

## Solidarity Statement

**The Student community of Ambedkar University Delhi(AUD), stands in solidarity and rage with the protesting students of TISS in Hyderabad, Guwahati, Mumbai and Tuljapur campuses.**

We give our support to the strike which has been called by TISS student union and has been going on since **21st February 2018** against roll back of financial aid for **Dalit, Bahujan, Adivasi** students.

The decisions of the administration not only puts the education of currently enrolled students at risk, but also exposes systematic deprivations and elimination of marginalized students from educational spaces over the years, even in the most liberal, progressive universities which pride themselves as pioneers of social sciences. It further closes the gates of such Institutions for students from specific caste backgrounds.

We strongly feel, that this is in line with the long history of harassment of marginalized students; not facilitating them spaces and access to redressal mechanisms or even education which our own University has also been guilty of. It is high time our universities start putting their money where their mouth is.

In recent times, large fund cuts have been observed in case of higher education which has resulted in removal of scholarships, enormous fee hikes, non-disbursement of scholarships and fund on time in various universities across India. The larger politics of the government in Centre, and the previous ruling party has been the same to privatise our education system and making education a commodity that only few rich and affluent people can afford. This neoliberal project of the state excludes already marginalized and financially weaker sections of the society. In Indian context this majority is made up of Dalits, Adivasis, Bahujan, Muslim and Queer people of our country. Such attempts of fund cut are therefore, undemocratic, unconstitutional and against the notion of social justice.

We stand in Solidarity with the struggle of students of TISS and their demands.

Long live Students' Struggle,

Jai Bhim, Jai Savitri!

**Dalit Bahujan Adivasi Collective, AUD Queer Collective, CPSH representatives, Progressive and Democratic Student Community (PDSC), Student Council (incumbent)**