



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

PRESS NOTE

7 May 2018: The National Commission for Women (NCW) is in receipt of a complaint from a woman, a resident of Shantipur, District Nadia in West Bengal who has filed her nomination in upcoming 2018 West Bengal Panchayat election. The complainant in her petition to the NCW has made serious allegations of continuous treats to her and her husband by some anti social elements backed by a political party and pressurizing her to withdraw her nomination.

The woman, in her complaint, has mentioned that most recent incident happened at midnight of 29th April, 2018 wherein a group of people from a political party attacked and ransacked her house under the leadership of persons* in the ruling party.

She has stated that in the attack, her sister-in-law who is 6-months pregnant was also molested and brutally beaten by the said group. The complainant has further stated that her sister-in-law is presently in the hospital and her miscarriage is also being apprehended. A complaint was lodged in Nadia Police Station but no action has been taken till date.

Taking note of the seriousness of the incident wherein a woman in the advanced stages of pregnancy was brutally beaten, the Commission has written to the Chief Secretary of West Bengal and the Director General of Police (DGP) of West Bengal for investigation and to take appropriate strict action as per law and procedure because such an act invokes penal action. The NCW further directed the Chief Secretary and the DGP to apprise the Commission with the action taken report within one week from the receipt of the letter.

The Commission in its letter has also highlighted that such incidents discourage women to be part of the political system and keep them away from being politically empowered. And such incidents will definitely demoralize their representation on the political front, which is not acceptable in any circumstances.

*Names withheld
