

Incompetent, Irresponsible and Partisan Registrar Must Go!!!

SFI

28-02-2016

An emergency executive council meeting of JNU will happen tomorrow. It is possible that this meeting has been called to decide on whether Prof. Bhupinder Zutshi who is only an officiating registrar should be given extension or not since his term ends tomorrow. It is our firm opinion that the incumbent registrar who has played the most obstructive role in the events since February 9th should not be given even a day of extension.

The most regressive and irresponsible role of the registrar in the episode around the events which happened on February 9th:

- The partisanship of registrar is clear from the fact the permission for the event on February 9th, for which he had earlier given permission was revoked only once the ABVP approached him. Despite the ABVP claiming that they approached the registrar to cancel the event, the registrar claims that he cancelled the permission for the event based on his own sources. **Does this mean that ABVP, a political organisation in the campus is his source of information? Can such a nexus be allowed in any University?**

We demand for the formation of a democratic and inclusive internal enquiry committee and we also demand that this committee should not pronounce any decision until all the students who are asked to submit themselves before the committee are able to do so.

- It was the registrar who played an important role along with Vice-Chancellor in giving the Delhi police a blanket permission to enter the campus and arrest students resulting in tarnishing the image of the university.

- The actions of the registrar resulted in the formation of a higher level committee, bypassing institutional mechanisms like Proctorial committee, which is supposed to look into the matters of this nature. This was also an illegitimate committee since it did not have the presence of any Dalit faculty member, female faculty member or

faculty members from SSS, SIS and SL. Both the JNUTA and the JNUSU have strongly demanded that the committee be made more democratic and inclusive.

- Without any form of trial, this higher level committee decided to arbitrarily debar eight students from academic activities. This verdict was given within 24 hours since setting up the committee. The prejudiced manner of the judgement is clear from the fact that it was pronounced without even giving a chance to the students to depose before the committee.

- In an interview to "The Hindu" newspaper on February 14th, the registrar claimed that he saw videos of Kanhaiya and others shouting anti-India slogans and therefore decided to debar them. This is nothing short of a blatant lie. It has been already established and proven that these videos were fabricated and doctored. This is one of the many examples in which hasty and partisan conclusions from the registrar resulted in the episode being blown out of proportion. Since it has been conclusively proven that the videos were fake, will he apologise to the student community for these criminally insensitive acts? Does he have any moral authority to continue in this post?

Ramifications of these acts

It is possible that because of the sustained pressure of the students movement and JNUTA, an inclusive committee could be formed in the future, although not certain. This committee may very well look into the events from an objective view point and could submit a report absolving students from the charges of sedition. But even if such a situation arises, the general public will also have a narrative of the events in front of them created by the Delhi police. The Delhi police who are acting as loyal lap dogs of RSS are not interested in establishing the facts of the matter. Rather, from the events that have unfolded it is clear that they are merely interested in witch-hunting students and fabricating facts to paint a picture which suits the BJP/RSS.

This situation has arisen because of the blanket permission given to the Delhi police to enter campus by this incompetent and senseless registrar. If only he had acted with some sense, the situation would not have become this grave. Therefore, it is extremely pertinent that this registrar is removed and a new one is appointed as early as possible.

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February

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