

To  
The Vice Chancellor  
JNU

15 February 2016

Sub: Regarding the Enquiry on the 9 February Incident

Dear Sir,

We have come to know that some students of JNU have been summoned to depose before an enquiry committee constituted by the JNU administration to look into the incidents that occurred on 9 February 2016. Our position on this committee is as follows:

- To begin with, the JNU administration has taken the completely undemocratic step of debarring 8 students from all academic activity, without ANY enquiry or any semblance of a neutral process. Suspension of students of a particular ideological leaning without due process is completely unacceptable, and it raises questions about the neutrality of the process that is to take place.
- No enquiry can take place in the atmosphere of fear that has been created on the campus. Any institutional process or enquiry has to be conducted in an atmosphere that ensures safety and dignity for the students. The students cannot present their case in a situation where they have been already branded and demonised. The suspension of the students without due process is a violation of the principles of natural justice.
- We also have several serious concerns regarding the constitution of the committee. For instance, one of the members of the committee is a professor who was a well-known and well-recognised spokesperson and supporter of the Youth for Equality (YFE). The YFE (which, as you know, campaigned against reservations and affirmative action for OBCs) is a close associate of the ABVP and this is common knowledge. We believe that NO serious, fair and just enquiry can take place with the presence of such biased members. Further, since many of the students summoned belong to marginalised communities such as SC, OBC, etc., it is unfair that the committee does not have representation from the marginalised communities.
- Another member of the committee served as a Chief Proctor earlier. During his tenure there were repeated student protests against the biased approach of the Proctor towards the numerous acts of violence by ABVP in the campus.
- Finally, unilateral action against the students belonging to rival groups of ABVP raises serious doubts about the intentions of the committee. Specifically, the acts of violence by ABVP members on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February, the unprovoked attack on Rajya Sabha MP, Anand Sharma on 13<sup>th</sup> of February - all these aspects do not even figure in the concerns of the administration. We are surprised that actual violence is not even being investigated into, simply because the persons involved belong to the student wing of RSS.

It is also notable that the terms of reference of the enquiry fail to include the following:

- The role of ABVP in instigating violence and intimidating students on several occasions
- How and why was the Delhi Police called into JNU? Who gave permission for them to enter the campus?
- In the aftermath of the 9 February incident, how did the Delhi Police act without warrants? The JNUSU President was picked up and arrested by people in civil clothes, raids were conducted in hostels - ALL without warrants. Who is responsible for such police action without warrant in the campus?

Given the serious concerns we have with the composition and the ambit of the enquiry, the student community refuses to participate in this enquiry committee, and demands that the suspension order of eight students be revoked and the intimidation of political activists, who differ with ABVP, must stop immediately.

Sincerely

*Shehla Rashid Shora*

Shehla Rashid Shora  
Vice President, JNUSU

*Mukesh Kulkari*  
MUKESH KULKARI  
COUNCILLOR, SAA

*Satarupa Chakraborty*  
Satarupa Chakraborty -  
CONVENER, JNUSU-SSS  
*Gaigei Adhikari*  
Gaigei Adhikari -  
COUNCILLOR/SIS

*Amal P P*  
Amal P P  
CONVENER JNUSU-SIS  
COUNCILLOR  
KAUSHIK RAJ  
COUNCILLOR, SLLCS

*Elera Chakraborty*  
Elera Chakraborty  
COUNCILLOR SSS