

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ, ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖನಾ ಶಾಖೆ  
KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, RESEARCH AND REFERENCE BRANCH

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
PAPER CLIPPINGS

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ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Other state matters

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: The Hindu ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 15/4/2021

## 'Ban Modi and Shah from campaigning in Bengal'

They violated the model code of conduct, Trinamool tells EC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A delegation of Trinamool Congress leaders met the Election Commission in Delhi on Wednesday and demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah be banned from campaigning for the remaining phases of the Assembly election in West Bengal since their "communal" speeches have violated the model code of conduct and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The party also registered a strong protest over the Election Commission's decision to ban West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee from campaigning for 24 hours for her comments

about Central forces following the death of four persons in firing by the CISF in Sitalkuchi.

"Such an act is *mala fide*, suffers from non-application of mind and is a violation of her fundamental rights," the party said in a memorandum submitted to the poll body in Delhi.

### 'Partisan behaviour'

"ECI was formed under the Constitution of India to be an independent body that would monitor and conduct general elections in India. Neutrality is *sine qua non* in discharge of its functions but during this Assembly election, it is apparent that the ECI is acting in a partisan manner, absolutely in favour

of the BJP and/or on its instructions, that is pre-announced by the BJP," the memorandum said.

The memorandum also highlighted instances where, according to the Trinamool, Mr. Shah and Mr. Modi violated the model code and the Representation of People Act. The Trinamool said at a rally on April 12 in Kalyani, Prime Minister Narendra Modi singled out the "Matua" and the "Namasudra" communities.

The party also accused Mr. Shah of invoking false narratives of caste discrimination when he accused the Trinamool of not "shedding tears" for the death of a youth from the Rajbongshi community.