

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Another Appeal to agitating Students

21 February 2017

The JNU Administration is aghast at the misinformation the agitating students have been spreading. The university's web site and media reports have plenty of appeals and requests made by the administration to these students to refrain from unlawful and harmful methods of protests and come forward for peaceful discussion and dialogue. The best of dialogues can take place only between student representatives and Administration officials. But the agitating students are insisting that the Vice Chancellor must come and answer questions at mass gathering of students! There is a repeated misinformation campaign to mislead the public and show their illogical demands as genuine concerns.

The Administration has never opposed dialogue and discussion. Significantly, even the newly elected JNUTA, instead of approaching the administration to discuss issues related to admission policy, has preferred to take JNU's issues outside of the campus. The JNUTA has not even once given a call for ending the seize of the administration building, although a large number of teachers have not been able to process various official papers, including foreign travel leave applications, interview for guest faculty, PhD viva voce of their students, medical claims for their family members etc.

In recent times, there have been incidents where some students have resorted to confining top JNU officials for above 20 hours, breaking open the doors and disrupting meetings, putting locks in various School Buildings to prevent classes, occupying the administration building, and blockading it for several days. All these incidents ironically are not considered law and order problems by JNUTA!

Eleven days have passed since these students have been engrossed in a mode of protest that has done irreparable damages to the interests of vast number of students who have been sent by their parents from different parts of the country to study and research in JNU.

The agitators do not care at all when thousand plus contractual labourers suffer because of their agitation, and yet shed crocodile tears by invoking "social justice" arguments. Do they worry at all when the university has lost huge sums of money, that are actually the country's taxpayers' money, due to their occupation and blockade of the Administrative Building? Do they respect academics, when official papers of faculty and students related to their academic engagements in India and abroad are not processed due to their illegal seizer of the office building?

Before the students, teachers, staff and officers of the university lose their current level of tolerance and patience at the state of affairs, agitating students

should abandon the unlawful path of confrontation. JNU has been a great source of inspiration to millions of students and teachers of other educational institutions of the country for decades. But the current mode of student agitation is anything but inspiring!

The JNU Administration yet again makes an appeal to the agitating students to keep the interests of others above narrow political gains, pay heed to the appeals of the Officers' Association, Staff Association and SC/ST Association; and immediately end the seizure of the administration building.

Registrar