

Press Release

Islamabad, 04 December 2013

Any threat or attack to affect free functioning of press is tantamount to negate freedom of expression and put hurdles in the smooth flow of information.

This was stated in a statement issued here by PCP in response to 2nd attack by armed person on express TV Karachi office within in a period of 4 months.

The Council has already taken suo moto notice on the incident of attack on express tv Karachi office on 17 /8/ 2013 and took up the issue with the Sindh government for taking appropriate steps to apprehend the culprits and intimate progress of the case to PCP. Under Article 19(A) of the constitution of Pakistan all Provincial governments are bound to protect the right of freedom of information by taking appropriate steps. Similarly, under sub section 2 of section 8 of PCP ordinance 2002 it is statutory obligation of the council to act as a shield to protect freedom of press or against any sort of interference in the proper functioning of the press, in any manner, or by any person, party or organization.

Taking strong exception to the incident, PCP Chairman, Raja Shafqat Abbasi has condemned the open attack of the armed terrorists, as such incidents amount to put hindrance in the free functioning of the independent press and dissemination of credible information to the masses.

The council regrets continued attacks and threats on media persons/ houses and asks the concerned quarter to do whatever it takes to guarantee safety of media persons/ houses.

Press Council of Pakistan