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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ **W.P.(C) 1896/2017**

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY Petitioner

Through: Ms Monika Arora, Mr Vibhu Tripathi

and Mr Harsh Ahuja, Advocates.

versus

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE & ORS Respondents

Through: Mr Rahul Mehra, Senior Standing

Counsel with Mr Gautam Narayan and Mr R.A.Iyer, Advocates for R-1. Mr Ishwar Singh, DCP(South), Mr K.P.Kalavati, ACP(Vasant Vihar), Mr Pankaj Pandey, Inspector, Vasant Kunj and Mr Manish Meena, SI,

P.S. Vasant Kunj.

Ms Upasana Hazaika, Mr Mohit Kumar Pandey, PHD, Media Studie,

President, JNUSU.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA

<u>ORDER</u>

% 17.03.2017

W.P.(C) 1896/2017 & CM No.8397/2017(interim direction)

Mr Mohit Kumar Pandey, President of the Jawahar Lal University (JNU) Students' Union is present. He has submitted that the students of the JNU wish to have a meaningful dialogue with the University so that their issues can be put forth before the authorities and resolved.

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Learned counsel appearing for the University submits that the University would be open to a dialogue but the difficulty, which has been faced by the University in the past, is that several persons come forward to represent the students and voice different versions.

After hearing the submissions of the counsels for the petitioner as well as the President Mr Pandey, I feel that if the respective Unions of the students studying in the University were to collectively take a decision and nominate three or four individuals, who could represent their concerns before the University, a meaningful dialogue can take place, which may lead to resolution of several problems and avoid any necessity of other mode of resolution.

Mr Pandey submits that an effort will be made to call a joint meeting of all the associations so that a consensus can be arrived at with regard to the above. He, however, submits that reasonable time would be required for calling a joint meeting and for arriving at a consensus. He submits that the students are no longer blocking the ingress and egress of the Administrative Block and are protesting peacefully.

Learned counsel appearing for respondent No.1 – Delhi Police submits that an attempt was made yesterday, i.e. on 16.03.2017 to prevent the ingress and egress of the Administrative Block, however, the same was peaceful. Earlier also, there were some instances of prevention of ingress and egress, however, the same were also peaceful.

As an interim direction, the direction restricting of the protest beyond 100 metre is modified as under: It is directed that the protest, if any, would be peaceful but would not block the lanes or roads leading to the Administrative Block and the students, who desire to protest, may do so on the walkway surrounding the front garden and beyond i.e. after leaving the lanes, road and the parking area of the Administrative Building, free at all times.

It is clarified that this ad-interim arrangement is being made pending a dialogue between the students' representatives and the Administration, for designating an appropriate place where street shows, protest or *dharnas* could be carried out by the students.

It is further clarified that protest, if any, would be peaceful and the students shall ensure that the decibel level are kept low so that there is no disturbance in the functioning of the Administration.

It is expected that the students would maintain restraint and not indulge in any blocking of ingress and egress.

Interim order, with the above modifications to continue.

Renotify for directions on 30th March, 2017.

The matter shall be treated as part-heard.

Dasti under signatures of the Court Master.

SANJEEV SACHDEVA, J

MARCH 17, 2017 'Sp'

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