

All India Democratic Students' Organisation - AIDS0

All India Democratic Youth Organisation - AIDYO

Bangalore District Committees

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To,
The Editor,
Bangalore

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SUB: Students and Youths stand firm against vitiating the democratic atmosphere in Universities.

Hundreds of students from all over the city gathered in a convention at **UVCE Alumni Association** Hall to condemn attacks on the democratic atmosphere in JNU, Central University at Hyderabad and other educational centers and to express support for the demand of free and open environment for clash of ideas in all the educational institutions.

The convention was organized by the **Bangalore District Committees of AIDS0 and AIDYO**, jointly.

The Retd. Judge, freedom fighter and author of many books **Sri.Ko.Chennabasappa**, said "our country's constitution has assured every individual the Right to Free Speech, dissent, debate & discussion. Even during Emergency in the country the Government was criticized tooth and nail for curtailing the democratic rights of the people. We cannot remain as mute spectators to the socio-political developments in the country. The students and youths must exhibit spirit of struggle and & sacrifice by resisting any move to curb fundamental rights".

Sri.Sanath Kumat Belagali criticized the Govt. at the Centre for tacitly supporting heinous attacks on democratic rights of students and vitiating the academic atmosphere. The government is imposing its agenda, by interfering in the functioning of various institutions as evident from the appointment of the Chairman of FTII, banning of Ambedkar Periyar Students' study centre in IIT Chennai, implicitly abetting the suicide of Rohith Vemula, passing directives to IITs to follow its diktats and many more. He also said that we have to question the idea of 'nationalism' of the Sangh Parivar itself.

Smt.Hemalatha Mahishi, Senior Advocate said that the real face of the Modi Govt. is completely exposed in its handling of JNU issue. She cautioned the students that many vested interests are trying to extract political mileage out of the melee. She condemned the attacks perpetrated by some lawyers on the 'accused' students and journalists and demanded stringent action against them.

Dr.B.R.Manjunath, All India President, AIDYO said that the idea of nationalism is rooted in the real love for suffering masses and not in empty slogans. He quoted **Vivekananda** who said "**I call him a traitor who, having been educated, nursed in luxury by the heart's blood of the downtrodden millions of toiling poor, never even takes a thought for them.**" He also said that Universities must truly become seats of higher learning and centers of intense debate and discussions where diverse opinions can be raised without any fear. He called upon the students and youths to intensify their fight against growing atmosphere of intolerance in the country.

Sri.V.N.Rajashekar started his speech by quoting **Nethaji Subash Chandra Bose**, "**If discussions about the current state of affairs be branded as politics, if attempts to improve the lot of motherland be branded as politics, then neither for students nor for teachers is there any alternative but to join politics.**" Further he exposed the cunningness of the rightist forces, who brand anybody who speaks against the Central Government as pro-congress. "But AIDS0 fought against all the anti-education moves of all the erstwhile governments including that of the Congress. It had taken part in the JP movement too" he said. He further said that their motto is that 'if you are not with us, then you are with them (Anti-Nationals)'. Sri.Chikkaraju extended support to the movement on the behalf of Students Federation of India (SFI).

News by,
(Ravinandan.B.B)

Secretary,
Bangalore District Committee, AIDS0