

PAKISTAN FEDERAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS

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Date: March 15, 2024

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Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif

Prime Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad.

Subject:

Illegal Terminations in Media

Respected Sir,

Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) is an elected representative body of over Ten Thousand working journalists from Print, Electronic, Digital and freelance media of Pakistan and is the only body affiliated with International Federation of Journalists (IFJ).

I take this opportunity to congratulate you for your second term as the Prime Minister of Pakistan and hope that you will lead the Nation of Pakistan out of troubles and make people of Pakistan prosperous & free of worries while ensure freedom of speech & expression in the country.

I want to highlight an important issue of illegal terminations & irregular payment of wages in the Media Industry. A number of media houses owners have not been following the law of the land and are involved in Irregular or non-payment of wages while media workers are illegally terminated without payment of dues. Most recently, a national media house Talon News HD has shut down the organization leaving hundreds of working journalists jobless. The terminated staff would have been paid three month salaries but its management has not paid any such legal compensation while outstanding dues are also not paid which has left working journalists in great problems in holy month of Ramadan. It is also against the employment policy of your government and has created unrest amongst media workers of the country.

You are requested to look into and take necessary action against those involved in this shameful and illegal act and make some suitable arrangements so that the terminated workers are paid their legal outstanding dues and media houses pay regular salaries to the media workers. We would be forced to stage countrywide protests if no action is taken.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Rana Muhammad Azeem

Secretary General PFUJ