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Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers Association  
New Delhi-110067

JNUTA PRESS STATEMENT

December 7, 2018

The JNUTA expresses its utter dismay at the blatant lying being indulged in by the JNU Vice Chancellor in a desperate attempt to cover up for his own acts of commission and omission. The Press Note issued by the Registrar after the meeting of the University Court meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 confirms that the VC made at that meeting a wild allegation against the entire teaching community of the University, accusing them of being responsible for the seat cuts seen in the last two years as well as the University's failure to ensure that the national reservation policy is implemented. Everyone knows that the VC led the process of implementing the UGC 2016 Regulations in a way that led to a drastic cut in admissions which was described by the Honourable High Court as a "national wastage of capacity".

The whole world has been witness to the fact that the teachers and students of JNU have been raising concerns about the seat cuts and lack of fulfilment of reservation but the VC and his Administration have been stubbornly defending the methods of calculating the intake and minimum eligibility conditions decided by them without any process of consultation and without the approval of the Academic Council. The administration of the admission process – from deciding intake, conducting the entrance exams, preparing merit lists and announcing lists of selected candidates and processing of their admissions – is entirely in the hands of the Administration and teachers are only involved in setting papers and in anonymous evaluation. Even the limited role that teachers play in the administration of admissions through the Admission Committees of different centres has been undermined by the current Administration.

All of this is known to the JNU VC better than anyone else. If he still chooses to make a baseless charge against teachers it is because he doesn't want to be held responsible for his own actions when these have come under increasing scrutiny from courts and other quarters. As his illegalities and inefficiencies are becoming increasingly exposed, he is choosing the cowardly path of shifting the blame to those who have been resisting his mis-governance of the university. The JNUTA challenges the JNU VC to produce the evidence to back his allegation against the teaching community of JNU. If he has the courage and wishes to prove us wrong, let him face us in any public forum or even before a Parliamentary committee with his evidence being pitted against that the teachers will provide – otherwise he should immediately retract his statement that teachers are responsible for the seat cuts.

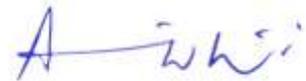
The JNUTA also condemns in the strongest terms the manner in which the 148th 'Emergency' Academic Council meeting called for today was conducted and members were sought to be silenced, threatened and humiliated. This was another instance of the way JNU is being destroyed by the VC and his Administration. There were huge contingents of security and illegal surveillance but no observance of procedure or respect for the teachers of this university. Agenda items were read out and announced as approved with little or no discussion. Admission Intake figures for programmes were neither tabled nor circulated. It was just read out. No discussion on admission policy was allowed. Several teachers wished to express their opinion that the JNUEE should be held in the offline paper and pen format, given the VC's

declaration that no vendor has been found till date, but were not allowed to speak and were rudely insulted by the Vice-Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor once again unilaterally fixed 21 December 2018 as the last date for the submission of MCQ based question papers without explaining why question papers a full five months before the examination? Several Members of the Academic Council has submitted their written disagreement with the undemocratic conduct of the meeting and with the unilateral decisions announced by the Chair (letters attached).

The office of the Vice-Chancellor has been disgraced by Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar's conduct once again, as has the sanctity of the Academic Council. Any decision on the 2019-20 admissions based on these non-deliberative proceedings can have no validity. All of this drama was enacted to of course avoid having to answer for the disaster that has already befallen the 2019-20 Admission process with the examinations having to be postponed. Will the VC now blame teachers for this and the further calamities that will inevitably strike the entrance exams given the ineptitude of those controlling it?



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JNUTA President



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