PRESS RELEASE

Medical Students Association of India would like to express deepest concerns towards the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Registry of Citizen (NRC). These affect the people of India and threaten access to basic necessities. The CAA followed by NRC is discriminatory and prefers those who have a privilege of documentation, also threatens the secular nature of the Indian Constitution. In totality, this is a potential barrier to access to healthcare facilities and health for all. As an organization of medical students, as future medical practitioners, this is our major concern.

We at MSAI, strongly condemn the violent repression of the student protests in different parts of India. In an enraging turn, a peaceful protest at a university was brutally transformed into a lawful expression of displeasure of the students overpowered by the disgraceful and unlawful attack of the police officials by the use of tear gas and batons to disperse the crowd. This is unacceptable. We stand strongly in solidarity with students protesting in the length and breadth of the country.

Finally, we also condemn Internet blackouts and network disruptions in various parts of the country. Internet blackouts and network disruptions are barriers to freedom of expression, access to information and education, and right to health. It is known to affect vulnerable groups, including women, and internally displaced persons. This seriously affects access to services (majorly healthcare services), and both communication and transfer of remittances to their families.

We hope that the values of the secular democratic republic, justice and equality for all, liberty, fraternity as enshrined in the Indian Constitution are maintained. Safe spaces are created and maintained for students to peacefully protest. With due process access to healthcare is improved without any exception and the right to health is furthered.

Best Regards,

Geetanshu Singla
President (2019-20)
Medical Students Association of India