

AITC PRESS RELEASE

No Point Having A New Parliament House, If You Don't Allow Discussions, Stifle Opposition & Undermine Democracy, Says AITC National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee

“PM MODI SPEAKS ABOUT RESPECTING WOMEN, BUT 2 KMS FROM PARLIAMENT HOUSE, FEMALE WRESTLERS, WHO HAVE MADE OUR COUNTRY PROUD & ARE FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE, ARE MISHANDLED BY DELHI POLICE”

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- The pressing issues we face in India today are health, education, housing and public infrastructure. However, **the political party that inaugurated the New Parliament House today** and are claiming that they have fulfilled the aspirations of 140 crore citizens, **have in fact, insulted the Hon'ble President of our nation, the highest office of our country**
- **A woman President, who is our pride, wasn't invited to the inauguration ceremony, let alone being asked to be the one to inaugurate the Parliament House. Is she because a proud member of our tribal community?**
- At the inauguration ceremony of our Parliament, although we found *dharm gurus* and *pandits*, members of the very same Parliament were missing. **You couldn't find the leader of the Opposition and opposition leaders at the inauguration ceremony**
- **The Prime Minister actually gave us a teaser of how he intends to run the country, and the parliament in the future. He wants to turn our democracy into a dictatorship. This is extremely shameful**
- **He speaks about respecting women of our country, but no more than 2 kms from the Parliament House, female wrestlers, who have made our country proud, and are fighting for justice, were mishandled by Delhi Police, which is run by the Home Ministry. Nothing can be more shameful than this**
- He claims to be a believer of democracy, but he has insulted democracy time and again. **Why does he need a new Parliament, when he doesn't allow discussions in the House, when Opposition voice is stifled, when microphones are muted**
- You see the last few Parliament sessions in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, there have hardly been any notable discussions there and Bills are passed in the humdrum
- **Yet, you are spending over Rs 20,000 crore on Central Vista redevelopment, on construction of a new PM Residence, when the common man don't have a roof over their head**
- **There are over 11.36 families in Bengal who are yet to get funds for the Awas Yojana for them to build a roof over their head, yet you are spending over Rs 8,000 crore to buy yourself an aircraft**

- He believes in the politics of change. He has changed names of schemes, cities, currency notes, it would have been better for the country, if he had changed his vision. Today, the price of essential commodities have skyrocketed. **The Prime Minister could have better used the money and thought about crores of people, rather than a handful of lawmakers**
- He is thinking whatever he will want and say, the people of India would believe it completely. How is the inauguration ceremony happening without the presence of the President of our country, without the presence of the Opposition of our country?
- **The PM is inviting dharm gurus, what role do dharm gurus have in the inauguration of the Parliament? You call them for Ram Mandir inauguration, but not while inaugurating a Parliament. What are you intending to prove, that you're using religion for winning elections?**
- Had you used the money spent in building the Parliament for the welfare of the people, lakhs of poor people's life would have improved, lakhs would get a roof over their head, they would get employment
- Inflation is skyrocketing, yet you are roaming around the world, going to Australia, Japan, Germany. You have the right to do so, but not at the cost of starving your people of funds, be it in the 100 Days Work Scheme or the Awas Yojana
- **His politics of "na khaunga, na khane doonga" has fallen flat, because he has inducted thieves like Narayan Rane, Himanta Biswa Sarma and Suvendu Adhikari in his party**
- **He wanted to send a message that if the Opposition doesn't want to come, they don't need to. He will run everything with sadhus and BJP members**
- Opposition leaders are a significant part of the Parliament. **63% of the people voted against Narendra Modi. Where is their representation?**
- **With 37% votes, all that remains for them is to change the Constitution in the letter. If they come to power once more, they will change the Constitution.** But I feel that before that happens, people will replace them
- **BJP members have attacked State Minister Birbaha Hansda. I had asked the Kurmi community to clear their stand within 48 hours, and they held a press conference stating that they were not involved in the incident.** This means BJP was involved. Instead of 'Joy Goram', 'Jai Shri Ram' slogans were raised. **How can they claim to work for tribal welfare after attacking a tribal woman leader?**
- Barely 2 kms away, women were dragged and harassed by police. Those who sermonize us over Bengal's law and order should point to even one such incident in Bengal over the past 12 years. They will not find anything such
- **The New Parliament building does not make an impact on the life of the common man.** I am an MP and I am telling you that there was no issue with the existing building. Four sessions are held in a year with two weekly offs. Combined, there are only 30-40 days when the House is in session. But **Rs 1,500 crore is spent on it. What about those who are unable to eat and the 140 people who died waiting in demonetisation queue?**