



**Students' Association
Film and Television Institute of India,
Law College Road,
Pune: 411004**

Dated: 23/01/2024

Press Note

On 23rd January '24 a mob of 20 - 25 agitated people entered the campus around 1:30 P.M. There was a conflict between the miscreants and the security as they wanted to enter the campus. A few students concerned about the conflict started enquiring. Upon enquiring with the security guards, the miscreants started sloganeering 'Jai Shree Ram' and hurled abuses at the students. As Mankap Nokwoham(President of FTIISA) was walking towards the main gate, the mob started chanting loudly. The mob charged at Mankap and the security guards failed to stop the mob. Mankap was violently attacked and brutally beaten, his T shirt was torn in the assault. He sustained severe, multiple bruises. While all this was going on, the security guards were complicit in their inaction and the faculty were standing still looking at the ongoing assault. Somehow during the violent attack, Mankap managed to escape the mob's grasp and was later secured in the Director's office. The mob continued to charge inside the campus premises and reached Wisdom Tree. They started sloganeering 'Jai Shree Ram' and more guards entered to stop them. The mob let loose and pulled down the banner that students had put up. They started vandalizing the installations and the property of FTII kept at the Wisdom Tree and burnt down the banner. Amidst all this, Sayantan(General Secretary, FTII) questioned the security head about the ongoing assault. Later he was also beaten and violently attacked by the mob. While Sayantan was assaulted, many students including a female student tried to save him and were beaten up badly in the process. Four students sustained grievous injuries in the attack. As the police arrived at the Wisdom Tree, the mob started disengaging and the security guards took them back to the main gate. There was no action taken by the Police after seeing the ongoing assault and the culprits were free to go. Thereafter, the mob assembled outside the Police Station where the students were taken for their statements.

This assault has taken place after the security officer Mr. Jadhav and the Registrar were informed about a recent incident on 21st Jan'24, 1:00 A.M wherein a mob of 20 people gathered

in front of the main gate and started sloganeering 'Jai shree ram.' The security guards remained mum and took no action whatsoever. Later on being questioned about their inaction, they cleared the mob from the main gate. About half an hour post the incident, a mob of people started sloganeering 'Jai shree ram' and threatened the students wielding sticks and that they will come back with a bigger mob. The Registrar and the Security Officer promised our safety.


Moreover, there has been false accusation in the media that it was a scuffle between two groups or that the students charged at the trespassers.

Innocent students were grievously attacked by these goons who barged into our campus while the security and staff were being a mere spectator. It is a blatant attack on the fundamental right to life of the students and a grave failure of law and order. FTII Students Association strongly stands against such a dire attack on our democratic rights as well as the lives of students.

With Regards,
FTIISA



Mankap Nokwoham
President, FTIISA



Sayantan Chakrabarti
General Secretary, FTIISA