

To

The Vice Chancellor,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University,  
New Delhi-110067

Anubh K.  
24.01.2018.

Date: 24 January, 2018

**Sub: Reservations against Mandatory Attendance Rules**

Dear Vice Chancellor,

With reference to the Circular dated 10 January 2018 (Reference No. IV/Eval.II/28/AS/2018/), it is bring to your notice that after a lot of deliberation during the General Body Meeting (GBM) held on January 17, 2018 by the concerned students of the Centre for International Politics Organization and Disarmament (CIPOD/SIS) that we feel obliged to write you this letter registering our opposition to the rule of mandatory attendance on a daily basis at our Center. While we accept that bi-monthly interactions with the respective supervisors is productive for research, however, **merely signing attendance registers in person does not add to academic excellence**. In fact, CIPOD as a center already has the following systems to encourage academic engagements:

- Progress Report to be attached with the registration form every semester during the registration process.
- An attendance register being maintained for weekly Wednesday Seminars
- Research advisory committee for PhD students which meets often to keep a track on the progress of research.

We the students have the following reservations to the rule for mandatory attendance:

**1. No clear correlation between Academic Excellence and Physical Attendance in Social Science Research**

In contrast to the laboratory based scientific research, scholars in Social Science are not required to be physically present at the Centre every day. Social science research instead requires free and organic academic environment which encourages academic participation through regular seminars and presentations etc.

**2. Academic Engagements outside the Campus**

JNU has been known to maintain academic standards consistently beyond other social science universities of the country. To keep up such standards, the average scholar needs to not only spend hours at various libraries but also attend classes beyond the physical walls of the campus. Going by the current instructions, this would be tantamount to violating the attendance laws. Without accessing the various sources located outside the campus it is unlikely that scholars would produce quality academic work.

### **3. An increased bureaucratic hassle**

As a result of the circular for taking due permissions for all the potential academic endeavors like fieldwork, internships, conferences, workshops etc. from not only the respective supervisors/chairpersons of the students but also an unidentified 'competent authority' remains simply detrimental to such initiatives in addition to being quite taxing, time consuming and puzzling for the researchers.

### **4. Sponsorship at Par**

At the very outset, following the model of other institutes of excellence, besides select universities overseas, must also mean an increment in the level of academic sponsorships and scholarships awarded to the researchers. We request the authority to kindly undertake a review of its policies regarding scholarships to researchers, at both intra and inter institutional levels.

### **5. Travel Time and Expenses**

The circular causes additional burden on the scholar financially, where not only multiple modes of transportation need to be availed, but on occasions, private modes, such as cab services need to be chartered. Is then, the administration willing and eager to offer sponsorship, by way of Travel Allowances (TA) or even consider starting a shuttle service across the city to ensure students are not harassed and spend valuable energy to merely make it to campus for putting their attendance.

### **6. Insufficient Workspaces**

There is not enough space to accommodate every research scholar simultaneously at the Centre, per the mandate of the administration. The Library for instance, at maximum capacity seats about 1,000 students while the university rolls put the student strength at well over 8,000. How then, does the administration genuinely expect cent percent attendance and optimum productivity? It appears to us, *prima facie*, a conflict of interest.

### **7. Inadequate Accommodation**

It is no secret that the existing facilities of boarding and lodging can only at maximum capacity host about 66% of all students of the university. Unsurprisingly, students thus are forced to seek accommodation elsewhere, beyond the walls of the university. This means additional travel time for a scholar, thereby eating into precious hours that may be otherwise dedicated to research. Once again, is the administration willing or eager to expand the capacities of boarding and lodging within campus to make up for the glaring shortfall?

We once again reiterate our resolve at upholding the values of the university which have to be nurtured and fostered with care and caution. In that spirit, we do not for even a moment believe that physical attendance that this circular demands has the potential of eliciting academic excellence. We instead, believe that the present instructions of the university only serve to conjure up problems, where in fact there are none. Such a step, in our most humble of

opinions, serves no other purpose apart from drying the spirit of research and enquiry that have been the lifeblood of this esteemed institution. So, we stand united in unequivocally rejecting the mandate, and not consenting to put our signatures validating such a measure, in both the interest of the university as well as the average student-

Yours Truly

Student Representatives (Student-Faculty Committee)

Center for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, School of International Studies,

Chandra Kamal Borah

*Chandra Kamal Borah*  
24.01.2018

Rajarshee Narayan Chowdhury

*Rajarshee Narayan Chowdhury*  
24.01.2018

Ravi Kumar

*Ravi Kumar*  
24-01-2018

Tejal Khanna

*Tejal Khanna*  
24/1/2018

Copy to:

1. Rector
2. Proctor
3. Dean, SIS
4. Chairperson, CIPOD.
5. Faculty Members, CIOPD.
6. JNUSU.

*Forwarded*

*Chandran*  
24/01/2018



Chairperson  
Centre for International Politics,  
Organization and Disarmament  
School of International Studies  
Jawahar Institute of Management Studies  
New Delhi-110067

No	Name	Enrollment No	Center / Division	Signatures
01	Rajashee Narayan chowdhury	29483	SIS/POGP	Rajashee
2	PAVAN KUMAR	24151	SIS/IMP	Pave
03	ABHILASH KOLEKAR	34524	IO	Abhilash
04	SHAILLY KEDIA	805844/16/22	IO/CIPOD/SIS	Shailly
05	Tejal Khanna	29624	IO/CIPOD/SIS	Tejal Khanna
06	Vikash Kumar Meena	31760	IO/CIPOD/SIS	Vikash
07	Stanzin Lhaskyabs	58504	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Stanzin
08	Tanishree Malabar	63705	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Tanishree
09.	Chandra Kamal Borkh	51396	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Chandra
10.	SAYID UMMER SAMEER	26606	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Sayid
11.	Dawiat Syiem	61370	POGP/CIPOD/SIS	Dawiat
12.	Diankee lam	73012	IO/CIPOD/SIS	Diankee
13.	Jisha Shaema	29027	IMP/CIPOD/SIS	Jisha
14.	NINARIKA TABOTRA	33456	IMP/CIPOD/SIS	Ninarika
15.	TANVI KULKARNI	71374	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Tanvi
16.	VIRENDRA KUMAR	62278	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	Virendra Kumar
17	N. Sai Balaji	23821	DAD/CIPOD/SIS	N. Sai
18	Nishi Dabas	54272	SIS/CIPOD	Nishi
19.	Auradha Chann	74142	DAD/CIPOD	Auradha
20.	Pooja Sebbag	28482	SIS/CIPOD	Pooja Sebbag
21	Gundu K <del>Krishna</del> <del>musthy</del>	24815	SIS/CIPOD	Gundu K
22.	Sudha Rawat	33512	SIS/CIPOD/POGP	Sudha
23.	Umnila Shakh	31819	SIS/CIPOD	Umnila
24	AMNA SUNMBUL	42538	SIS/CIPOD	Amna

	Name	Enrollment No.	center/ division	Signature
25.	Shayesta Nishat Ahmed	24133	CIPOD / DADP	
26	Salomee Silitat	23292	CIPOD / DAD	Salomee
27.	Rajaul Kasim		DAD / CIPOD	
28.	Ananya Sharma	50821	INP / CIPOD	Ananya Sharma
29.	Shalini Swika	35869	POGP / CIPOD	Shalini Swika
30 -	D VENKATA LAKSHMI TEJASWI	74393	DAD / CIPOD	D. Tyant
30.	ADIEL R. KINTA	59865	POG / CIPOD	
31.	Chander Shekhar	23844	DAD / CIPOD	
32.	Anchika Shukla	22858	DAD / CIPOD	Anchika
33.	Priyanka Gupta	29269	POGP / CIPOD	
34.	Samah Rafiq	26531	INP / CIPOD	Samah
35	Shreejita Biswas	34066	INP / CIPOD	Biswas
36	Sanjukta Nath	26417	DAD / CIPOD	Smath
37.	Astha Nepal	24472	POGP / CIPOD	
38.	Amruta Purkayastha	21785	CIPOD / 100	Amruta
39.	V. Ramamujam		CIPOD	
40.	Sizy Kumar	25671	DAD / CIPOD	
41.	Bubuli Gyary	<del>229</del> 23423	CIPOD / DAD	Bubuli
42.	Gayala Fareedi	53102	CIPOD	
43.	Anna Kim	2015023	INP / CIPOD	Anna
44.	Abhishek Choudhary	64260	DAD / CIPOD	Abhishek Choudhary
45.	Ladhu Ram Choudhary	821726 / PhD 06/11	DAD / CIPOD	
46.	Hirak Jyoti Ray	9492823972	IO / CIPOD	
48.	Hema Mahija	9810916785	IO / CIPOD	Hema
49	Sujayakar Reddy	9958477468	DAD / CIPOD	Sujayakar Reddy
50.	Pushpak Kumar Roy	9999412812	INP / PHD	

No.	Name	Enrollment No.	Centre/Division	Signature
51.	Debangana Chatterjee	26521	CIPOD/INP	Dh
52.	Ravi Verma	33228	CIPOD/INP	Ravi Verma
53.	Niraj Kumar Das	36302	CIPOD/DAD	Niraj
54.	Banshanlang Marwein	57870	CIPOD/IO	Banshanlang
55.	Navneet	22997	CIPOD/POG	Navneet
56.	Shivani Yadav	23447	CIPOD/DAD	Shivani
57.	Jayant	25333	CIPOD/INP	Jayant
58.	Khushi	31555	CIPOD/INP	Khushi
59.	Aastika Dureha		CIPOD/INP	Aastika
60.	Guru K.	32783	CIPOD/DAD	Guru K.
61.	Gurav Saini	59873	CIPOD/DAD	Gurav Saini
62.	Tujjan Pathak Sharma		INP/CIPOD	Tujjan
63.	Bhupendra Kumar	72714	DAD/CIPOD	Bhupendra
64.	Tishya Khillari	55627	IO/CIPOD	Tishya
65.	Shrabana Borla		DAD/CIPOD	Shrabana
66.	Vijayalakshmi		POG/CIPOD	Vijayalakshmi
67.	Zhong Ai		DAD/CIPOD	Zhong Ai
68.	VAISHNAVI TANNIR.	31496	INP/CIPOD.	Vaishnavi Tannir
69.	Pooja Bhatt	58187	DAD/CIPOD	Pooja Bhatt
70.	Shameer. M	51431	DAD/CIPOD	Shameer
71.	AVANTIKA DUREHA	26971	INP/CIPOD	Avantika
72.	Bhargavi Charan	72342	INP/CIPOD	Bhargavi
73.	Parul Nadar	27392	DAD/CIPOD	Parul Nadar
74.	Nikita Ghelot	26378	CIPOD	Nikita
75.	Suhra Chaturvey	23448	CIPOD	Suhra
78.	Priyanka Gautam		IO/CIPOD	Priyanka
79.	Manu Sharma	65617	CIPOD	Manu Sharma

Sl. No.	Name	Enrollment No.	Center / Division	Signature
80	Shubhi Misra	58755	PoiGeo/CIPOD	<u>Shubhi Misra</u>
81	Anamika Asthana	27190	DAD/CIPOD	<u>Anamika Asthana</u>
82	LINAMEE DAS	73029	ORG/CIPOD	<u>Linamee Das</u>
83	Manjari Raj Ohaon	62736	ORG/CIPOD	<u>Manjari Raj Ohaon</u>
84	RAM PRAVESH KUMAR	61732	ORG/CIPOD	<u>Ram Praveesh Kumar</u>
85	PHEERENDRA SINGH	50128	POG/CIPOD	<u>Pheerendra Singh</u>
86	RENU KUMARI	62567	I/O/CIPOD	<u>Renu Kumari</u>
87	Anusmita Dutta	75059	DAD/CIPOD	<u>Anusmita Dutta</u>
88	Ambesh K. Pandey	56520	POG/CIPOD	<u>Ambesh K. Pandey</u>