

PRESS RELEASE

August 31, 2016

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

Media reports disclose submission of report by Justice S.N. Dhingra Commission of Inquiry to Government of Haryana at 4.00 PM in the afternoon today. Let this report be made public. We will give a detailed response after examining the report.

Even before the report was submitted to government today, portions thereof were leaked to press and aired on most television channels. This reflects the malintent and a sinister conspiracy of Haryana government, top leadership of BJP and even the Commission itself. It clearly proves that sole intent is to defame, conspire and malign, rather than adjudge the issues fairly.

BJP, including its governments at Center and State, have run a political agenda of vendetta and revenge for years together purely with a view to vilify and slander. Constitution of Dhingra Commission was nothing but a mere cog in the wheel of this malicious witch hunt propagated and perpetuated by BJP for years together with complete and utter disregard for truth and facts.

Circumstances and facts clearly suggest that Justice S.N. Dhingra Commission of Inquiry has been unable to appreciate this conspiracy of name calling and maligning without an iota of evidence. Naked prejudice in the very constitution of Dhingra Commission is apparent from one simple fact – Various State governments have licenced 33,697.57 acres of land in Haryana. Out of this, Commission was asked to inquire into only 16 cases of commercial licences totaling a mere 63.40 acres in Sector-83, Gurgaon only because it included a licence measuring 2.7 acres owned by Skylight Hospitality Private Limited of Shri Robert Vadra.

There is not even a whisper of favour, preferential treatment or violation of any rule/regulation/policy in the grant of licence for a small piece of 2.7 acres of land to Skylight Hospitality Private Limited of Shri Robert Vadra in Village Shikohpur, Sector-83, Gurgaon. Even the licence for this 2.7 acres of Skylight has not been renewed. Final permission for transfer of licence from Skylight to DLF has also not been granted till date. Once, neither has the licence been renewed nor the

permission for transfer granted by the government, where is the question of any undue favour.

Even Khattar government has granted numerous licences under the same licencing policy in 2015 and 2016. Does it mean that there should be an inquiry against Shri Manohar Lal Khattar and BJP government also? On one hand, BJP government had constituted a commission to frame strict and transparent norms for grant of licences. On the other hand, government has issued a policy dated 18.02.2015 liberally permitting change in developer, transfer of joint development rights and even transfer of FSI i.e. Floor Space Index by making them a 'tradable commodity'. What, then, is the justification for constitution of the commission at all.

Sections 8B and Section 8C of The Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952. require that any person prejudicially affected by findings of the Commission must be granted an opportunity of hearing, right to produce evidence in his defence, cross examine the witnesses who have deposed before the Commission and address the Commission in order to establish his innocence. Neither Shri Robert Vadra nor any officer of his company or Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda or any other person have been summoned by Justice Dhingra Commission in terms of Section 8B or Section 8C. That being so, no adverse finding can be given against any person by the Commission in accordance with law.

Lastly, Justice S.N. Dhingra has compromised his position as an independent and neutral arbiter by accepting favours from the present BJP government of Haryana for Gopal Singh Charitable Trust headed by him, including expenditure of nearly Rs.1 crore from public exchequer in contravention of government norms, besides accepting gift of land free of cost in Gurgaon for his Trust from a private individual. Following may be perused:-

(i) Justice Dhingra heads Gopal Singh Charitable Trust based in Niti Bagh, New Delhi. A private individual, Harish Chakarvarty has proceeded to gift a chunk of land measuring 3K-14M in Village Jatola, District Gurgaon vide gift deed dated 09.11.2015 to this Trust free of cost, completely ignoring a few thousand other trusts operating in Haryana, including many trusts and NGOs located in Gurgaon. Incidentally, this gift deed has been executed after the constitution of Justice S.N. Dhingra Commission on 14.05.2015 to examine the case of licencing in Sector-83, Gurgaon. A valid question arises qua the reasons, persuasion and