

# JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

## Message from the Vice-Chancellor

08 January 2019

Dear students and colleagues,

Let me greet you on the occasion of the New Year and wish you a very fruitful and peaceful year ahead. I also wish to express my happiness over your consistent support to the many new initiatives that the University has taken up in the last few years to make administrative functioning more orderly and efficient and to intensify the academic activities and programmes in the university.

Let me recall a few of those steps which could not have been possible but for your complete support and cooperation. The most desirable academic expansions, of course, include establishment of new School of Engineering and the Atal Bihari Vajpayee School of Management and Entrepreneurship, elevation of the Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies to School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies, creation of Special Center for E-learning, Special Center for Disaster Studies, Special Centre for National Security Studies and Special Centre for the Study of North East India.

Last year, we also celebrated the second convocation of the University with a large participation and we are working towards our next convocation.

In addition, the annual registration process of continuing students and new comers which was cumbersome and took several days to complete has been streamlined to a few days for the benefit of the students as well as faculty. With the last date for registration ending in the first week of January, we have noticed that the majority of the students have completed their registration before the registration deadline.

I am happy to note that students who would earlier wait for months to get hostel accommodation, no longer face the hardships now, as the Inter Hostel Administration has been able to devise a system which allocates hostel accommodation to students at the time of registration. We are also in the process of constructing two more hostels soon to provide additional accommodation to the students.

To facilitate optimum utilization of academic space and make it easy for students to opt for courses in sister departments of the school or in other schools, the University is working on developing and administering of a uniform timetable for the whole university. The participation of faculty members in this effort is commendable.

Earlier there was no facility for campus recruitment of students. But, with the establishment of a new Placement Cell, students looking for employment opportunities can now benefit from campus placements.

Since our campus is spread over a 1000 acres area, many students, staff and their family members were finding it difficult to commute within the campus. Introduction of e-rickshaws and cycles have brought more convenience to them without adding to the pollution level.

I am sure you will welcome the effort by the University towards adding more green energy to the campus by managing to put solar panels on the roofs of several buildings. Soon we will be covering every available roof top of buildings with solar power panels.

The number of faculty members who are applying for external funding for research has increased. This is a result of the creation of a new department of R & D that has helped promote better coordination in faculty's research activities and facilitated setting up of start-ups by incorporating a new start-up policy for the academic community.

The use of e-office by all of you has significantly gone up and has enabled the University to save time and energy. Let us strive towards making all our file movements completely paperless.

IQAC has been working diligently and has cleared many faculty promotion cases under CAS and; in few cases, the University has taken up the matter at the appropriate level in the UGC to expedite clearances. We will continue to put every possible effort to clear the remaining CAS cases.

It is gladdening to note that many of our faculty members have received national and international recognitions and our students have won medals in international arena. The University is also closely collaborating with our alumni who are important ambassadors of JNU.

Every month, one afternoon each is assigned for students, staff and faculty members, respectively, for meeting with the Vice-Chancellor without appointment. I am very happy to inform you that these meetings are very fruitful as many of you meet me regularly to give your feedback and suggestions.

Let me end this message on a happy note. The University has become fifty year old now and the administration has been working with the help of many faculty members to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Year of our University. On behalf of JNU administration, I seek all your cooperation and indulgence to make 2019 a more successful year for the university in terms of academic excellence and administrative efficiency.

Let us spread positivity and let us work together to make our University better than what it is today.

Thank you very much.

With warm regards,  
M. Jagadesh Kumar