

# INDIAN JOURNALISTS UNION

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## **Press Note**

### **IJU expresses outrage over killing of French cartoonists**

New Delhi, January 8: The Indian Journalists Union (IJU) expressed deep shock and outrage over the killing 12 persons in an attack on office of Charlie Hebdo, a satirical weekly magazine, in Paris on wednesday by Al Quaida terrorists. In the worst ever attack on the fourth estate, three cartoonists, Wolinski, Cabu, Bernard Verlhac and Chief Editor of the Magazine, Stephane Charbonnier lost their lives. The magazine recently published a cartoon on Islamic State militant group leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, Indian Journalists Union (IJU) President S N Sinha, Secretary-General Devulapalli Amar said that the cartoons and cartoonists were usually irreverent of anybody standing on high pedestal and were meant to expose their follies and bring out their human frailties in to sharp focus and tell the people that they are also human beings. Those who were insensitive to the human nature feel offended by the cartoons, they said.

By attacking and killing four cartoonists, the terrorists threw a challenge to the fourth estate which must be met with "we do not care and we cannot be intimidated" attitude and carry out task of freedom of expression with renewed vigor, the statement said.

The IJU leaders called on the working journalists everywhere to come out in open and tell the extremist elements of all hues that their threats and terror acts would not deter them from their sacred mission. The Indian Journalists Union (IJU) condoled the death of 12 persons including four cartoonists and pledged that the international working journalists professional and trade union movement would not allow their supreme sacrifice to go waste by standing up to the attackers and killers of freedom of expression.

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President

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