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Title: Need to protect Universities from interference.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The ruling party at the centre and the RSS are allegedly trying to establish their hold in Universities particularly in Central Universities. This is leading to campus clashes and a situation where Universities are closing down, firstly the Central University at Hyderabad on the basis of complaints by some student group, Union Ministries allegedly put pressure on University authorities to take action against some students who had clashes with some dalit students. This led to some research students including Rohit Vemula, being suspended from their hostels and this led to the tragic suicide of Vemula, a dalit research scholar. This led to widespread protest on the campus and outside.

In Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi the elected president of the University Students Union, was arrested by the police on charges of sedition. It was alleged that he had supported some anti-national students who were protesting against Afzal Guru's hanging. The authorities have not provided any proof on these charges. His arrest has led to strike by students and teachers of this premier University.

The ruling party at the Centre must follow a hand off policy towards campus unrest and protest. Forceful efforts to intervene will only lead to vitiating academic atmosphere in universities.