



indian women's press corps

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Joint Statement

World Press Freedom Day - May 3, 2024

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, we, the undersigned journalist organizations deeply affirm our joint commitment to speaking up for the freedom and independence of the media. It is our belief that a free media is imperative to the creation and sustenance of robust and strong democracies.

We observe with concern the increased targeting of the media by state and non-state actors and the frequent use of draconian provisions of the law including terror laws against media-persons and media houses that are critical of government policies. It is a matter of additional concern that India's ranking in the World Press Index has slipped 11 ranks from 150 in 2022 to 161 in 2023.

We express our solidarity with the wider community of journalists and media persons who work in precarious economic and political conditions.

We express our solidarity with journalists who have been incarcerated for voicing critical concerns.

We express our concern and outrage at the killing of close to 142 members of our fraternity due to the bombing of Gaza which has entered its eighth month. We urge countries that call themselves democracies to put an end to all meaningless wars in the interests of peace and justice.

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, we resolve to raise our voices for a more equitable, just, fair and peaceful world.

Parul Sharma- President, Indian Women's Press Corps

Gautam Lahiri-President, Press Club Of India

Jaishankar Gupta- Former President , Press Association

Sujata Madhok-President, Delhi Union of Journalist

S Venkat Narayan-President Foreign Correspondents Club of South Asia

Abhinandan Sekri- Co-founder and General Secretary, DIGIPUB News India Foundation

