



THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB OF SOUTH ASIA

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September 13, 2024

Dr Muhammad Yunus
Head of the Interim Government of Bangladesh
DHAKA
Bangladesh.

SUBJECT: HARASSMENT OF BANGLADESHI JOURNALISTS

Dear Dr Yunus,

The Foreign Correspondents' Club of South Asia (FCC), the Press Club of India (PCI), the Indian Women's Press Corps (IWPC) and the Press Association (PA) wish to bring to your kind and urgent attention our collective anguish and concern over the selective harassment of Bangladeshi journalists, and the undue restrictions on them.

Implicating as many as 52 respected media personnel in murder cases, imprisoning some of them and filing unsustainable charges against many others in the International Crimes Tribunal are blatant violations of the freedom of expression and thoughts.

We hope you share with us the belief that a free press should be the pride of Bangladesh. Eliminating dissent and suppressing press freedom tarnish the image of not only your Administration but also of Bangladesh as a country.

We urge you to be vigilant against all those who are enemies of press freedom and act against them if they harass journalists.

We request you, as a globally respected Nobel Peace laureate, to personally intervene and ensure the safety and security of journalists in carrying out their jobs without fear and favour.

Kindly order the release forthwith of journalists who have been arrested on frivolous charges.

S. Venkat Narayan

S Venkat Narayan, President, FCC
Gautam Lahiri, President PCI
Parul Sharma, President, IWPC
Chhaya Kant Nayak, President, PA