



## STATEMENT OF SHRI K.C.VENUGOPAL, GENERAL SECRETARY, AICC

22 December, 2020

Lakhs of India's farmers have been on protest in freezing weather against the three blatantly anti agriculture laws aimed at bartering their interests in the hands of a select crony capitalist friends of Modi Government. They have been blocked from entering the National Capital of Delhi on for last 27 days despite prior notice and peaceful intent.

The three anti-farmers legislation have caused immense pain and anguish among the farmers and farm labour across India. The farmers have been agitating requesting the Government of India to annul these anti-farmers legislations and since last few days, they are sitting on an indefinite strike against these laws. 44 Farmers have already lost their lives during the ongoing protests.

Led by Sh. Rahul Gandhi, Indian National Congress along with other political parties had vehemently opposed the bills inside and outside the Parliament. Sh. Rahul Gandhi and Congress leaders undertook an extensive 'Tractor Yatra' across Punjab and Haryana as also in different states.

The arrogant Modi government having initially duped the farmers group by putting on a conciliatory face, soon made its intransience apparent. It has become absolutely clear that the Modi Govt is only committed to the welfare of large corporates instead of innocent farmers and farm labour. The government has also been on an overdrive using public money to create false propaganda and narrative in favour of the draconian farmers bill and discrediting the protesting farmers. It is pushing manufactured Surveys in media discourse to create support in favour of these anti farmer laws.

From taking the government headon in Parliament, where the government blatantly and undemocratically suspended opposition MPs to labelling us as anti-national, the government has chosen to brazenly defame, discredit and eventually tire out the lakhs of protesting farmers. The Modi government and its ministers have chosen to insult them.

As a step further in the sustained opposition to the anti farmers legislations, the Congress party had launched a Nationwide campaign for collecting memoranda of appeals addressed to the Hon'ble President of India signed by the farmers, farm labourers and other stake holders opposing these legislations right from the initial stage of introduction of these Bills in the Parliament. Around 2 crore signatures, urging the intervention from Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji for withdrawal of the three Legislations, have been collected till now.

A delegation of Congress MPs and leaders led by former Congress President Shri. Rahul Gandhi, MP will be submitting these signatures to the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji on 24th December, 2020 urging the intervention of Hon'ble President for annulling the three black laws.