



All Pakistan Newspapers Society

32-Farid Chambers, Abdullah Haroon Road, Karachi

Tel: 35671256, 35671314 Fax: 35671310, email:apns@apns.com.pk, Web:www.apns.com.pk

Ref: APNS/2011/

December 3, 2011

The News Editor,
.....
.....

Dear Sir,

Please read the following news item and oblige.

“The APNS strongly flays attempts to browbeat media by acts of vandalism and burning of copies”, stated a press release of All Pakistan Newspapers Society.

The President, APNS, Hameed Haroon was approached by the Chief Editor, Daily Mashriq, Peshawar that in reaction to a news story, was intercepted on Saturday morning the delivery vehicle of his newspaper at Domail, Bannu by the activists of a provincial minister who stopped the vehicle on gun point and burnt the copies of the publication.

The President, APNS in a statement, stated that the deplorable act against the newspaper is a part of the growing trend of violence against the dissenting press and it is in the interest of the civil society to check this trend with combined efforts.

The APNS considers such acts as a clear attack on the freedom of press and expression. This suggests that the society is becoming increasingly anarchic where the law and order and tolerance do not prevail. The APNS believes that it is the professional duty of the journalists to write investigative stories and act as a watch-dog to the interest of the people of the country. The stability and strength of democratic dispensation requires that critical investigative report are not only tolerated but encouraged by the concerned authorities. It further requires that the extremist and fascist tendencies which tend to curb the press freedom are completely weeded out.

The APNS urges upon the Chief Minister, Khyber Pakhtoon Khwa to take strict action against the culprits and the involved Minister, nominated in the FIR with the Domail Police Station.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

-s/d-

(Dr. Tanvir A. Tahir)

Executive Director

APNS