

DMK, Left in Tamil Nadu trade charges

A day after the ruling DMK attacked its erstwhile Left allies, the communists hit back Thursday saying the DMK is 'doomed to be defeated' in the polls if it continues to align with the Congress.

'The DMK's political policies have only helped rightist communal forces gain the upper hand in several states. If the chief minister continues the alliance with the Congress which is not sure of its stand on the Ram Sethu issue - one of the main projects of the state - it is doomed to be defeated in the (forthcoming) polls,' N. Varadarajan, state secretary of the Communist Party of India-Marxist, said in a statement here.

'It is amusing to note that the DMK, which had aligned itself with the NDA (National Democratic Alliance) in 1999, is talking about a principled party like ours facing rout in the ensuing elections,' Varadarajan added.

He was reacting to Wednesday's comments of DMK treasurer and Electricity Minister Arcot N. Veerasamy, who indicated rout for the Left at the hustings.

Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi countered the Left, saying: 'It must be remembered that the DMK had quit the NDA cabinet when the Bharatiya Janata Party violated the common minimum programme inked by all its members. But, some parties say one thing, pursue an altogether different industrial policy where they are in power and question routine law and order situations in states ruled by allies.'

He was making an apparent reference to the Nandigram problem in Left-ruled West Bengal and the CPI-M criticism of police firing in rural Tamil Nadu a few days ago.

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