

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Dec. 14, 2014

**Randeep Singh Surjewala, MLA, Spokesperson, All India Congress Committee has issued the following statement to the press today:-**

- “1. Four ‘Cs’ – Consensual mal-governance, concerted loot, conspiratorial corruption and criminal spread of nexalism have been the four hallmarks of Bhartiya Janata Party in Jharkhand.

BJP and its leaders are single-handedly responsible for four ‘Bs’ of Jharkhand – Backwardness, Bankruptcy of development, Bitter Poverty and Benchmark of Lowest Level on ‘Human Development Index’.

2. Since the constitution of State of Jharkhand fourteen years ago (15.11.2000 to 31-11-2014 – 4160 days), BJP has ruled the State for 3134 days i.e. 8.6 or nearly 9 years.

3. Jharkhand is easily the richest State with 40% of India’s minerals. State alone has nearly 8,07,100 lakh tons of reserves of Coal (27% of India’s Coal), nearly 4,03,500 lakh tons of iron ore reserves besides other important minerals like Mica, Bauxite, Quartzite, Copper Ore, Graphite etc.

Jharkhand has, however, been mined and vandalized by BJP in 9 years of its misrule for corruption, crony capitalism and extending favours to select industrialists by duping the people of State of their resources, forests, land and employment.

4. **We ask Bhartiya Janta Party, Prime Minister – Shri Narendra Modi and its leaders to answer six questions to people of Jharkhand in this Election:-**

(i) BJP has ruled the State of Jharkhand for 3134 days out of 4160 days (nearly 9 years). What has BJP and its leaders done for the development and progress of State of Jharkhand?

(ii) In year 2005, BJP government of Shri Arjun Munda signed 42 MoUs worth Rs.1,69,198.26 crore with Power, Steel and other companies projecting it as one of the biggest partnership in India’s history for industrialization, creation of jobs, development, prosperity and resource generation for State.

BJP remained in power at that time for 555 days (12.03.2005 to 14.09.2006) and twice thereafter for 1012 days (30.12.2009 to 31.05.2010 and 11.09.2010 to 18.01.2013) i.e. a total of 1567 days.

Why was not a single MoU implemented, employment created, development and prosperity done? What is BJP's credibility now considering its track record?

- (iii) On November 15, 2002; the then Deputy Prime Minister and BJP's senior most leader – Shri Lal Krishan Advani laid the foundation stone of 'Greater Ranchi' at Sukurhuttu' with great fanfare for giving the State of Jharkhand a most modern, planned and developed capital of India that would become the best business centre leaving behind cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta besides emerging as an IT and job creation hub.

Since then, BJP has ruled the State of Jharkhand for 2704 days.

What has happened to the creation of country's best business hub, IT as also job creation hub, trading and investment destination? Will BJP and Prime Minister – Shri Narendra Modi answer to people of Jharkhand?

- (iv) Jharkhand is richest State in India with 40% of country's minerals, flora and fauna, environment and nature's bounty. Will the BJP, which has ruled the State for majority of 9 years, answer as to:-

- \* Why does the State State rank at Sr.No.19 (out of 23) in terms of 'Human Development Index'?
- \* Why are 35 lakh households below poverty line out of a total of 69 lakh households?
- \* Why does State has a debt of nearly 37,000 crores i.e. Rs.10,909/- per person?
- \* Why do 74% houses in villages and 60% houses in entire State have no access to electricity? Why is it that only a little over 4000 villages out of 32615 villages have electricity?
- \* Why is merely 28% of land of State under agricultural cultivation and why only 17% of this is irrigated in a State with most fertile land and abundant natural resources?

- \* Why is Jharkhand ranked at No.27 (out of 28 States surveyed) in unemployment ratio with unemployment rate of 27.4%?
  - \* What has Modi government done in last six months to correct this after getting 12 out of 14 Parliament seats and 40% vote share in Jharkhand?
- (v) Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Amit Shah and other BJP leaders have been attacking Congress and other parties on trumped up allegations of dynastic rule both in the State of Jharkhand and Jammu & Kashmir by calling for removal of ‘Baap-Beta Ki Sarkar’.

Is this rhetoric, double speak or language of political convenience by Prime Minister - Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Amit Shah and his party, particularly when Shri Modi and other BJP leaders have been propping up, propagating and promoting similar, ‘family alliances’ in NDA as also his own government.

- \* Will Shri Modi break BJP’s alliance and walk out of ‘Baap-Beta Ki Sarkar’ in Punjab where S. Parkash Singh Badal is Chief Minister and his son – S. Sukhbir Badal is Deputy Chief Minister?
- \* Will Shri Modi break BJP’s alliance with Shiv Sena in Maharashtra where BJP runs its minority government with ‘Baap-Beta Ki Party’ where Shri Udhav Thackeray is President of Shiv Sena and his son – Aditya Thackeray is President of Yuva Shiv Sena?
- \* Will Shri Modi break BJP’s alliance with Telugu Desham Party (TDP), who runs a similar family alliance with Shri Chandrababu Naidu as Chief Minister and his son – Nara Lokesh Chandra Naidu as Head of TDP’s Youth Wing?
- \* Will Shri Narendra Modi break BJP’s alliance with ‘Apna Dal’ in Uttar Pradesh wherein Mrs. Anu Priya Patel daughter of late Shri Sona Lal Patel runs a similar family headed political party?
- \* Will Shri Modi break BJP’s alliance with ‘Lok Jan Shakti Party’ (LJP) whose President is Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (also a Minister in his Cabinet), his son – Chirag Paswan is MP and Chairman of LJP’s Parliamentary Board and his brother – Shri Ram Chandra Paswan is Party’s MP?

- \* Will Shri Modi and BJP apply the same yardstick to their own Party where Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal is Leader of Opposition of BJP in Himachal Legislative Assembly and his son – Shri Anurag Thakur is Head of National Youth Wing of BJP and is an MP? Similarly, Shri Rajnath Singh is Union Home Minister and his son – Shri Pankaj Singh is General Secretary of UP BJP. Also Smt. Vasundhara Raje Scindia is Chief Minister of BJP government in Rajasthan and her son Dushyant is BJP MP.
- (vi) Will BJP and Shri Narendra Modi explain as to whether the new Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Ordinance (brought on 21.12.2014) not lead to loss of royalty as also loss of jobs for coal producing States like Jharkhand?
- \* Is it not true that vide this Ordinance, Modi government has amended Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 (by adding Section 3A) and Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 (by substituting Section 11A), both of which state that the companies “may carry on coal mining operations in India, in any form, either for own consumption, sale or for any other purpose in accordance with the permit, prospecting licence or mining lease, as the case may be.” ‘Companies’ have been defined to mean (a) Central and State government companies or PSUs or any other company incorporated in India; and (b) a company or joint venture company formed by two or more companies.
  - \* Does it not open the entire coal industry of Jharkhand and India for mining by private companies either for consumption or sale for any other purpose taking away the exclusive monopoly of PSU Maharatna – Coal India Limited (CIL) including its subsidiary, Central Coal Fields Limited (CCL), Ranchi? Will it not lead to loss of jobs in CIL that employs nearly 3,57,000 employees and CCL that employs nearly 60,000 employees? How will the States including Jharkhand get to recover royalty from private companies operating Coal Mines?
  - \* Is it not true that this Ordinance divides coal blocks in to three schedules? First Schedule is of non-operational Coal Blocks. Second Schedule is of operational Coal Blocks. Third Schedule is of operational Coal Blocks under various stages of development? Is it not true that this law empowers Modi government to allot these developed/under-development Coal Blocks falling in Schedules Two and Three to either PSUs or

private companies engaged in end use of power, steel, cement production without auction? If there is no auction but limited allocation, will it lead to decrease or increase of royalty of States like Jharkhand?

- \* In Financial Year 2013-14, CIL sold 570 lakh tons of coal through e-auction and earned around Rs.6,000 crore which was 40% of its total earnings. Is it not true that on 19.06.2014 in Kolkatta, Shri Modi's Coal Minister - Shri Piyush Goyal has issued a directive to cut e-auction of CIL to supply coal to private power plant at notified price? Will this sale of coal to private parties at fixed price not lead to loss of revenue to CIL and consequent loss of royalty to State of Jharkhand?
- \* How would the revenue of 20,000 crores be generated for State of Jharkhand in these circumstances as is being promised in public meetings by Prime Minister – Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Amit Shah and BJP leaders? Is it a mere poll announcement? What is its foundation?

A clear majority for Indian National Congress is the only guarantee for balanced, holistic and inclusive development of State of Jharkhand.”