

Join Public Meeting on...

In Defence of the Idea of JNU

Speakers

Sitaram Yechuri (Former JNUSU President)

Vijoo Krishnan (Former JNUSU President)

Anand Kumar (Former JNUSU President)

Nivedita Menon (SIS, JNU)

Harsh mandar

Ayesha Kidwai

CPC (Dean, SSS)

Satrupa Chakraborty
(Convenor, JNUSU-SSS)

Amal P.P.
(Convenor, JNUSU-SIS)

Muksha Kulariya
(Convenor JNUSU-SAA)

Grgi Adhikari
(Councillor, JNUSU-SIS)

Dilip Kumar
(Councillor, JNUSU-SLL&CS)

Friends,

The situation in our campus is of an undeclared emergency. It was only during the declared emergency of 1975, that the president of JNUSU was formerly arrested. History repeated itself again yesterday when JNUSU president Kanhaya Kumar was arrested on grounds of sedition. This is despite the fact Kanhaya has condemned the irresponsible and reactionary slogans made by some miscreants in the programme which happened in 9th of February. His presence in the venue of the programme was merely to ensure that violence does not erupt in the event. Moreover, he belongs to AISF, an organisation which differs ideologically in all aspects with the organisers of the programme.

The JNUTA (Jawaharal Nehru University Teachers Association) has already come in solidarity with the Kanhaya Kumar and has condemned the current police action which they believe have only aggravated the situation. A historic march happened in JNU yesterday under the leadership of JNUTA when thousands of students marched shoulder to shoulder with the teachers against these attempts to target JNU.

Calculated ploy by NDA

The Delhi police's promptness in arresting the JNUSU president, who had no part in the proceedings involving sloganeering in support of the divisive slogans, exposes the real motive, to harass left and progressive students and their leaders. This has been an agenda of the RSS/BJP/ABVP from the time Modi government came into power. To begin with, RSS magazine Panchanjanya referred JNU as the den of terrorists. Then, there was vitriolic attack on JNU by Subramanian Swamy and its cronies. Having always wanted to attack and delegitimize the premier most institution which have always been the den of progressive ideas, this particular incident has been used by the Sangh Parivar to target the university community as a whole.

Defend Our Legacy

It is time we understand these sinister designs by RSS who have always wanted to damage our institution. The need of the hour is to stand in solidarity with what JNU stands for. **For decades, we have produced the best minds of this nation. We have always been a University where there has been a vibrant democratic culture, where diverse political ideological and academic views have engaged with each other in a spirit of peaceful dialogue and debate. We have been the center of the critical thinking in this country, producing the best critical minds independent India has seen. It is time we stand united to uphold and defend that legacy.**