Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala, Media Incharge, AICC has issued the following statement to the press today:-

A story of 'Rank Opportunism & Treachery with People's Mandate' was written in Bihar today by BJP and Shri Nitish Kumar. Truth is that 'hunger for power has over powered' everything else. The mask of 'big talks and self-professed honesty' stands exposed with the sole principle being 'power at any cost, power at all costs'.

On 27th July, 2015; Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in a rally in Muzaffarpur, Bihar questioned the 'political DNA' of Shri Nitish Kumar. It has been proved today that the political DNA of BJP and JDU is identical – Opportunism, Treachery, Hunger for Power & Disregard of People's Mandate.

In November, 2015; people of Bihar rejected the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi as also the policies of Bhartiya Janata Party. Mandate of people of Bihar was in favour of policies, principles and leadership of Mahagathbandhan. Janata Dal United led by Shri Nitish Kumar won the least percentage of seats contested by RJD, JDU and the Congress. Despite this, three parties of the Mahagathbandhan unanimously elected Shri Nitish Kumar as Chief Minister of Bihar with the good wishes of Congress President and Congress Vice-President.

It is a double whammy for democracy that within 20 months, politics of 'Aaya Ram – Gaya Ram' & 'Opportunism' was repeated when a party (BJP) rejected by people and a leader (Shri Nitish Kumar) hungry for power at any cost, formed a government overnight. Shri Nitish Kumar and JDU were never given the mandate to rule Bihar alone by the people and BJP was decisively rejected. The new BJP-JDU government is founded upon political conspiracy rather than people's mandate and has no right to continue even for a day as it is an affront to the mandate given by people of Bihar.

To decimate democracy & denigrate people's mandate has become the accepted 'way forward' for the ruling BJP. Firstly, people's will was brutally rejected by BJP in Goa and a party (BJP) defeated by people of Goa forcibly formed the government. This derogation of democracy was repeated in Manipur when BJP (which was in minority) constituted a government by upsetting majority numbers through rank defections. In Bihar, every political and democratic principle was murdered in broad daylight and a government of BJP-JDU has been formed today, which neither has the people's mandate nor the authority to rule. This is a black day for India's democracy. Indian National Congress is committed to protect and carry on the fight for protecting democratic principles in face of these brutal onslaughts by fascist forces.