

INDIAN JOURNALISTS UNION

F-29, Shankar Market, Connaught Circus, New Delhi - 110 001.

To

The Chairman,
Press Council of India,
Soochana Bhavan,
8, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road,
New Delhi.

13th August 2011.

Sir,

Sub: Request for appointment of a Sub-committee of the Press Council of India – suo- motto- to examine Safety and Protection of Journalists in the country and to suggest national wide special law for that purpose - Regarding.

The Working Journalists in the country are worried over lack of their safety and protection while discharging their duties. The sense of disquiet and apprehension is heightened after the cold blooded murder of Mr. Jyothirmoy Dey, Editor, Special-Investigations, of the Mid Day daily in Mumbai on 11th June 2011. Several other incidents in the country where the journalists are at the receiving end, underline the need for urgent action by the professional and overseer-body for the freedom of the press. They are vulnerable in several parts of the country from attacks from various mafias including the North East and Kashmir. Such situation does not augur well for the freedom of the press in the country.

The Government of Maharashtra and some Union Ministers mooted the idea of enacting a law at the state level for making any attack on the working journalists as a cognizable offence as is the case in case of attacks on public servants. The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the Indian Journalists Union (IJU) at its meeting in New Delhi on 24th July 2011 considered the issue in depth and felt that there is an urgent need for a law at the national level to protect the journalists from attacks and to compensate their families in case of a tragedy.

In these circumstances, the Indian Journalists Union (IJU) thinks that it is fit case for the Press Council of India (PCI) to take up the issue of Safety and



For correspondence with Secretary - General

H.No.5-9-60/B, Desodharaka Bhavan, Fateh Maidan, Hyderabad - 500 001. (A.P.), India.
Tele Fax : 040-23232660, Mobile : 94909 52240, E-mail : ksrindia@yahoo.com

Protection of Journalists suo motto and appoint a sub-committee of the Council to go into the whole gamut of the issue and suggest ways and means including a national for the protection of journalists in the country.

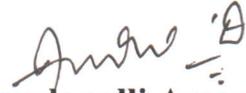
We hope and trust you would take up and examine the issue in depth and suggest ways and means to allay the fears of the working journalists over their safety.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,



(S N Sinha)
President



(Devulapalli Amar)
Secretary-General