

PRESS RELEASE

Sept. 16, 2017

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

Persecution, vendetta and vilification of opposition leaders have become the 'sine qua non' of the current BJP government. Tragically, CBI, ED and other investigating agencies have become the captive puppets in government's disgraceful mal-intent to oppress, hound and intimidate its opponents.

Repeated persecution and scurrilous witch hunt of the family of former Finance Minister & Home Minister and senior Congress leader, Shri P. Chidambaram in Aircell-Maxis case by BJP government and CBI/ED have crossed all proportions in complete negation of the facts.

Aircel-Maxis transaction was approved by Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) in 2006. Incidentally, FIPB comprises of six senior most Secretaries of Government of India. Concurrence and approval then came from the then Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram.

Agencies did question Shri Chidambaram in the year 2014. FIPB officials were questioned. Agencies deliberately widened the ambit and questioned Shri Karti Chidambaram on 19.11.2014, but he categorically rejected the innuendoes and insinuations of knowledge or connection to Aircel-Maxis transaction.

A charge sheet was then filed against Maxis and the Maran brothers. By order dated 02.02.2017, the Special Judge has quashed the charges and terminated the proceedings.

Three years later and after quashing of proceedings and charges by the Special Judge, CBI/ED is still hounding the family of Shri P. Chidambaram, including his son Karti Chidambaram in a malicious fashion. This is despite the fact that the original FIR made no mention of any family member of Shri P. Chidambaram as also the fact that charge sheet and proceedings have been quashed by the Special Judge.

People of this country would not be fooled by such diversionary tactics of BJP government from its abject failures on the core issues of unemployment, economic downslide, farm distress, demonetization disaster and a repressive tax regime with the entire spectrum of State authorities being used to convert the country into a police state.

For neither will Congress Party nor its leaders despair or quit from speaking the truth, as Mahatma Gandhi said, “Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is the truth.”