word against the country in international media but BJP must not force me to take off their masks. This is not politics or democracy. This is blatant autocracy. If they try to usurp democracy by arresting Opposition leaders and tampering with ballot boxes, we will expose their image in front of the whole world. This is my challenge