

# Trinamool MP quits post, writes to Mamata Banerjee: 'Never seen such angst'

Indrajit KunduSuryagni RoyKolkata,UPDATED: Sep 8, 2024 13:19 ISTWritten By: Devika Bhattacharya

Trinamool Congress (TMC) Rajya Sabha MP Jawhar Sircar on Sunday resigned from his parliamentary post in protest of the Bengal government's handling of the [rape and murder of a trainee doctor](#) at a Kolkata hospital and all that ensued in its wake.

In a letter to Chief Minister and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee, Sircar laid into the "unchecked overbearing attitude of the favoured few and the corrupt" in his own party.

He expressed disappointment at not having been able to speak with Banerjee privately for several months. He also lamented the lack of action against corrupt officials and the party's failure to address the issue.

"I became increasingly disillusioned as the state government seemed quite unconcerned about corruption and the increasing strong-arm tactics of a section of leaders," he wrote.

"I just cannot accept some things, like [corrupt officers \(or doctors\)](#) getting prime and top postings," Sircar said.

The MP's resignation follows widespread protests in Bengal, sparked by the brutal rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College Hospital. Sircar said the public outrage reflects growing discontent with the TMC government, which he described as having lost the trust of the people.

"In all my years, I have not seen such angst and total no-confidence against the government, even when it says something correct or factual," he said.

Expressing his frustration with the government's response to the incident, he said, "I have suffered patiently for a month since the terrible incident at RG Kar Hospital, and was hoping for your direct intervention with the agitating junior doctors, in the old style of Mamata Banerjee. It has not happened and whatever punitive steps that government is taking now are too little and quite late."

Offering some parting advice, he urged the party to take a non-confrontational approach, stating that the protests are primarily driven by a desire for justice and punishment [rather than political motives](#). He warned that if the party does not correct its course, "communal forces will capture this state."

In his letter, Sircar announced his intention to take a step back from politics.

"I express my gratitude again for the opportunity you gave me to raise Bengal's issues in Parliament for three years, but I do not wish to continue as MP at all. My commitment to fight corruption, communalism, and authoritarianism in the Centre and the States is simply non-negotiable," he added.

In recent weeks, Mamata Banerjee has faced a growing chorus of criticism from within her party over her handling of the RG Kar incident. TMC leader [Santanu Sen was removed from his party post](#) after he spoke critically of the functioning of the state-run hospital. Veteran leader [Sukhendu Sekhar Ray had also questioned the police probe](#) into the doctor's rape and murder.

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