

## **Press Release**

Date: 06.05.2021

The JNU Administration strongly condemns the periodic attempt by a few faculty members to spread misinformation and make false allegations related to efforts being taken to address the COVID19 challenge in the university campus. Instead of coming up with practical help and suggesting feasible solutions to the difficulties arising out of spread of the virus, the repeated negative propaganda against the administration is undermining the incessant efforts by the COVID Response Team (CRT) to extend all feasible help to the COVID infected members of the JNU community.

The following are specific initiatives undertaken by JNU's CRT and volunteers to efficiently deal with the current wave of COVID-19 pandemic:

- 1. CRT has been organizing at regular intervals, **COVID-19 testing camps** for all residents in the University, and **vaccination camps** for the age group of 45 years and above within JNU premises.
- 2. CRT is reaching out to every JNU community member, who has tested COVID-19 positive and extending them of all possible help. For this purpose, an email ID: response.covid19@jnu.ac.in, and a website with important information/notifications and circulars have been created.
- 3. The CRT undertakes food delivery to community members who have tested COVID-19 positive, and helping with food preparation and medicines procurement.
- 4. CRT is consolidating and constantly updating contact details of every COVID-19 helpline of government agencies/non-government agencies/hospitals/plasma donation/ oxygen supplies/ambulances/beds for COVID-19 positive patients, and contacting them when the need arises.
- 5. CRT is regularly issuing appeals to garner volunteers for Plasma donation for those who require them in COVID-19 critical care. Similarly, notices have been put out to observe COVID-19 appropriate behaviour within the campus even if they have been vaccinated for the safety of those who have not been vaccinated yet. The security team actively monitors and makes announcements through public address systems.
- 6. NSS volunteers and NCC cadets of JNU have organised webinars with academic experts on COVID-19 virus and medical practitioners to spread awareness about the virus and COVID-19 appropriate behaviour amongst the University community members. They have been carrying out numerous COVID-19 awareness drives in the campus since COVID-19 outbreak.

- 7. Health Center of JNU runs a fever clinic to provide primary care and advice to the affected patients. It has added more contact numbers so that University community members can reach out to the doctors for inquiry and ambulance services the working hours for the morning shift is from 0800 hrs-1400 hrs, evening shift from 1500 hrs-2100 hrs, and night shift from 2100 hrs-0800 hrs.
- 8. For the mental health well-being of its students and other members of the JNU community, psychiatric consultation in <u>www.yourdost.com</u> along with its contact details have been circulated and advertised. The students and other University community members have to log-in with their JNU internet access id to avail free counseling services.

The JNU administration is constantly taking stock of COVID-19 situation in the campus by holding regular meetings with different branches of the University administration – Hostel wardens, Inter-Hall administration, Health Centre, Engineering Branch, Estate Branch, Sanitation Branch, Finance Branch to explore solutions to better handle the COVID-19 situation in the campus.

It is therefore disappointing and distressing to read the negative propaganda indulged in by a few faculty members. JNU Administration appeals to every member of the JNU community to come up with reasonable solutions and practicable advice through which we can further enhance our capacity to help the Covid-19 affected members of JNU community.

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