

MEMORANDUM

To

Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Jawaharlal Nehru University
New Delhi

Respected Sir,

We, the members of All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO), All India Students' Association (AISA), All India Students' Federation (AISF) and Students' Federation of India (SFI) express our dismay over the worsening conditions in JNU. For more than a week now, the students in JNU are on hunger strike with fast deteriorating health. Some of them are hospitalized and their condition continues to be critical. At this critical hour, we express our solidarity and support to the students of the JNU who are protesting against the recommendations of the High Level Enquiry Committee (HLEC).

The recommendations of the HLEC which have been accepted by the JNU administration has come as a rude shock not only to the academic community and students of JNU but to democratic minded people of the whole world who were watching these developments with anxiety. The travesty is that the university authorities initially violated all the democratic norms by allowing police to enter and interfere with protest of the students, which could have been dealt with according to the internal mechanisms of the university. This unwarranted action on the part of the authorities, which led to world-wide condemnation, culminated in the institution of criminal proceedings on the charges of sedition against the student leaders. Now, when the ongoing judicial proceedings have revealed glaring anomalies in the charges framed against the students, who have also been allowed bail by the court, the university authorities have chosen to influence the judicial process by publicizing the recommendations of the handpicked HLEC and punishing the students immediately thereafter. The university is trying its utmost to paint the student leaders as anti-national criminals without any substantial evidence against them.

The steps taken by the university administration in the meantime in not allowing outside students and academic community to enter into the campus for expressing solidarity with the protesting students and declaring the hunger strike as an unlawful activity, is totally shameful and against democratic norms.

All the sensitive sections of the society are observing keenly that the tone and tenor of the JNU administration matches the actions of the BJP government at the centre in nakedly pursuing its divisive communal politics which is being challenged by the progressive forces of our country. With the motive of crushing this challenge and the country-wide protests that are growing day by day, they are targeting the premier institutions of learning in the country like JNU, for such fascist attacks. Involvement of ABVP activists in the incident of JNU, the hate campaign initiated against the leftism and the vindictive attitude of the central government bears testimony to the conspiracy hatched by the Sangh Parivaar.

We request you to act impartially in the interests of students' community and appeal to you to immediately drop all the charges leveled against the students, withdraw unfair penalties imposed on them on the basis of the recommendations of the HLEC and take all possible steps without any delay to restore normalcy in the campus.

Looking forward for a positive response from you.

Thanking You

AIDSO

AISA

AISF

SFI