

PRESS RELEASE

Sept. 22, 2016

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

In his jarring and impudent address to United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) yesterday, Pakistan PM, Shri Nawaz Sharif repeated the same shrill and clichéd statements to belie Pakistan's diabolical support to terrorism. Conspiratorial omission to Uri Attack in his speech is a public admission of guilt by Pakistan, of its direct involvement in this act of cowardice. There was nothing new in his address, except glorification of terrorists and extremism which Pakistan has adopted as 'state policy'.

After taking his brief from his real handlers i.e. the Military establishment and ISI in Rawalpindi, all that the Pakistan Prime Minister came up with at the UNGA was a confirmation that his country is indeed a 'renegade state' that has emerged as the 'central processing unit' (CPU) of global terror. All that Shri Nawaz Sharif did was characteristically misleading posturing. Is it not a fact that the masterminds of the 26/11 Mumbai Attack, Udampur, Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Pampore and Uri Attacks operate from Pakistani soil with complete impunity? Is it not a fact that hundreds of dreaded international terrorists of the ilk of Maulana Masood Azhar, Hafiz Saeed, Dawood Ibrahim are operating under the tutelage of rogue agencies like ISI of Pakistan? Is it not a fact that terrorism from Pakistani soil is not only emanating against India, but also against neighbours like Afghanistan and Bangladesh? Has the world forgotten that Osama Bin Laden found shelter in Abbottabad, Pakistan next to an Army Garrison? Travesty is that Pakistan still has the audacity to speak on terrorism.

The "precondition" which the Pakistani counterpart talks about is the simple demand by India to end cross border terrorism- and this India, as a victim of terrorism emanating from Pakistani soil, has been raising since more than a decade. If Pakistan, does not dismantle its terror machinery, and calls this as 'unacceptable preconditions' – then it is obvious that 'terrorism' is its 'state policy'. We would like to categorically tell Mr. Sharif, that talks are no favour to India. Pakistan's unending belligerence has denied opportunities to our countries to establish any kind of cordial peace.

In glorifying a terrorist like Burhan Wani, Shri Nawaz Sharif only reiterated where his and his country's sympathies and support lies. The international community must now understand fully that it is not only terrorists in Kashmir that Pakistan supports but its state policy is to provide an umbrella support and sustenance to all those who wreck havoc across the world, including in France, Bangladesh, USA, Britain and Belgium.

In what has now become habitual, Shri Nawaz Sharif again invoked Kashmir at a multi lateral forum, despite Pakistan being a signatory to the Shimla Accord. In citing 'Intifada' in Kashmir, Shri Nawaz Sharif looks like that emperor who plays flute while his entire country, right from Khyber to Baluchistan to Sindh is up in a violent intifada against his nation state.

True to their habit, Pakistan has raised Jammu and Kashmir in the UNGA. We, as a responsible political party which has shaped India's destiny, want to put this on record once again- that Jammu and Kashmir (including the areas of PoK, Gilgit Baltistan & Aksai Chin) are in integral and inseparable part of India. We would like the Government to convey this message to Pakistan in no uncertain terms. We are confident that an already wary International community has seen through Pakistan's vile designs.

Since Modi Government has followed the Congress-UPA's policy in raising the issue of human rights violations in Balochistan, it is imperative for us to sensitize the International Community and the UN with this issue. We urge upon the Prime Minister and the Government to consult all political parties in taking a concrete and tangible step on this.

The Indian National Congress expects the External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj to give a strong and a befitting reply to this address and to build a strong and factual case for India in front of the International community, when she addresses the UNGA on Monday. This is imperative as EAM was not present in nearly all the initial meetings held to assess the situation and review security chaired either by Prime Minister or other Ministers.

Lastly, we reiterate our support to the Government of the day in taking any useful concrete steps in national interest after taking all stakeholders and political parties in confidence.