

## **PRESS RELEASE**

April 19, 2016

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**Randeep Singh Surjewala, Incharge Communications, AICC and Ms Sharmistha Mukherjee, National Media Panelist have issued the following statement to the press today:-**

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**Five years ago, Trinamool Congress came to power swearing by 'Ma, Maati, Manush'. Sadly, 'Ma aaj molin; 'Maati aaj mumursho; Manush aaj marmahato'.**

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**'Poribartan' has become a defining word for '3 Cs' – 'Corruption', 'Criminalisation' and 'Communalism' under the watch of Ms Mamta Banerjee.**

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No wonder, electorate of West Bengal find no difference between 'Modi' and 'Didi', both being two sides of the same coin centered around 'phony marketing', 'spurious self promotion' and 'Falsehood of Achhe Din or Poribartan'.

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**(i)'Saradha to Narada', 'Organised Syndicate to Unorganised Petty Criminals' – 'Limitless Corruption' is the only ideology.**

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TMC finds itself at the centre of the whopping 2460 crores 'Saradha Scam' which sunk the deposits of nearly 17 lakh innocent investors. Will Ms Mamta Banerjee answer as to why senior most TMC leaders/MPs/Ministers have been arrested or questioned in the scam including TMC MPs – S/Shri Srinjoy Bose, Kunal Ghosh, Rajat Mazoomdar, Madan Mitra, Mukul Roy to name a few? Proximity, connection and relationship of those accused of 'Saradha Scam' to TMC is well known. Instead of answering, Chief Minister has brushed aside the allegation as political vendetta.

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Recently, as many as 14 senior leaders of TMC, including five sitting MPs, have been caught in the infamous 'Narada' sting operation accepting bribes. Inside and outside Parliament, TMC tried to brush the issue aside by calling the sting operation 'fake' and is now terming the same people as 'thieves'. Will Ms. Mamta Bannerjee show the courage of conviction by publicly disowning the six 'Narada tapes accused' whom she has fielded as TMC candidates, that is Iqbal Ahmed, Madan Mitra, Sovan Chatterjee, Subrata Mukherjee, Firhad Haqim and Subhendu Adhikari?

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Another sting operation has unequivocally established the 'Syndicate Raj' with active protection of West Bengal government. This is apparent from the statements of TMC MP, Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar as also former MLA & TMC Mayor of Salt Lake – New Town area, Sabyasachi Dutta. Ordinary people are victims of these organized syndicate rackets which result into collection of crores of ill-gotten money.

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In fact, entire State is mired in charges of corruption with recent flyover collapse in Bada Bazaar area of Kolkatta bringing to light the rampant illegalities. Not to mention that even prior thereto, another flyover at Ultadaanga (near Salt Lake) had collapsed in March, 2013. Multiple questions have been raised on the PWD department.

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In reality, ‘**Shatotar Pratik**’ or ‘**Symbol of Honesty**’ has become ‘**Fountain of Corruption**’.

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**(ii) Lawlessness, violence and coercion is the only ideology.**

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‘**Didi**’ and ‘**Modi**’ are on the same pedestal when it comes to curbing dissent and using the might of the State to run down opponents.

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Prof. Ambikesh Mahapatra of Jadavpur University is jailed for circulating satirical cartoon of CM, Ms Mamta Banerjee in the same fashion in which Ambedkar Periyar Study Circle is banned in IIT Madras for criticizing PM, Shri Narendra Modi.

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Farmer, Shiladitya Choudhary is jailed by Ms Banerjee for raising questions in the same way that Modi Government’s ministers tell farmers to ‘go commit suicide’ or describe ‘love affair/impotency’ as reason for farmer suicide instead of poverty, drought and pitiable conditions besides describing farmers as ‘cowards’.

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To top it all gruesome incidents of rape like ‘Park Street’, ‘Barashat’, ‘Kamduni’ etc. shame everyone and crime against women in West Bengal reaches the highest number in India while CM, Ms Banerjee describes those like ‘Ms Tumpa’ and ‘Mousumi Koyal’ protesting against rape as ‘Maoists’ on the same lines as Modi government does for ‘Rohith Vemulla’ in Hyderabad Central University and in JNU.

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Despite all this, TMC leaders carry on with their vitriolic diatribe – from TMC MP, Tapas Paul exhorting workers to ‘rape women’; Birbhum TMC President, Anubarata Mondal asking TMC workers to ‘bomb the police’; TMC MLA, Monirul Ismal wanting to behead Congress leader Bappi Dutta besides accusing judiciary of wholesale corruption. Even Chief Minister Ms Mamta Banerjee herself has negated the Constitution by challenging the authority of Election Commission publicly.

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Law and order is the biggest casualty in West Bengal with police having no authority to arrest even ordinary criminals under TMC protection and instead police being assaulted regularly by TMC supported goons and criminals. Chief Minister, Ms Mamta Banerjee infamously stormed into a police station in Kolkata in November, 2011 to forcibly set free arrested persons. Since then, innumerable

police stations have been attacked and criminals got released by TMC cadre.

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'Moger Mulluk' has, therefore, become an apt description of Mamta Banerjee's regime.

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**(iii) Communalism and Conspiratorial Alliances founded upon Political Opportunism**

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Political opportunism defines the tacit understanding between TMC and BJP. TMC has been an ally of BJP in the past with Ms Mamta Banerjee herself having served as Railway Minister in the Vajpayee government. Indicators of this tacit understanding were visible recently as TMC openly supported the BJP in Rajya Sabha on the GST Bill against the Congress Party, which wants a maximum constitutional cap on taxation of 18% beyond which ordinary people should not be taxed. Another example is that of TMC opposing the Mines and Minerals Bill in Lok Sabha on 3rd March, 2015. Ms Mamta Banerjee met Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 10th March, 2015. Immediately thereafter, TMC took a somersault and supported the Bill in Rajya Sabha. Similarly, TMC broke ranks with opposition in March, 2016 and decided to stay out as opposition moved a motion for amendment of the President's address. All this establishes a clear tacit understanding between TMC and BJP in lieu of the Centre going soft in various ongoing criminal cases against TMC leaders. Simple question is, are the people of West Bengal ready to accept such unholy alliances based on political opportunism?

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**(iv) 'Mithyachar' (Falsehood) and 'Be-rozgari (Unemployment)' – A Tale of Broken Promises.**

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While CM makes false promises of providing employment to 68 lakh persons, information disclosed in RTI by Directorate of Employment, Government of West Bengal reflects that number of persons registered on the Unemployment Register have gone down by merely 6.23 lakh in a period of five years. Currently, nearly 80.16 lakh young persons are registered on the Unemployment Register.

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While, there is unemployment galore, industry has either shut down or are moving out on account of anti-industry stance of Ms Mamta Banerjee post 'Singur Agitation'. Despite Ms Banerjee visiting many countries and the investment summits, not a rupee of investment or industry has come on the ground. A state of despair and helplessness prevails when it comes to tackling state protected goons.

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**We are, therefore, confident that people of West Bengal will usher in a new era with Congress at the centre point of 'Politics for Development'.**