

## **Press Release: MLAs and MPs of Tripura with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2017**

**Agartala:** The Supreme Court on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2017 had pointed out the increasing criminalization in politics while directing the Centre to come up with a scheme to set-up special fast-track courts that would deal exclusively with the criminal cases pending against Legislators and Parliamentarians.

Based on the information available with **Tripura Election Watch** on sitting MLAs of **the Tripura Assembly**, it is seen that out of **60 MLAs** whose affidavits were analysed by ADR, **6 MLAs** or **10%** of the total MLAs had declared **pending criminal cases** against themselves at the time of contesting in elections held in 2013. Out of these, **5** had declared **serious criminal cases** and form or **8%** of the total number of sitting MLAs. Among the political parties, only **INC** has **sitting MLAs** with criminal cases while CPI(M) and CPI have none.

Party Name	Total number of MLAs analyzed	MLAs with declared Criminal Cases	% of MLAs with declared criminal cases	MLAs with serious declared criminal cases	% of MLAs with serious declared criminal cases
INC	9	6	67%	5	56%
CPI(M)	50	0	0%	0	0%
CPI	1	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8%</b>

The status of **Lok Sabha MPs from Tripura** with declared criminal cases against themselves is also **not very encouraging**. Out of 2 Lok Sabha MPs from Tripura, **1 (50%)** has declared cases against himself but does not have any serious cases pending.

Party Name	Total number of MPs analyzed	MPs with declared Criminal Cases	% of MPs with declared criminal cases	MPs with serious declared criminal cases	% of MPs with serious declared criminal cases
CPI(M)	2	1	50 %	0	0 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

The **Upper House of the Parliament** or the **Rajya Sabha** has one MP from Tripura who has not declared any criminal cases against herself in her self-declared affidavit.

It is hoped that the Centre would come up with the scheme to set up special fast-track courts by 13<sup>th</sup> December, as recommended by the Apex Court, in order to expedite trial of pending criminal cases against Legislators.

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