

## **AITC PRESS RELEASE**

### **BJP Is Rattled With Success of Jono Sanjog Yatra, Summon Received By My Wife Is Return Gift For My 20 KM Yatra In Nandigram: AITC National Gen Secy Abhishek Banerjee**

**“OPPN LEADER MAKING FALSE CLAIMS; HE’S SOLD HIS SPINE TO DELHI & MORTGAGED HIS BRAIN IN RANCHI”**

**“BIGGEST BENEFICIARY OF THE SSC SCAM IS BENGAL LEADER OF OPPOSITION SUVENDU ADHIKARI”**

**Hooghly. 05.06.2023**

- **The incident that took place today proves that this country is no longer governed as per the law. The investigative agencies haven’t adhered to the Supreme Court’s order, dated May 17, 2022**
- **The SC order had given two clear directives — (A) That I could only be interrogated in Kolkata, which they have adhered to so far; and (B) A notice needed to be sent to the State government’s chief secretary and the Kolkata Police Commissioner. I am not sure if the investigative agency has adhered to it**
- **In simple words, it was written that apart from the two directive (A and B), ED couldn’t do anything else, and the order was stayed in effect and operation**
- **On October 17, 2022, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and my lawyer Kapil Sibal were having an argument in the court, during which SG Tushar Mehta, under oath, had given affirmation that there would be no bar on me or my family’s travels**
- **Out of politeness, since my wife was travelling on 5<sup>th</sup> June, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, we informed the ED of our travel plans. This was despite the fact that I didn’t need to inform them. If I had mala fide intentions, I wouldn’t have informed them**
- **If ED had to send me or my wife a summon, they could have done it on the night of 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of June. The email sent from wife account had stated that from 5<sup>th</sup> of June to 13<sup>th</sup> of June, she wouldn’t be here. If she was called on any other day apart from these days, she will readily be available**
- **She was last called for questioning on June 2022. A year has passed since, all she had requested was that the agency should excuse her for those 7 days [stated in the email] out of 365 days in a year. Yet, they gave a summon on 5<sup>th</sup> of June to question her on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June**
- **You have seen that ever since our Trinamoole Nabo Jowar yatra began, the Opposition party wants to obstruct it and are looking out for ways to harass us and ensure that I am remain mentally puzzled. I would tell them that there is no use doing this**
- **They claim that the lookout notice was issued on March 25, 2022. My wife travelled with me during my eye treatment in September last year, for which too I had informed**

**ED ahead. They allowed us to travel then, but because of *Trinamoole Nabo Jowar's* success, and with elections nearby, my wife has been stopped from travelling**

- I have said it before that **our spine will remain intact**, no matter how many times we are sent notices, either me or my wife. They did not even spare my children (aged 9 and 3), what is their fault? Is it that they are my children? **Since you can't fight me politically, you are using these arm-twisting tactics by letting out ED and CBI behind me**
- I will not bow down my head even if ED arrests my wife, my children, or me. **With all due respect to the chair of the Prime Minister, I wish to remind him that he is almost twice my age. I am 36, he is 72. Your political experience might be the same as my age. Yet, you are not able to fight me politically in the people's court**
- With all due respect to his chair, I want to tell him that if he has the power, he can arrest me. **I will still fight for the Bengal and will not bow down my head**
- There were no summons issued to my wife for 12 months, but **as soon as *Trinamoole Nabo Jowar* began, multiple summons have been issued in various cases.** All this happened in just the past 40 days. Why? Because **I have been on the road for the past 40 days for the people and with my people**
- The ground beneath their feet has slipped away seeing the reaction and support from the people for our *Jono Sanjog Yatra*. **This [summon] is the prize for doing the 20-km padyatra in Nandigram the other day**
- **From Coal Smuggling to Cattle Smuggling to Saradha Scam to Narada Sting to SSC Scam, you have tried everything to implicate me; yet are constantly failing.** And those who are making tall claims today, can they answer why these investigations stretch up to years?
- The coal probe has been going on for the past three years. Arrest me, if you are able to establish anything concrete. **I have said this, time and again, that if there is any evidence against me, I will walk to the gallows myself**
- However, **those who were seen taking bribes on camera cannot sermonise me on truth and honesty.** Today, he held a press conference and made misleading claims that my wife was caught by CISF personnel smuggling gold
- There are 500 CCTV cameras in the airport, which fall under the jurisdiction of CISF and not Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate. **I challenge him to procure the footage and show the evidence that even 2gm of gold was smuggled, let alone 2kgs of gold bars. I am openly challenging him. He doesn't take names to avoid defamation cases. He is full of lies from his head to his toe**
- He is constantly lying. He has claimed that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee spoke to Amit Shah and begged [for the national party status], but **as soon as CM Mamata Banerjee challenged him [to show the proof], he did a U-turn**
- He also made claims of not being invited to the President's felicitation dinner, but we published the invites that were sent to them
- He is claiming that my wife was caught in 2019. **The CISF is under Amit Shah. There are 500 CCTV cameras around the airport. He should prove that even 2 grams of gold was recovered**
- It is because Trinamool Congress is fighting for the rights of the people, our Opposition is trying to use ED-CBI and threats to obstruct the yatra. However, the **people are witness to how more and more people are joining us as our movement grows**

- **BJP does not have the audacity to stop us. BJP is doing politics using ED-CBI.** Those jumping around in glee are getting oxygen from ED-CBI summons, but our oxygen is the support of our people
- People will respond to the fact that after being unable to fight me politically, my wife and kids are being dragged into this mess. **The people are watching this, they will reply to them politically too**
- Those who are accused in tarpaulin scams & are drenched in corruption, should not lecture me on honesty. **He was seen on camera taking money, what can be more shameful. He's sold his spine to BJP in Delhi and has mortgaged his brains in Ranchi**
- We don't need anything else, but the support of the people to fight the right battle. Bengal will show the way forward to India in the coming days. People have known Bengal's role in the Independence struggle
- The wheels of change in Delhi will begin from Bengal. As Gopal Krishna Gokhale had once said, **"what Bengal thinks today, India thinks tomorrow". This will be proved in the days to come**
- When I was questioned last month by CBI, they showed me a list of around 100 names. Around 90% of the names were residents of Purba Medinipur or Murshidabad. Now **one can easily wonder as to who was in-charge of those districts at that point of time? Why isn't he being summoned or questioned?**
- **The biggest beneficiary of SSC scam is Suwendu Adhikari, his role is bigger than that of Partha Chatterjee.** Adhikari is the person who put touts to work and made money
- If in 2019, my wife was found smuggling gold, why is this being brought up now? Why isn't he filing a PIL on it? Let there be a CBI interrogation. He will not be able to show a 10-second footage showing 2 gm of gold. He only cares about defaming people
- **The Adhikari family is full of corrupt people.** If other BJP leaders had said something on the matter, I would have still replied. However, **those caught taking money on camera shamelessly and named by Saradha accused Sudipto Sen repeatedly, do not have any right to lecture us.** Their names are there in all of the scams, be it Rose Valley, Saradha or Narada
- **If CBI-ED conducts a proper investigation, they will see that Suwendu Adhikari is the biggest beneficiary of the scam.** But the investigation is not being conducted in a proper manner. They have been probing coal case for three years, Saradha cases for nine years, and Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel theft case for 15 years, what is the result?
- It has been a year since the SSC probe began. How many eligible people got jobs? They are still protesting on the streets. Did any depositor get his/her money in Saradha case? **It was our government that constituted the Shyamal Sen Commission and returned the money back to the people**
- I want to tell the people of Bengal that if you give them [BJP] one more chance, they will continue to deprive Bengal of its rights. **Just as the protesting wrestlers have been forced to drown their medals in the Ganges, people here will be forced to drown their future if they come to power again.** BJP should be taught a lesson and should be rejected at all costs
- **I'd like to tell BJP leaders that they can try everything at their disposal, but I will not bow down.** If they are adamant on ensuring I submit to them, I am also determined to continue the fight for our people. We will see who wins this in the coming days