

ALL INDIA TRINAMOOL CONGRESS

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10 March 2021

The Chief Electoral Officer 21, NS Road, Fairley Place, BBD Bagh, Kolkata, West Bengal- 700 001

Sub: Gruesome attack on Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Chief Minister ("CM") and Nandigram AC Candidate.

Dear Sir,

Ms. Mamata Banerjee is the Chairperson of our Party and the only woman CM in India. When the Election Commission of India ("ECI") has taken over the law and order machinery in the State in the name of conducting elections, appropriated the whole governance structure, summarily removed and replaced the Director General of Police ("DGP") without any consultation with the State Government, at the behest of the Bharatiya Janata Party ("BJP"), the person of the CM and a candidate from Nandigram, West Bengal, who is a Z plus protectee, is threatened.

Within 24 hours of the removal of the erstwhile DGP, an attempt on Ms. Mamata Banerjee's life was made in Nandigram this evening. She was on the campaign trail and filed her nomination this afternoon. At the time of the assault, neither the Superintendent of Police nor the local police, was present to give her security cover, even though she is a Z plus protectee. Only her personal security officers were with her.

After the elections are announced, the law and order of the State becomes the responsibility of the ECI. The ECI is squarely responsible to protect the Hon'ble CM. The senior most police officers should be chosen with great discretion and mutual consultation. ADG (Law & Order) was also abruptly and summarily replaced by the ECI a few days back. Deliberate transfers at the top echelons of the police administration on the instruction and at the behest of BJP, are having serious destabilising impact on the state administration.

It appears that there is a nexus between the complaints by BJP against the erstwhile DGP. The ECI unilaterally removing the DGP, the SP, and the District Police (who report to the new DGP) being absent at the time of the brazen attack on Ms. Mamata Banerjee.

The attack is a deep rooted conspiracy to take the life of our Chairperson. We call for an immediate investigation into the same.

While our Hon'ble Chairperson is still under the treatment of experienced doctors at the Government run SSKM Hospital in Kolkata, we have inputs that indicate that anti-social elements have been mobilised from different neighbouring states by the BJP into Nandigram. It would be appropriate to add that this is an attack on an empowered woman of Bengal who has dedicated her life to toil for the betterment of her constituents, without ever thinking of her own well-being.

Thanking You. Yours sincerely,

For All India Trinamool Congress

Derek O' Brien

Chandrima Bhattacharya