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# Media Watch Report

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# Media Watch Report

The current issue of Media Watch newsletter covers the following topics:

- A journalist fled to Kabul after a Member of Parliament threatened him to death
- Explosion damaged Radio Dunya-e-Naween entrance in Charikar, Parwan province
- A mine explosion targeted Pazhwak News Agency office in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province
- Border Police forces beat two journalists in Paktia province
- A National Security officer beat a journalist in Ghazni province
- Facebook pages, claiming to be run by Taliban, threatened journalists and civil society activists
- Lack of access to information is a major challenge for Afghanistan's journalists
- Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan asked the government of Afghanistan to approve a regulation on how to establish and operate media entities





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Last month was full of challenges for journalists and freedom of speech in Afghanistan. In a brief look, the following events involved media and journalists in the past month: A journalist fled to Kabul fearing for his life; office of two media outlets in the country's two major cities were attacked by bombs; three journalists were beaten in Ghazni and Paktia provinces; a number of journalists were threatened in a Facebook page.

Also, journalists kept pressing for their concerns over lack of access to information which has increasingly drawn more journalists complaining about the problem. Another topic that journalists have continued to face has been the intra-organizational problems. In order to deal with this problem, Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan held a press conference in which it called on the government of Afghanistan to approve a regulation on how to establish and operate media entities.

Sher Mohammad Jahesh, director of local Tanweer Television Station in Pul-e-Khomri city, Baghlan province, was threatened to death by Haji Ashequllah Wafa, a Bghlan representative in the National Assembly. Mr. Jahesh spent one week in Kabul away from his work, family and friends. Then Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan held a joint meeting with both sides which resulted in an understanding between them and allowed Mr. Jahesh to return to his native city of Pul-e-Khomri and resume his media works.

In less than a week time, two media entities in two major cities were attacked with bombs. The first attack targeted the office of local Radio Dunya-e-Naween Station in Charikar, Parwan province. A magnetic bomb exploded and destroyed parts of the entrance of the station's office. But the attack could not inflict any casualties. The second attack targeted Pazhwak News Agency's office in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province which inflicted damages to Pazhwak News Agency office but left no casualties.

In other separate developments in Ghazni and Paktia provinces, security officials beat three journalists. Border Police officers severely beat Ashequllah Ikhlasyar, head of National Radio Television in Paktia province and his employee, Abdul Maalek Hamrang. The two journalists were on their way to the inaugural ceremony of the new governor of Paktia and were assigned to run the event, when Border Police stopped their car and beat them up. In a separate incident, police stopped Asadullah Jalalzai, a local journalist for BBC in Ghazni, before entering Provincial Department of Information and Culture and beat him while he insisted that he was a journalist and needed to visit the Department for work purposes. Police claims that Mr. Jalalzai refused to be body-searched by the police.





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On the other hand, two Facebook pages, which claim to be belonged to the Taliban, has published a list of 14 journalists and civil society activists and threatened them. The journalists and activists who were threatened, reacted to the development differently. Some of them considered it as a very common incident while some others took it as a serious threat. Commenting that the page was truly operated by Taliban, they asked for protection of their lives.

Security entities reacted to the case and called the Facebook accounts as a fake one. After security officials met with these journalists, the Facebook accounts that earlier threatened them went deactivated and were not accessible anymore.





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### **A journalist fled to Kabul after a Member of Parliament threatened him to death**

Sher Mohammad Jahesh, director of local Tanweer Television Station in Baghlan province, was threatened to death by Haji Ahequllah Wafa, a Baghlan representative at National Assembly, on May 26, 2015. Reporting the threat to Nai office, Mr. Jahesh said that he has left his native province ever since.

Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan has accessed an audio-record, attributed to Mr. Wafa, a Baghlan representative at National Assembly, in which he explicitly threatens Mr. Jahesh, director of local Tanweer Television Station in Baghlan province, to death and calls him and his family with obscene words.

In the audio-record, which contains a telephone conversation between Mr. Jahesh and Mr. Wafa, the parliamentarian warns the TV director to not broadcast the news of sacking of the province's then police chief, Aminullah Amarkhel.

After receiving the warnings, Mr. Jahesh leaves Pul-e-Khomri for an unidentified place. In a phone contact to Nai's Media Watch, he asserted that if he, his family or any of his colleagues at the TV station are harmed, then he will hold Haji Ashequllah Wafa, a representative of Baghlan at National Assembly, accountable.

Mr. Jahesh said: "In three phone calls, their warnings ranged from insulting me, my family and my colleagues with curses and bad words to breaking my hands and legs to killing me. They forced me to leave my city and seek refuge in another place."

Given the threats that he has received, Mr. Jahesh feels his life is in danger and asks how he will be able to safely return to his work with such threats in place.

Mr. Jahesh added that although, working as a journalist, he had previously faced problems, but this one has been of a dangerous nature. It involves a legislator, who is expected to make legislation, breaking the laws, interfering into a media outlet's broadcast and threatening its operators to death.

Mr. Jahesh continued: "Whenever there is a complaint about a media outlet, then it should be channeled through legal pathways so that we legally account for our actions."

However, Haji Ashequllah Wafa, a representative of Baghlan in the National Assembly, told Media Watch via a phone interview that the audio-record in which Mr. Jahesh, director of Tanweer





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TV station, was threatened to death was fake. He added that Mr. Jahesh wanted to use the audio-record for applying for asylum abroad.

Mr. Wafa also commented on the recorded comments made regarding broadcast of reports on former police chief of Baghlan province, Aminullah Amarkhel's sacking and said that they did not concern Mr. Jahesh since the problems, if any, were only between him and Mr. Amarkhel.

Director of local Tanweer TV station, Mr. Jahesh, reported that the involved parliamentarian's constituents have conducted demonstrations in Baghlan province and expressed his concerns over the possibility of violence eruption which may harm his colleagues and his family members.

But Ashequallah Wafa said that it was beyond his capacity to stop people's demonstrations. "I have served my people and always helped them. This person (Sher Mohammad Jahesh) has done something that has touched people's emotions. They are out of my control now," added Mr. Wafa.

Then a number of Baghlan residents turned to streets and chanted slogans against Mr. Jahesh and his TV station. They asked the government to refer Mr. Jahesh to legal and judicial organs.

Sultan Mohammad Ebadi, Baghlan province acting governor, told media that people's demand will be channeled through the legal process. Mr. Ebadi added: "What is people's legitimate demand will always remain on their side; what is our duty, we will always perform it."

After nearly two weeks, Sher Mohammad Jahesh came to Nai office and submitted his written complaint to Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan. Nai contacted the Member of Parliament who had threatened Mr. Jahesh. Mr. Wafa together with another Member of Parliament from Baghlan, Mohammad Omar Aimaq, came to Nai office to discuss the issue and put an end to it. After two hours of discussions, it was decided that Mr. Wafa and Mr. Aimaq go to Pul-e-Khomri and, with mediation from influential people in the city, resolve the problem between Mr. Wafa and Mr. Jahesh. Then Mr. Wafa will participate in an interview which will be broadcasted on Tanweer TV.

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan called on the National Unity Government, particularly Baghlan province's police, to protect the mentioned journalist, his family as well as all employees of Tanweer TV station. They should support journalists and free media activities.

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan also called on the Lower House's Speaker to advise the mentioned Parliamentarian to avoid meddling in media affairs and stop threatening, intimi-





dating, and insulting journalists.

Journalists are obliged by their duty, principles of journalism, and above all by Media Law, to cover and report to their audiences about any incidents that take place.

Whenever a parliamentarian, a minister, or a common person has a legitimate complaint about a journalist, he or she should act through legal channels and should never resort to threatening the journalist.

Journalists belong to the public service sector and carry out reporting on events and circulate information to the very people whose right to information is protected by law.

### **Explosion damaged Radio Dunya-e-Naween entrance in Charikar, Parwan province**

According to statements made by Radio Dunya-e-Naween staffs, unidentified armed people used a magnetic mine and blew up the entrance of the Radio station's building in Charikar city, Parwan province on June 6, 2015 at around 7:25 PM.

Dr. Shafi Moshfeq, owner of Radio Dunya-e-Naween told Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan that they have always wrote and broadcasted balanced reports on terrorism, racket, and state's armed opposition in Parwan province. He thought that perpetrators of such acts might have been behind this incident.

Mr. Moshfeq added that fortunately the mine exploded before they got out of their office. But if it exploded at the time they were leaving the office, then it would have been highly probable that the mine could have caused them serious harm.

The owner of Radio Dunya-e-Naween also said that even though the attack has left negative impacts on the Radio's staff, but they were determined to continue their work and struggle against such harshness.

He continued: "Unidentified people threatened one of the Radio station's journalists, Shaayeq Qaasemi, through a phone call and told him that the next day they would take action against us." Shayeq Qaasemi, who works as a journalist simultaneously for Parwan-based Radio Dunya-e-Naween and Kabul-based Meetra TV Station, told Media Watch: After producing reports on mysterious murders in Parwan province, I began to receive threats through my Facebook account and my phone.





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Yaqoob Rasooli, moderator of political programs at Radio Dunya-e-Naween told Media Watch: When facts are broadcasted by this Radio, traitors get no chance to perform their ominous activities in this province. Therefore, they try to create problems for media.

Meanwhile Mohammad Aman Mamozai, Parwan police chief, told Media Watch that he has formed a board to investigate the incident and identify and arrest the perpetrators behind it. He added that it might have happened because of personal animosities.

But Dr. Moshfeq, owner of Radio Dunya-e-Naween rejected the allegation that the incident might have happened because of personal animosities and said he had no animosity toward anyone. He added that security officials in Parwan have tried to justify their own shortcomings.

It is said that this was the third time that such an attack targeted Radio Dunya-e-Naween station. Radio Dunya-e-Naween was established in Charikar city in 2014 after it changed its old name 'Radio Dunya' to the current one. The Station has come under similar attacks in the past – once with a handy bomb and another time by armed people.

Nearly a month ago, a similar attack targeted another local radio station, Radio Haqiqat in Sherzad district, Nangarhar province. The attack caused damages to the Station which remained closed for over two weeks after the incident.

### **A mine explosion targeted Pazhwak News Agency office in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province**

A strong explosion in front of Pazhwak News Agency's regional office in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, set all their equipment in fire but did not harm any individual.

Zeerak Fahim, a journalist and regional coordinator for eastern zone at Pazhwak News Agency's regional office in Jalalabad, told Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan, that a magnetic mine exploded in front of their office on June 10, 2015 at about 8:00 PM. Mr. Fahim said that he had left office 20 minutes before the incident and was only informed by his colleagues that the entrance of their office was destroyed.

Mr. Fahim said that none of their colleagues was injured but almost all of their equipment were destroyed.

He said he had no personal animosity with anyone that might have caused such an attack on their office. Nor did their office received any prior warnings. He was certain that security forces would identify the attackers and would and should investigate the motivation behind the attack.

Danesh Karokhel, director of Pazhwak News Agency in Kabul, told Media Watch that provin-





cial journalists are more vulnerable to threats from terrorist groups and other unidentified armed people. He also said that the latter try to prevent journalists from publishing or broadcasting facts in a timely fashion.

Mr. Karokhel added that they did not bow to such pressures and that, despite having lost three of their journalists in the past, they were determined to continue their work towards freedom of speech.

Meanwhile Lal Padshah Azmoon, chair of Journalists' Union in eastern zone, told Media Watch that mafia circles did not want journalists to pursue their works with a peaceful mind.

Media Watch condemned the attack on Pazhwak News Agency's regional office in Jalalabad and asked security officials to identify and arrest perpetrators.

### **Border Police forces beat two journalists in Paktia province**

Ashequllah Ikhlasyar, head of National Radio Television in Paktia province and his employee, Abdul Maalek Hamrang, claim that Border Police forces severely beat them on June 13, 2015.

Mr. Ikhlasyar told Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan that he was assigned to run the inaugural ceremony of the new governor of Paktia and was heading for the ceremony. On the way, they encountered a Border Police convoy.

He described the incident as following: "There were nearly 20 officers. They triggered their machine guns and began to hit us with their kicks and boxes. We tried hard to make them understand that we were journalists and showed them our press cards, but had no luck. They did not hear our words and beat us to death."

Mr. Ikhlasyar continued: My colleague and I were severely beaten in the skirmish; then Paktia police chief and Border Police chief came to the scene and apologized.

He continued: "Although we were severely beaten by Border Police officers, but no one made any official apology to us and no one even asked about our condition in the hospital."

Meanwhile, Abdul Maalek Hamrang, an employee of National Radio Television in Paktia and a journalist for Sulaiman Ghar cultural magazine, told Media Watch: "Border Police soldiers accused us of being bullies and beat us with their guns' butt stocks."

At the same time, Abdulhameed Roadwal, director of National Radio Television in Paktia province, told Media Watch that in the past they received warnings from Border Police officials on what they considered insufficient coverage of their activities by our station.





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Zalmai Oryakhel, Paktia police chief commander, told Media Watch: “The police officer claims that Mr. Ikhlasyar insulted him and tried to take away his machine gun.” The police chief commander added: “I personally tried to resolve this problem on the scene but we have not received a formal complaint from Mr. Ikhlasyar and Mr. Hamrang yet.”

He continued: “If they want their case to be formally pursued, then they should come to us and submit their written complaint so that we can start investigating the case formally.”

Meanwhile, Abdulbaseer Khpolwaak, commander of Border Police Zone 402, told Media Watch: “Our personnel were assigned to provide security for the inaugural ceremony of the new governor of Paktia province.”

The commander continued: “Riding a private car with a high speed, Mr. Ikhlasyar wanted to pass police’s patrol. He had not paid attention to police signal and then insulted them.”

Mr. Ikhlasyar accused the commanders of Border Police and Tandar Corp of meddling into their broadcasting affairs and added that they pressed the TV station and forced them to broadcast some topics in their favor. “Due to such pressures we cannot broadcast topics with high news value and they press us to only publish what can personally benefit them,” added Mr. Ikhlasyar. Sediqullah Tawhidi, director of Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan, said in a press conference: “Both state and private journalists are unprotected groups and no one take effective action to protect them.”

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan strongly condemned beating of journalists and emphasized that beating any citizen of the country was a mere violation of law and no individual had the right to commit such an act.

Also no individual or group has the right to interfere in the broadcasting or publishing affairs of a media outlet and dictate them about publishing policies. Journalists and media know what news are valuable to broadcast and what issues to cover.

Interference by uninformed and unprofessional people into media affairs will bring under question media’s broadcasting and publishing and violate their independence.





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### **A National Security officer beat a journalist in Ghazni province**

Asadullah Jalalzai, a BBC journalist and chair of National Journalists' Union in Ghazni province was beaten by a National Security officer on June 12, 2015.

Mr. Jalalzai got beaten when he wanted to enter Provincial Department of Information and Culture. The National Security officer first prevented him from entering the building, then accused him of avoiding body search and finally beat him.

Mr. Jalalzai said: "Ghazni Department of Information and Culture is located next to the National Security Department and therefore has relatively tighter security measures around it. We have to pass security forces, go through a body search by security officials, and finally get to the Department of Information and Culture."

He continued: "One of the officers, on the pretext of why I did not ask for his permission before entering the area, mistreated me and then beat me. I produced my press card and told him that I was not entering the National Security Department but rather going to the Department of Information and Culture to participate in a journalists' meeting. He did not pay any attention to my words and beat me."

Mr. Jalalzai also said: "I told the soldier: 'I am chair of National Journalists' Union; everybody knows me and I am now heading for a meeting.' I produced my press card and again told him: 'I am not going to the National Security Department but to the Department of Information and Culture.' He told me: 'Only whatever I say should be done.'"

According to Mr. Jalalzai, although a colleague of the soldier asked him to release Mr. Jalalzai, but he refused and said that he knew his work very well. Then he pushed Mr. Jalalzai and started beating him with his kicks and boxes.

Mr. Jalalzai thinks that the reason behind this incident was related to a previous press conference on the security force's lack of cooperation with journalists. "In the press conference we also criticized office of the governor. The soldier has surely had his own personal take from security meetings which let him behave the way he did," added Mr. Jalalzai.

National Security officials in Ghazni province have apologized for the incident and stated that investigations on the case have begun and the soldier who has beaten the journalist would be punished.

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan condemned beating of the BBC journalist in Ghazni and called it unlawful and against democracy and freedom of speech.





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Nai called on the National Unity Government, particularly authorities in Ghazni province, to seriously investigate the incident, identify the perpetrator and introduce him to the legal and judicial organs.

### **Facebook pages, claiming to be run by Taliban, threatened journalists and civil society activists**

A number of journalists and civil society activists have been threatened by two Internet pages attributed to Taliban. These pages published pictures of these journalists and activists, called them [belonging to] a Group of Evil and Depravity and accused them of negative propaganda.

These pages are called Al-Emara and Al-Emara TV. They have threatened a number of journalists and activists as following: “A number of hated and sinister faces, the majority of whom belong to the Evil and Depravity Group, have stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the occupiers ever since they began their occupation of the sacred land. They have abused the sacred occupation of journalism and spread propaganda against the resistance of the proud nation of Afghanistan. Our compatriots should not get influenced by propaganda that these ignoble unconscionable people spread. It is not far from now when each and every one of these enemies of religion and of the land will be brought to justice and account for their actions.”

At the end of this text, a list of 14 journalists and civil society activists have been published as following:

Bashir Ahmad Qasani, journalist

Haroon Motaref, journalist

Abdullah Azad Khenjani, journalist

Wali Aryan, journalist

Moslem Sherzad, journalist

Fahim Fetrat, journalist

Baaqi Samandar, civil activist

Majeed Qaraar, civil activist

Mokhtar Pedram, journalist

Wais Barekzai, journalist

Bary Salam, journalist

Lina Rozbeh-Haidari, journalist





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Ahmad Fawad Lame, journalist  
Asar Hakimi, civil activist

Publishing of this threatening message from such addresses concerned journalists. They said that this has not been the first time that Taliban threatened journalists and they have been threatened time and again.

Fahim Fetrat, a former journalist for 1-TV and Meetra TV stations, told Media Watch: “This will negatively impact freedom of speech and media works in Afghanistan and will take away journalists’ motivation to work. Journalists do not have social and occupational safety and issuing death sentence to them and to civil society activists is worrisome.”

He said: “We are seriously concerned about this issue. We will talk to security entities about this case to find out what they can do to provide security for us.”

According to Mr. Fetrat, journalists have also been threatened from doubtful addresses in the past, but this is the first time that [Taliban] published such a threat message in their official pages. “This threat is different from those of the past,” added Mr. Fetrat.

Haroon Motaref, political programs’ host at Meetra TV, told Media Watch that this was a threat to the entire civil society and journalists’ communities. The threatened journalists and civil society activists were concerned about it and asked the country’s security authorities to protect those values.

Bary Salam, a civil activist whose name is mentioned in the list, told Media Watch: “Journalists and civil society activists believe in a series of principles and values which they will never leave. Their struggle aims at protecting citizens’ rights, democratic values, and human rights of people of Afghanistan. They will continue their struggle.”

Mr. Salam added that security organs should find the source of such threats and should provide security to journalists.

Meanwhile Taliban have contacted some of the journalists and refused to take any responsibility for the threatening message. But journalists and civil society activists say that Taliban have previously published all their activities and achievements through the same Facebook pages where the last published message was threatening the journalists and civil society activists.

However, some journalists do not consider the threat message published on the Facebook pages as worrisome and say that the more they are threatened, the braver they get in their activities to support democracy and freedom of speech.





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But they add that since Taliban can easily target heavily fortified areas, killing journalists and their families is a simple action for them. These journalists and civil society activists are seriously worried about it.

It is worth to mention that the Facebook pages that threatened journalists and civil society activists were deactivated by security forces and were not accessible anymore.

Afghanistan's journalists and media activists have constantly been pressured and threatened by various people and groups. Sometimes they have been beaten, other times even killed.

Not only terrorists threaten journalists, but power brokers and law-breaking individuals whose interests get threatened in a report also threaten journalists. Moreover, state officials whose corruption cases get disclosed by journalists also threaten them.

Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan calls on the National Unity Government to implement their promises in action to protect journalists and freedom of speech in the country. If they do not protect this value and do not punish enemies of freedom of speech, then both state and people of Afghanistan will lose their most important achievement in the past 14 years and the country will fall back to oppression and despotism.

### **Lack of access to information is a major challenge for Afghanistan's journalists**

After the Law of Access to Information was approved and signed, it was speculated that no journalist will face any trouble in getting access to information anymore. But as each day of the National Unity Government's rule passes, journalists' complaints about this issue grows further. The problem took a downturn particularly after a decision by the National Security Council granted only spokespersons the right to speak with media and ordered other government officials not to talk to media. Although, later, the National Security Council denied taking any such decision and justified their role as bringing more coordination among state officials, the negative impacts of that decision are still felt by journalists and reporters.

In a news conference addressing this problem, Sediqullah Tawhidi, director of Media Watch, said: "After the National Unity Government was established and the Law of Access to Information was approved and signed, it was widely expected that such problems will come to an end and journalists will easily get access to the state's very important documents and sources."

"Contrary to such an expectation, in reality, even state administration's spokespersons whose very duty is to provide information, do not want to speak with media now," said Mr. Tawhidi.





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He continued: “Now the process of getting access to information has become even more difficult than before, and as this problem worsens, journalists find it even harder now to produce essential reports on the events and incidents happening in Afghanistan and share information with their audiences.”

Mr. Tawhidi said: “We call on President Ghani to order all state officials to provide information to the journalists whenever they need.”

Director of Media Watch further added: “We believed that after the Law of Access to Information would be implemented, all state offices would classify their documents in accordance with the Law, open their media and information offices, and would provide information to those who ask for it. Unfortunately months after the Law went into effect, no essential measures to make information accessible [to journalists and to the public] have been taken in security organs and most of the ministries yet.”

One of the best attributes of a democratic government involves access to and publish of information. If the president overlooks this issue, it will mean that Afghanistan no longer has a democratic system and the government will not care for the rule of law.

Statesmen should take their commitment to rule of law seriously. If they do not pay attention to it, in fact, the legitimacy of the entire system will come under question.

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan calls on the president one more time to solve this problem and order state officials to share information with journalists.

Based on the Law of Access to Information, journalists are not required to comply with a ‘determined deadline’ and statesmen should always be accessible to them, so that people of Afghanistan know what is going on in their country.

Nai also calls on the chief executive officer of the government to include this issue into the Council of Ministers’ meeting to discuss and bring an end to the problem.





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## **Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan asked the government of Afghanistan to approve a regulation on how to establish and operate media entities**

Although media entities frequently asked the state to quickly approve in the Cabinet meeting the regulation on how to establish and operate media entities, but the Cabinet returned the regulation to the Ministry of Justice for it did not mention in the text the frequency distribution and assessment of taxes on media.

Sediqullah Tawidi, director of Media Watch at Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan, said in a press conference on June 15, 2015: “The regulation on establishment and operation of media was sent to the [Cabinet’s] meeting two years ago.”

He continued: “Delay in approving this regulation which is partly related to the issue of journalists’ recruitment, rights, and privileges in media, has ultimately deprived a number of journalists of their rights and privileges.”

Director of Media Watch added: “Journalists still do not have retirement privileges, healthcare, and transportation services. The majority of media do not even grant journalists vacations to which they are lawfully entitled. There are contracts signed in the past 13 years that are in violation of Afghanistan’s Labor Law. Today media employees in Afghanistan are more like daily paid workers whom their bosses can fire without any lawful reason anytime they want.”

Media entities do not have any privilege schemes for those employees who have served their respective entity for a long time. Nai office asked for a legislation to be approved by the House of Representatives, but the former administration of the Ministry of Information and Culture insisted that the process would have taken longer and it would have been better to have in place a Cabinet-approved procedure instead.

Mr. Tawhidi reported that the Cabinet returned the regulation to the Ministry of Justice for it did not mention the frequency distribution and assessment of taxes on media.

Meanwhile a number of journalists are concerned about lack of occupational safety and legal protection. They say that owners of media entities act unilaterally when they decide to fire a journalist.

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan calls one more time on the Ministry of Justice to finish drafting of the regulation and send it to the Cabinet’s meeting.

Once such a regulation goes into effect, then all media entities will be obliged to comply with it.





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### **Attention!**

All journalists and media organizations are hereby notified that Mr. Mohammad Qasem Rahmani works with the Media Watch in the capacity of Media Lawyer. Those journalists and/or media outlets that face legal issues in connection with their media related and journalistic activities, or need consultation on performing such activities, may contact him by phone at 0799 830 905 or via email at: [m.qasim@nai.org.af](mailto:m.qasim@nai.org.af).

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To obtain a soft copy of the report, please visit the following link: <http://www.nai.org.af/Media-watch.htm>

Note:

1. To maintain confidentiality and to protect sources it was not possible for Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan to corroborate the incidents by carrying out additional investigations.

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