

PRESS RELEASE

24th Jan 2017

JNUTA expresses its sincere concern for the health of the student Dilip Yadav who was on hunger strike and later lifted from JNU by security and police and taken to hospital last night. It is quite clear that JNU Vice Chancellor and the current administration is for the deteriorating conditions responsible on campus. Since February 2016, a campus that was one of the most academically productive and culturally vibrant in India has witnessed growing insecurity as well as intimidation of faculty and students by the Administration. The current crisis is entirely a result of the VC's motivated reading of the UGC Gazette Notification of 5th May 2016 in order to scrap JNU's deprivation point system and destroy its research character. Our students including Dillip Yadav have been protesting against the University's decision to dismantle the existing Admission Policy that is based on equity and justice.

The concerns of the teachers and students regarding the UGC notification have to be addressed and no unilateral decision should be imposed on us. JNUTA believes that the University can and should defend its own admission policy that includes deprivation points, differentiation in qualifying marks on the basis of social background, adding both written and viva voce marks and deprivation points for final admission. Students who appear for written on lower MA marks allowed by the UGC for deprived sections should not be denied benefits of lower pass marks after the entrance test.

In the light of various student protests taking place near the Administrative Bloc, JNUTA has decided to cancel today's (24 January) lectures.

The Book Release being organised by JNUTA would go ahead as announced at 4 PM near the Nehru Statue on 25 January 2017.

Prof. Ajay Patnaik **President, JNUTA** Dr. Bikramaditya Choudhary Secretary, JNUTA