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இலங்கை உழைக்கும் ஊடகவியலாளர் சங்கம்
Sri Lanka Working Journalists Association

Incorporated by Parliament Act No.46 in 1987/Trade Union Registration No 8528

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PRESS RELEASE

MEDIA WORKERS FIRED FROM SWARNAVAHINI

Sri Lanka Working Journalists Association (SLWJA) strongly condemn sacking 15 media workers of Swarnavahini TV channel who formed an internal trade union.

According to the present law of Sri Lanka, it is not prohibited to set up or to become a member of a trade union. As per the management of Swarnavahini, if the fired media workers have done any fault, an inquiry should be held instead of sacking them. SLWJA treat this as an illegal and inhuman. This is also a violation of their human rights.

This situation can be seen in all private print and electronic media institutions. By sacking the workers who are fighting for their rights instead of improving facilities for them, it is clear that management of these media institution's only ambition is to get their work done by threatening the workers. While discussing about other people's problems from morning to night through the print and electronic media, not allowing their workers to be members of a trade union is ridiculous. This shows the cruelty of the owners of such media institutions.

Every employee has a right to set up a trade union or to become a member of a trade union as per his/her wish. Therefore SLWJA request the management of Swarnavahini to re-appoint the fired workers in their positions and to ensure their job security.

Further, the Government should take firm action against such situations. Also it is a responsibility of the Department and Labour and the relevant Minister to intervene straightly on such institutions and make sure the job security of the workers.

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