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Parliamentary reporting workshop

Journalist jokes 'one must report all is well'

Staff Report

LAHORE: A workshop for journalists organised by the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and Centre for Civic Education (CCE) was held at a local hotel here on Wednesday. The purpuse of the workshop

The purpose of the workshop was to give parliamentary reporters basic information on purliamentary affairs and its rules and regulations. It was also an opportunity for journalists, parliamentarians and assembly secretariat staff to sit together and voice their problems and demands.

The workshop was divided into different topics with senior journalists giving lectures to young reporters on the history of the profession. In opening remarks, Zafarnilah Khan of the CCE said the freedom of the press and democracy went hand in heard. He gave a brief history of parliamentary reporting at press galleries in the UK and other developed countries.

In the first session, senior journalist Aziz Mazhar said reporters in Pakistan had always struggled for the promotion and protection of civil end political rights. The president of the press gallery committee, Khawaja Farrukh Saeed, said parliamentary reporters should be allowed access to the assembly library.

access to the assembly library.

Sohail Warraich said reporting parliamentary proceedings was akin to walking a lightrope. He advised the attending juernalists, only half-jokingly, to portray parliament well with detailed positive reports. Senior journalist Munmoo Bhai said the state had a history of curbing people's rights in the name of national interest and patriotism. "A reporter must be impartial and objective".

IA Rashid talked about the history of press ordinances and the freedom of information ordinance of the Musharraf government. He said the ordinance concealed the facts from journalists. Anjum Zia, head of the mass communication department, Lahore College, gave a presentation on othics for journalists.

On the parliamentarian side, Syed Abul Hassan Najmi, Mohammad Ahmed Khan, Ehsanullah Waqas, Rana Sanaullah,

Gardezi spoke on various aspects of the main theme. Mr Waqas said the journalist had an important part in creating public awareness and holding governments accountable. He said reporters should concentrate on the positive side of assembly procoodings. Mr Sanaullah narrated some of the rules of procedures of the assembly to clarify his point that the current assemblies have no real power. He also spoke of his alleged harassment by intelligence agencies. Mr Zia elaborated on one rule which meant that provincial assemblies had to obtain pennission from the president to amend laws. Mr Khan endorsed the point that the discussions of standing committees should be made open to the public and journal ists. He said journalist should report the true substance of discussions. Mr Gardezi said the quality of journalism and journalists was far better now than a dexade ago. He said such workshops were necessary for both journalists. and parliamentarians. He vowed the government would do all it could to protect the rights of journalists.

Daily Aftaab Ouetta May 25, 2003

Workshop on Parliamentary Reporting

Parliament représents a sovereign authority in a democratic government and its coverage constitutes the most important domain in the field of media.

Keeping in view this fact, NDI and CCE recently jointly organized a training workshop for the parliamentary reporters is Labore.

At the workshop, a consensus coverged that a huge responsibility lies on the shoulders of the parliamentary reporters for reporting honestly and professionally all those parliamentary decisions, which directly or indirectly affect the lives of millions of people. It was agreed that parliamentary journalists must play their due role in building an effective relationship between public and their representative institutions.

five sessions and each session. provided an excellent opportunity for all the stakeholders including parliamentary leaders, representatives of Assembly Secretariat and parliamentary eporters to discuss challenges he institution of parliamentary eporting is facing and explore sest possible was to address hem.



مِحَافِينَ لِي زَمِهِ وَالرَقِي بِ كَدِمِهِ قَافِرِنِ مَا زَي كِ النَّفَ

الأوراج وبنتن كالخطف لنفرقوا لمرتبك يهتما كبيران ولأمراميت

کے قام عالی اور زائل کے کار کے کری۔ بیاب رملی کے محری وائل اور کار کی سے ایسے JUNAID QSR@HOTMAIL.COM عرائية غيل كافظ فحرقا (س مي أواميرا ي تسعد مين إدران الماق ياست الراقية منظرة الموسية (جعاه شريده يكي تخليق يرزوه ولاية الهانب شرفسه وجاليا بَقِقَ لِينَ اللهِ وَأَنْ اللهِ وَأَنْ اللهِ أَنَّ النَّا عَيْنَ الوان فَ موات من يواليوك والما متحار محانات والشارات كاك إربرت كاو كاريد ما بخيرا وثمانية الجعلي رورتك كاسيار بار نيم كإمها مكا الول شاع مار شل لاء آور بارمين عدم حشل يرعائم ك البيل بداركنا كه مام على الواداري جب ما مت ي المراية المريق والميز فك كالموان كالمنظاب للل ك المدي لكني والى ك الله الانتا الدي الانتا المقارض برايط المجالية ما سند اور علی زندگ پرچسد انجین فیرجس دک ور کشاب کے آخری سیش بین انوائی و تریندات الرق الدواري أزاغها ويحطرار فيول كافرقيت ماسل يونى اليزونة وال الجركة فن صحيح جمانيان تمروح في في المسار المول كالماكرة وليزوك كرور كايما فالنابيب عن ل کیا اثموں نے کما کہ بسوری او گردند کو جاانے کے وس كا حق كليت جينيم كيامًا الد توى مفارى مخران قوم کے محافیرن اور محافث کا بہت ایم کرکھارے ان کاب ورآن بالكس دارك بال يط ورواكم اورود م البي أنا فغاله آج جرائوم كالمعيار بطيلت كهو بمتزاداً كم قرح قوبی خادات کی کستدای بن می می کن کساور دارسیکا نے باق اکستان قائر اعظم کی میان مقد یہ سے کا دیکی عادراس كالمداران المريط عصد بدراتي والوارات الرابع كالظهار أكن كماكر يالس يحج الم خِناب أربعي قرى مقامات بك بمنافي قرا رويديا - كاب عدد معلامة التي ما المدالية المي أل الاستكام الرجان ثاني باكراكه وارتفاي ميدے واسط المحدود كرورك والمعلى كرير ك والمتلاب ك المناس وألوا لأوزاكا فتعمل كالإبنائية ويمال فارامات كالمتود صرائيه زير في الماد تمشيم كير ومنقل والارتباع كالمسلسل والاستدار برركتاب على فريك واكر محافظ لباكي غرية المركال يختل الأري خياس البالخي إدر محالي زعدك يه سرت وهاا فالوكريك اشتي زيا فاراع كالحي البززاور يينم ر نفري بات تھي اور الحمالي و جمهوري اوا روان ڪ ورم فار موک ایج کینی اِکتان کو فرائ شمین قال ک الكل كم إصفي الإياد ما ي بدايات نسل ونط عاج ين بي كي ألتان عن الموريد عامما وا آم و بين عيم احول في الريات بروك الاعام كا جنوری اقدار اور سای شمر کے ارداع کے کئے ير عالى سال منالي كرية بي إدرو العي عديم نسائدة على تدري البادي والأنت عن الحج بوع إلى اور عما يحي عك

آزاریوں (جوریت کو و حرف احتکام شاہے مگ ب آوران کی دیو را نگ محالت کا اینم ترین خصر ب اللي كراتي سنور محافيان كو الرزكها بالأب الهوري رہ نوب زمار الدائر کو ایم کے درخان الحدوث کا محدود کے انداز کا درکشوں کھی مورڈ کیا ہے محدود کی کے موسیل کردگا کے کیو میں واقواع محمد کم کم چار برخان کے انداز کا ان محل کا الحاق ريور فليدي كما كالمشكات ورجارا إيره اجراس عياكما خانم الميل الأم والأنه الجيمية كرك اور محافوان كي زين كم كي بيش زيمو كريك النس في مناوار عادن الجيمز أن مثر الك أنوك (عادة) الجويش ك ورا الزام إلى ورعواب أالأفام الأمام الأما المرت ك ا برگ جایی در اینان این در اسل این در اینان در اینان در این در اسلام أأنواج المرازية والمحالة والمحارث والمراث ور شاب معقول مقران خاي في ورحاب أغاز بريريا يواني كلات كالعربارايا في ديَّر ذَكَيْتِ فِي آمريَّانِ أأتبيل بجنك كاورها والمرازليت كالورثيج كوحمي مَنْ مِلْ الْمُرْكِبُ عِنْ مِن اللهِ أَمْ يُولِلُ إرايون المَنْ مِحْرِيثُ مِنْ كَالْمُنْدِينَ أَوْرِينَ مِنْ بالى رشين ما يول كيده في والحق ع وركتاب كاليلا ميشن زوجهواني قافيان مهاؤا مطأأنوه ر کی کے تواون کے جوالے ایک تھا ایس بھٹی ہیں۔ صوالی قالون ماز اسمال اور ریاس کا فرائعہ اسمالی کی عَارِروالَ كَي هورُ رهِ وقف أَ يَأْمِكُ إِلَيْ وَقُلْ أَيْ مرارين کاري و قل او رياد بيما آن پريس کاري کو کيا المغبوط ينايا جاسة وليسر موضوع لينتدير معهدف محافى عزية عقرا میں وزائج ابور الوز سکونے اظہار خیال کیا ميل و دُا وَكُونُ أَنْهُ مُنْ الْمُولِمُ و مِنْ الدِر أَمِا وي إلى كين النول في النالي فيوري اوقاء كريتي على بيامل برید و اسالهام خومیت میمودید که میمودید قوار دا امراس این تدرواند آلها اسالهام شده سای خاموان می خومیمی ترقی اور فرهمال کے لیے ای المارك والأراك والمراجع والمراجع المراجع المراجع المراجع المراجع الع الصديقة وأف اور اوراروان عن الساق ال المحاليس ب لذا مير اس فقام أو النافية أرقن " ويا ما كااور يمن بسوريت كوا نسالي خاميري كوير تقرو كا كرم كلنا جو كا انون نے کیا کہ جسوریت اور قبی اسیلی کے اوکوں کے 🗜 خيركي ترجماني شروريو ناسب اله اور الرجى أكل ولواك يدا وقوات جموري はるなけったできるがかないかけんしょ كر نهم اين جموريت كما حريكه برطانيه اور محارت いかに かんとうという outlest received and

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Newsmen 'free to express' views

By Our Reporter

LAHORE, May 14: Provincial minister thosain Jahanian Gardezi has said there is greater press froodom in Pakistan than ever before and the journalists have a liberty to criticize the government.

He was speaking at the concluding session of a training workshop on legislative reporting organized by the National Democratic - Institute - for International Affairs and the Centre for Civic Education, Pakistan, here on Wednesday, About two dezen newsmen attended the workshop.

The minister said the journalists were frue to express their rices, and they must ensure that they reported correctly without bias. He said a correct report of an event, perticularly the proceedings of the provincial assembly, would help ruise the standard of reporting.

He said it was a matter of great satisfaction that the standard of journalism, particularly reporting, had improved during the past decade as now more educated people were joining this profession. He said the government would welcome genuine and constructive criticism by the press. He assured the journalists that the government would try its best to solve their problems.

Punjab Assembly secretary Dr. Abul Hasan Najmi said the press played an important role in strengthening democratic institutions. It could help people struggle for their rights. He said the rule of law was the best requirement of justice and the main aim of any law was that it should promote the public interest. It should be progressive and not retregressive. He said no democracy could flourish unless the people had a confidence in democratic institutions, and the media could play an important role in developing this confidence.

He said the press should provide correct information to the people without any ambiguity and doubts. He said the press and partiament should have condial and friendly relations which

LAHORE, May 14: Provincial would help build the confidence of the people in their elected repass and there is greater press free resentatives.

The leader of the opposition in the Punjab Assembly, Qasim Zia, and PML-Q MPA Mohammed Khan also spoke on the occasion.

CPNE president Mujibur Rahman Shami, taking part in panel discussion on editor's perspectives on legislative reporting, said the press and parliament were two important institutions in any demogratic setup. But in Pakistan, the democratic process had been repeatedly interrupted by military regimes dissolving the assemblies. In the absence of assembly reporting, the newspapers in order to attract the public had been publishing sensational crime stories. He said first the bureaucracy and then the army had been determining what was in the national interest and dictating the press. Even a portion of the Quaid i Azam's speech at the inauguration of the first constituent assembly of Pakistan on Aug 11, 1947, was consored by the then bureaucracy. He said the training of assembly reporters would help improve their coverage of assembly proceedings.

Lahore College for Women University's mass communication department head Ms Anjum Zia gave a lecture on journalists' code of ethics; PPUJ president LH. Raashed on freedom of infermation, ensuring objectivity and accuracy in reporting; Punjab Assembly press gallery president Farrukh Saeed on press gallery as an institution; Schail Warraich on relationship between provincial assemblies and the press; Sajjad Anwar on coverage of standing committees proceedings; Ms Fakhira Tehreem on proceedings in the chamber; and Mubashar Bokhari on parliamen tary parties.

Ariz Mazhur and Munno Bhai presided over the first and secand sessions of the workshop. NDI country director Ms Mary Cumunins and Civic Centre director Zafarullah Khan also addressed.