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## TMC blames Modi govt for fueling inflation

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NEW DELHI: Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress lashed out at the Narendra Modi government on Tuesday for the rate of inflation going up and hitting the lives of common people.

Blaming the Centre's policies for the sufferings of citizens due to price rise, TMC MP Jawhar Sircar said, "You can't hide bad news for very long. We have crossed the 6% mark for retail inflation. The entire country is suffering. This is nothing but daylight robbery by the government."

While addressing a press conference here on behalf of his party, he said: "We have only received the first impact of the Ukraine crisis so far. The inflation in our country is being fuelled deliberately because our policymakers have no idea how to manage the economic crisis. There will be more such impacts in the coming months."

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Pointing out that most opposition parties are shying from raising the issues against the government, for fear of being harassed by central agencies, he said, "The spirit to fight is disappearing from the Opposition leaders, they are being demoralised by the constant harassment and the frequent ED and IT raids on them. Trinamool Congress, however, has shown resilience and the will to fight and defeat the BJP, as witnessed in the last State polls in Bengal.

Energised after the recent bypolls in Bengal that TMC won last week, Sircar hit out at the Centre saying, "Prime Minister

larendra Modi and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman are simply unable to control inflation and are, in fact, fuelling it."					

He pointed out that "Wholesale Price Index is higher at a record 14% over last year while Consumer Price Index is over the upper barrier of 6 %. This makes a mockery of the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee, for the second time since June 2021."

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"Our total public debt is at a dangerous level of 60 % of our entire annual national wealth, ie, our GDP. This is simply exceedingly bad financial management and the merciless sale of national assets to people favourable to the regime is bad politics and worse economics. The example of neighbouring Sri Lanka's unmanageable economy should wake us up," he warned.

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