

AITC PRESS RELEASE

DELHI CHALO: Hon'ble National General Secy Abhishek Banerjee Announces Major Protest In Delhi From October 2 Against Centre As He Tears Into BJP From Shahid Dibas Stage

"ON AUGUST 5, WE WILL HOLD A PEACEFUL 'GONO GHERAO' OF BJP LEADERS' HOUSES ACROSS 341 BLOCKS IN BENGAL"

"AITC GOT 52% VOTE SHARE IN PANCHAYAT POLLS WHEREAS 'BHARATIYA JUMLA PARTY' WAS ABLE TO GET ONLY 22% OF VOTES DESPITE USING INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS ED, CBI, AND MEDIA. THIS SHOWS THAT PEOPLE'S SUPPORT LIES WITH US"

Kolkata, 21.07.2023

- I express my gratitude towards the people who have come here in unprecedented numbers and set a new record this July 21. This proves that the people stand with Trinamool Congress
- The way people from Cooch Behar to Kakdwip people used their democratic rights and led us to victory is humbling. We thank the people for organising a "people's panchayat" this time
- For two months, we were on the roads with the Trinamoole Nabo Jowar programmes and reached out to people. We only fielded candidates who had the people's certificates. Trinamool Congress paid heed to the certificates given by the people instead of recommendations given by the state or district-level leaders
- During Trinamoole Nabo Jowar programme, I had said multiple times that BJP would lose its 38% vote share acquired during the 2021 Assembly elections and Trinamool would increase its 48% vote share amid all challenges and obstructions
- I had said that the vote share difference of 10% would increase to 15% during the panchayat polls. But I was wrong. **The difference in vote share has increased to 30%. In the recently-concluded panchayat polls, Trinamool Congress got 52% vote share whereas 'Bharatiya Jumla Party' was only able to get 22% of votes despite using institutions such as ED, CBI, and media.** This shows that they don't have people's support and it is only the Trinamool Congress that has won the hearts of all
- **If someone thinks they can mislead people by using ED-CBI and weaken Trinamool, they should know Trinamool Congress is like iron. The more you hit us, the stronger we become. One can never finish the grassroots**
- Now, the upcoming fight is of 2024. The entire country is saying that INDIA will win the upcoming general elections in 2024

- Today's gathering and people's excitement here reminds me of the Shahid Dibas event in 2010 when the crowds gathered in support of Mamata Banerjee indicating the end of the brutal 34-year-old Left regime in 2011. **Today's July 21 event indicates a victory for INDIA the next year. Do they have the power to fight the country and its people?**
- During the Trinamoole Nabo Jowar programme, I called for a movement to force the Centre to release our pending dues amounting to Rs 1.15 lakh crore. For the past two years, the anti-poor BJP government at the Centre has stopped the funds for the 100 Days of Work scheme amounting to Rs 7,500-8,000 crores
- People had assured us that they would be by our side during this fight. Today, after seeking permission from our Hon'ble Chairperson Mamata Banerjee, I announce that **on October 2, we will go to Delhi and protest outside Krishi Bhavan for the pending central funds. Trinamool Congress is giving the call for "Delhi Cholo" on Gandhi Jayanti**
- We had three options – appeal and ask them to release funds belonging to the people of Bengal; beg them for people's money; or go to Delhi and force the Centre to give us our rightful due
- **I urge block-level leaders in all 341 Blocks to prepare a list of BJP leaders in their area and gherao their houses for eight hours on August 5 in a peaceful manner. If there are any elderly in the family, let them go. But BJP leaders should not be allowed to leave or enter their homes between 10 am to 6 pm as a part of this 'Gono Gherao'**
- This must be done in a peaceful manner. I urge our workers to not touch anyone or fall into any trap. They must hold a *gono gherao* peacefully while upholding the cultural ethos of Bengal
- **On August 5, their houses will be gheraoed. On October 2, the offices of their masters in Delhi will be gheraoed. This is the power of the people of Bengal. We will only bow our heads in front of the Almighty and not the outsiders of Delhi**
- They can use ED, CBI, NIA, Income Tax, Pegasus, or whatever they want. Yet, they will always be defeated because the people are with us
- We have to ensure victory for INDIA in the coming days because we have seen the reality of their double-engine government. Two women in Manipur were stripped and paraded two months ago
- **When this horrific incident took place in Manipur, Prime Minister and Home Minister were campaigning during the Karnataka polls.** When ED and CBI summon Opposition leaders, there are no missing dates. But an FIR was kept pending for two months and yet there was no action