

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Press Note

24 April 2021

JNU Administration is pained to read in a section of media statements of a certain teachers of the University, which are highly malicious and irresponsible and are designed to spread misleading information and panic in the JNU campus. Like every other institution in Delhi, JNU has been working hard, and sincerely, to provide help, both medical and social, to all its residents, ever since Covid-19 struck our country. And during the current wave of Covid-19 pandemic, JNU administration has ramped up its efforts in containing the infections as well providing emergency help to any member, students, staff, teachers and their families, residing in the campus. To augment the Covid Task Force of JNU, which was set up in March 2020, the administration has recently formed another team, the Covid Response Team, which has been working 24x7 in managing and planning response to any covid cases in JNU: this Committee works in collaboration with the University's Administration, the Health Centre and the University Security to reach out to any member of the University community if they need help in Covid emergency. Further, this team is assisted by the student volunteers of NSS and NCC, who, in addition, also conduct various activities to spread the awareness of Covid-19 appropriate behaviour among the students.

The Covid Response Team also coordinates with Delhi Government officials to secure testing, vaccination and hospitalisation of those who need it. With the help of local Sub-Divisional Magistrate's Office, JNU has in the past few months organised several Covid Testing Camps in the campus; it has also organised a Vaccination Camp recently, where for several days a significant number of JNU community members were vaccinated. JNU appreciates the efforts of SDM office for extending the help in this regard. JNU has already made a request to and received assurance from the SDM office dealing with Covid-19 for further such camps in the near future. SDM office has also assured JNU that they are looking into setting up a Community Isolation Centre, if it were required here.

As far as managing the Covid response in the campus is concerned, each hostel has set up its own response team under the guidance of hostel wardens in collaboration with the residents to take care of any student who have either contracted the infection or are showing early symptoms of it. Each hostel has designated a care area in its premises where such students may be kept under observation until their covid-19 tests are available, and every help from food to medicine is being arranged for them. The Covid Response Team also delivers food to the residents who need it during their quarantine/isolation within their own houses. The University has ambulances to assist transport of any resident to quarantine centre or hospital as per the requirement and advice of the Chief Medical Officer.

JNU Administration appreciates the concerns of each member of the community and would always welcome a constructive suggestion from them to fight Covid in the campus. It sincerely hopes that certain teachers would behave responsibly and not indulge in falsehood and baseless imputations during these trying times. The Administration strongly deplores the unwarranted comments from such teachers. JNU is committed to defeating this disease with the cooperation and help from the government and together with the JNU community.

(Prof. Heeraman Tiwari)
OSD to Vice-Chancellor