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Tonight 17 March at AD Block from 9.00pm

Join MASS RELAY HUNGER STRIKE

and Film Screening against Caste and Gender Oppression

K. Stalin's India Untouched : Stories of a People Apart

Prakash Jha's Mrityudand

**Reject Prof. Aditya Mukherjee Committee's
Arbitrary, Illegal and Casteist Cut-Off Norms
Designed to Throttle OBC reservation in JNU!**

**Resist the Attempts to Use the Forum of
Academic Council to Scuttle Reservations
for Students and Teachers in JNU!**

On 18 March Tomorrow Observe

UNIV. STRIKE

**Join A Massive PROTEST DEMO AND DHARNA
in front of AC Meeting at 2 pm at SSS-I**

**Indefinite
Day4**

**Abhishek Kundan, Anoop, Martand, Sandeep Singh,
Sandeep Saurav, Shakeel, Shephalika**

Relay

**Amit, Ambreen, Anurag, Brijesh, Gogol,
Mobeen, Omprasad, Ritupan, Vismay**

As the indefinite hunger strike enters its 5th day, we thank the student community for their spirited participation. We appeal to them to join in large numbers in tonight's Mass Hunger Strike asserting that the students of JNU stand for social justice.

Over the years, we have resolutely opposed the casteist elements on this campus, whenever they have launched offensive or poisonous pamphlets. At the present juncture, the struggle is against the JNU Administration as well as all those lobbies which are trying in every possible way to scuttle the implementation of the provisions of reservations.

The facts are well known by now: how the JNU administration and Aditya Mukherjee Committee refused to address the concerns raised by students and teachers over the patently illegal criteria and the misleading definition of 'cut-off' as a result of which hundreds of eligible OBC students are being prevented from taking admission in the campus and accessing the seats reserved for them by law. Similarly, when it comes to SC/ST reservations for faculty members, a provision which flows from the Indian Constitution itself, the casteist lobbies in the administration would like to argue that these are but 'guidelines' which are not binding in the university in any way.

Tomorrow's Academic Council meeting will mark a watershed for this university. At stake, is JNU's democratic and progressive culture, the notion that JNU as a university opens its doors to all especially students from deprived backgrounds and communities.

We can only reiterate:

If the Academic Council meeting of 18 March, once again passes the Aditya Mukherjee Recommendations then,

- **As a result of this gross misinterpretation of the definition of "10 marks relaxation in cut-off", the pool of eligible OBC candidates available for admission is drastically reduced.**
- **The result is that OBC quota in JNU will never be properly filled in JNU because of the purported and artificially constructed shortage of "eligible candidates".**
- **Seats mandated for OBC candidates will continue to be wrongfully and unjustly transferred to general category**

The coming academic session (2010-11) will be the final session for the full implementation of 27% OBC reservation with 54% seat increase. The entire JNU community must intervene to ensure that these deliberately designed anomalies are corrected. JNU must stop the misinterpretation of the concept of general category "cut-off" and must implement the correct procedure for implementing reservations.

We need a powerful assertion to those sitting in the seat of power in this university to remind them that

- University forums like the AC and EC cannot be misused to violate the law of the land to meet narrow casteist ends but must be committed to upholding social justice and the constitutional mandates.
- That the inequities and oppressions wrought by caste in society demand that we struggle against them and also for provisions like reservation to remedy the injustice.
- That the brahmanical mindset that believes that education is the privilege of the few, which is being reinforced by the neoliberal agenda, will have to go.
- The struggle does not end till such time as JNU remedies its illegal admissions policy and implements reservations, whether for students or teachers in the correct manner.

AISA appeals to all students to join in tomorrow's University Strike and Protest Demonstration and Dharna in front of the Academic Council meeting at SSSI at 2pm. WE must ensure that the progressive spirit of JNU triumphs and the anti-reservation lobbies do not have their way.

Abhishek
Vice-President, AISA, JNU

Sucheta
Gen. Secy, AISA, JNU