



JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION

Oct 19, 2016

Press Release

We express our deep concern over the recent incidents of the violence in Mahi-Mandavi Hostel in JNU and the fact that one student Mr. Najeeb has been missing for more than 4 days. We find the University Administration's handling of this matter, and its inability to safeguard the safety and well-being of the university and its members, utterly deplorable. Symptomatic of this is the singling out the missing student Mr. Najeeb as an "accused", and mentioning this repeatedly, in its Press Release of 17th October 2016.

Given that the circumstances under which he disappeared are highly suspect, we demand that a fair enquiry be instituted. Several accounts have pointed out that the missing student disappeared after violence ensued in the hostel. It is unacceptable that the University Administration adopts a partisan approach as it will further create a deep fear amongst several sections of the University.

JNUTA demands that

- The VC must issue an appeal to Najeeb, guaranteeing him full security and an assurance that all his rights will be protected including his legal rights. The university should assure him a fair and a transparent enquiry process that will also encourage filing a complaint against his alleged attackers. It should assure him that no punishment before fair enquiry, and no intimidation during the enquiry.
- The JNU administration must formally file a Missing Persons complaint, which triggers a completely different protocol of search and investigation.
- Further, the JNU administration must set up a committee to liaise on a daily basis with the police. This committee must work with Najeeb's family to inform the police where and with whom he could have possibly sought refuge in panic.
- JNU Administration must periodically call joint meetings with different democratically elected bodies and brief them the efforts taken to rule out possibility of inaction on their part.

JNUTA urges upon each member of JNU community to ensure a safe and secure working environment for every individual belonging to different caste, community, religion and gender. The role of University Administration is paramount in ensuring this. JNUTA expects Administration to come out clearly and unambiguously in ensuring safe return of Najeeb and a fearless environment for people of different sections on the JNU campus.

Sd/-

Prof. Ajay Patnaik
President, JNUTA

Sd/-

Dr. Bikramaditya Choudhary
Secretary, JNUTA