



KRANTIKARI YUVA SANGATHAN

(Delhi unit of All India Revolutionary Youth Organization)

T-44, Near Gopal Dairy, Baljeet Nagar, New Delhi-110008. Ph. : 09958116114.

PRESS RELEASE

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STUDENTS AND ACTIVISTS PROTEST IN FRONT OF TELENGANA BHAWANA AGAINST BRUTAL ACT OF BURNING OF DALIT STUDENT'S HOSTEL ROOM! RESIDENT COMMISSIONER ASSURES STUDENTS AND ACTIVISTS OF IMMEDIATE ACTION!!

Today around hundred students and activists protested in front of Telengana Bhawan against the brutal act of burning of a dalit student's hostel room in Osmania University. Telengana Bhawan echoed with the slogans against the oppression of the Dalit student by ABVP goons. Resident Commissioner was forced to talk to the agitating students and protesters. Resident Commissioner assured the protesters of forwarding the memorandum to the Chief Minister of Telengana. Memorandum demands immediate rustication from the University of those involved in this act, trial of the accused under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocity) Act,1989 and taking all measures so as to safeguard the basic rights of Dalit students.

It is to be noted that N Sharath, a dalit student from Osmania University, hostel room was burnt by the goons of ABVP. This act of vandalism and disruption of academic environment of educational institution is condemnable. Moreover, we also consider this as an act of intimidating the student of lower caste and other marginal communities and deprive them of their basic rights of education without fear. Telengana government has not actively intervened in the whole issue. The government has not taken any step against the divisive forces who instigate such acts on caste, religious lines. Osmania University has been witness to discrimination and oppression on dalit students, minorities by the rightist bramhanical hindutva supremacist forces in the campus even in the past.

Dalit communities have been exploited and oppressed from centuries in India. In villages, even today we hear the cases of brutal rape of dalit women. The case of Badayun has been recent expression of Dalit oppression in the countryside. When the people of Dalit community reach cities they expect that they will not be discriminated but even there they have to face the worst case of caste oppression.

The case of the burning of hostel room of dalit student in Osmania University is one such incident. The University administration's negligence of the issue is one reason behind the increasing cases of caste oppression in higher educational institutions in the country. We request your esteemed daily to cover this news so that justice prevails.

Harish Gautam

Anti-caste Cell

Krantikari Yuva Sangathan(KYS)