

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

Press Note

06 January 2019

It is unfortunate that JNUTA and JNUSU have yet again fed the media with false and malicious information tarnishing the image of the university. To begin with the JNU rules on attendance have been grossly misrepresented. These rules have been made by the statutory bodies of the university whereas the distracters are repeatedly questioning the procedure of adopting the attendance rule. It requires emphasis that the UGC Regulations 2018 categorically stipulate that the faculty members in the high education institutions should remain present in their respective offices for at least five hours each working day. JNU, like hundreds of other universities and thousands of colleges in the country, follows the UGC notifications and frames ordinances and rules: and does not go by the practices and opinions of foreign universities. The latest JNUTA press release clearly reflects that it opposes the rules of its own university and seeks opinions of colleagues from foreign universities just to oppose the JNU administration. It needs underlining that except for a few politically opinionated JNUTA members, the rest of the faculty members have been diligently following the attendance rules.

Secondly, it is surprising that office bearers of yet to be notified JNUSU have been spreading motivated misinformation on the social media questioning the wisdom of the university to invite two spiritual leaders and promoters of social harmony and peace. It is most surprising that such concerns were never raised when previous administrations also invited a similar great spiritual leader to speak and interact with the members of JNU community. The arithmetic of the complainants is also questionable when innumerable students and faculty participate in such events.

More unfortunate is the half-truth spread by the same group of students and faculty on facilities extended to Persons with Disabilities including visually impaired students. JNU has always taken a compassionate view and has adopted lenient policies by following the government rules and guidelines. Facilities provided to such students by JNU is demonstrably better than hundreds of other higher educational institutions. It is deplorable that some student leaders are politicizing academic performances and the evaluation system of the university.

Registrar