

**CONSTITUENCIES**

**COOCH BEHAR, JALPAIGURI (SC), ALIPURDUAR (ST),  
DARJEELING, RAIGANJ, BALURGHAT (SC), MALDAH  
UTTAR, KOLKATA DAKSHIN, JANGIPUR, JAYNAGAR,  
KOLKATA UTTAR, HOWRAH, ULUBERIA, JHARGRAM,  
BIRBHUM, PURULIA.**

**People's  
Manifesto**  
**Amplifying People's Voices**

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WADA NA TODO ABHIYAN

**West Bengal | People's Manifesto**

# People in WB demand 200 days work under MGNREGA



**W**ada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA) and its partners in West Bengal carried out an extensive campaign in 16 parliamentary constituencies of the state to know the demands of the marginalized sections of society. Around 400 meetings were organized at block, village and town level in which people participated in large numbers and proactively put forward their demands for inclusion in People's Manifesto.

Demands came from all sections of society and were compiled to formulate a list of demands from the state. Women demanded strict enforcement of laws to prevent female feticide. They asked to ban the clinics conducting such tests. They also asked for care and protection of girl child from the government. Other demands for women welfare included strict enforcement and implementation of laws pertaining to violence and sexual harassment, facility of full forensic tests for rape victims at district

hospitals, ban on usage of chemical fertilizers immediately as it affects reproductive health of women, improve and implement laws to stop trafficking and sex trade and provide safe and full rehabilitation of trafficked victims. WNTA also met a group of women living in slums. The group demanded that there should be provision for their security as they are vulnerable to local hooligans and police torture.

Minority community in West Bengal demanded that the girls from the community should be provided safe environment, free hostels, libraries, free vocational training. They also demanded that Arabic language should be introduced in all curriculums for minority community. All government schemes for specific communities should be prepared in consultation with and implemented with the participation of that community or their organization.

Child rights organization and parents demanded that any kind of violence against children, child labour, child marriage shall be immediately stopped everywhere in the state. They asked that child labours must be rehabilitated and adequate support should be provided to the family of the victim.

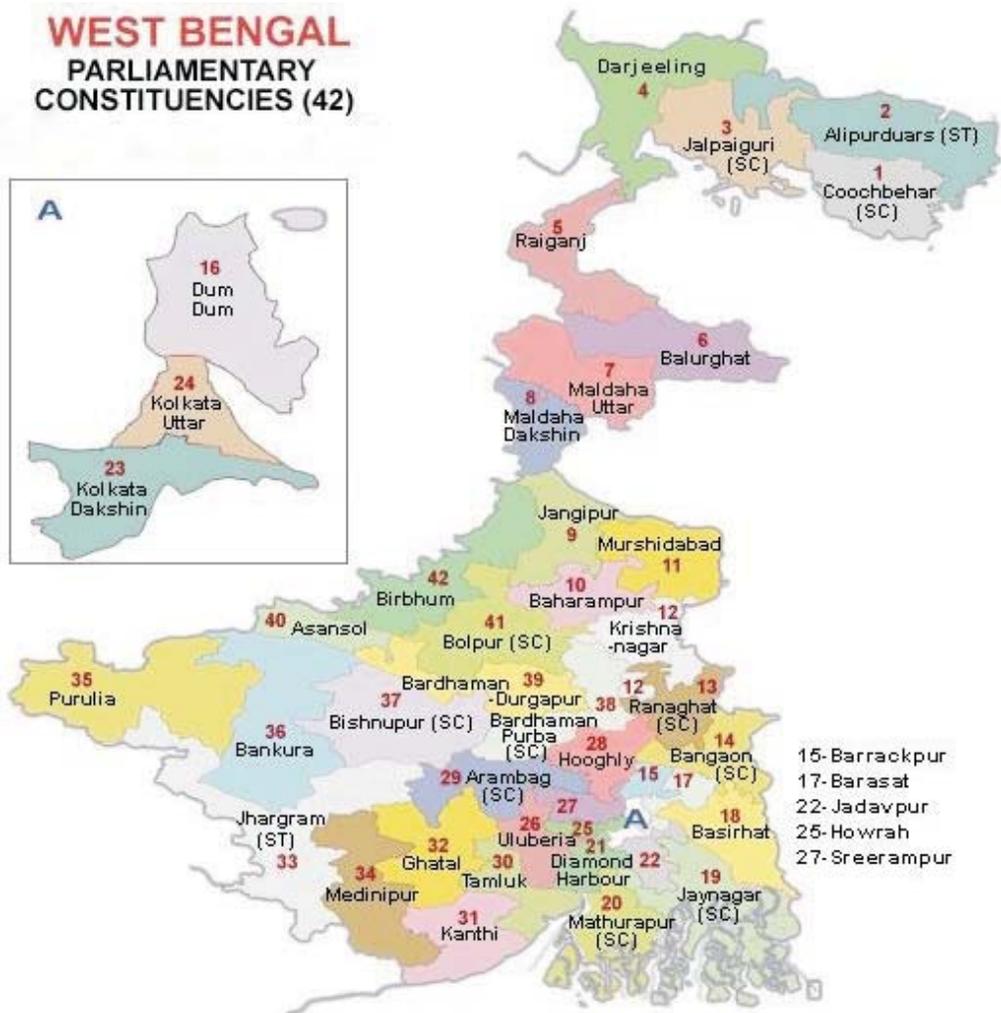
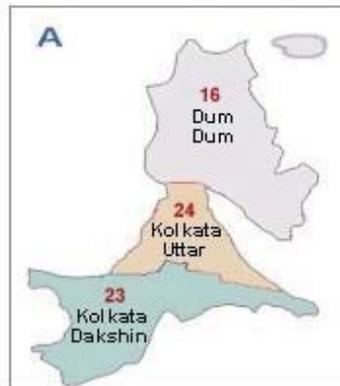
Labourers working in different sectors asked for better remuneration, good working conditions, and medical facilities. People demanded that the government shall recognise potters, blacksmiths, carpenters, cobblers, tailors, barbers, washmen and fishers as unorganized workers and ensure social benefits for them. Labourers in unorganized sector should have identity cards and also receive social benefits. Women workers demanded that there shall be facility of crèche near their workplace so that their children need not stay under the sky.

Sex workers too demanded that they shall be recognised as unorganized workers and shall be provided incentives for rehabilitation and pension in old age. Tea garden workers asked for a pay commission and medical facilities to one and all.

People in villages demanded that they shall be provided with 200 days work a year under MGNREGA and if the work is not allotted then they shall be given compensation. Monopoly over honey collection from forests by the forest development board should be curbed and indigenous wild honey collectors should have the right to collect and sell honey.

People also demanded for infrastructure development in all urban and rural areas of the state.

## WEST BENGAL PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES (42)



People in all the villages demanded that concrete Bridges should be constructed in place of Bamboo culverts. Proper connectivity of urban and rural areas was also a major demand. People in Coochbehar constituency demanded that electrification in all the blocks shall be completed in due time. Christian community in North Bengal demanded for funds and support from the government for repairing all the Churches in the region.

Meetings with political leaders were also held to push forward the demands of the people in the manifesto of political parties. Sultan Ahmed, former Union Minister of State for Tourism (Trinmool Congress), Haider Ali (TMC), Ahmed Hussain Imran, Rajya Sabha MP from TMC, Basant Kumar and Rajyashree Chowdhury from BJP and Md. Waizul Haque (President of Bhudhi Jeebi Manch), Abul Hasnat Khan from CPI (M), Narahari Mahato, an MP of All India Forward Block, and Partho Pratim Banerjee of Indian National Congress assured that they would push forward the demands raised in people's manifesto for inclusion in the manifestos of their political parties.

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