

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

Press Release

2 May 2020

Jawaharlal Nehru University has been meticulously taking steps in the midst of the deadly COVID19 pandemic to look after the interest of all the stakeholders of the university. One of the most significant steps taken by the university is to help students continue with their academic pursuit and complete their assignments and examinations. In view of complex difficulties arising out of the national lockdown, top university officials, including the Deans and Chairpersons of Special Centres, have held numerous meetings through the digital mode and brought to its logical end a decision on holding online classes, mid-semester and end-semester examinations etc.

After wider consultations and holding of centre meetings, the Deans and Chairpersons of Special centres submitted recommendations on the scheduling of tests, conducting examinations and completing the evaluation processes to the Vice Chancellor by their respective schools/centres. The Academic Council was apprised of those recommendations on methods of online education and evaluation through circulations by emails. The Council members overwhelmingly endorsed all those recommendations. Utmost flexibility was maintained to accommodate diverse set of recommendations by the Academic Council. In addition, the Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to consider and approve any further requests or recommendations from centres related to scheduling, conducting examinations and submission of evaluation reports.

Knowing well that JNU ordinances do not allow student participation in discussions and decisions related to evaluation matters, some students have fed misinformation to the media that they were not consulted while taking decisions on mid-semester and end-semester examinations for the current semester. This is not only deplorable but also harmful to the interests of the student community, as thousands of students now at their homes could be victims of such misinformation campaign.

The Inter-Hall Administration of JNU has been consistently at work to look after more than 800 students who are staying in JNU campus. Mess facilities are run by the available skeletal staff and contractual workers, under the supervision of wardens—all of whom are putting their health at risk to help the students. Water, electricity and health facilities are also available to the students and all precautionary measures are being taken by the Health Centre to ensure health security of the JNU campus community.

Payments to contractual staff and salary to faculty, officers and staff have been made and the security unit is keeping round the clock vigil to enforce the lockdown and ensure observance of social distancing and other advisories of the Government of India.

JNU has also set up a COVID19 taskforce to monitor the pandemic, put up useful information on the website and recommended measures for maintaining the health security in the university. The committee has been entrusted with the task of submitting recommendations for deft handling of post COVID19 scenarios.

The JNU Administration appeals to all concerned to desist from misinformation campaigning. We all are going through a crisis and it is important to refrain from any disruptive activities, which would be self-damaging.

Administration appreciates the cooperation of JNU community in the campus for strictly adhering to the Covid-19 guidelines issued by the university and the government from time to time.



Registrar