

Chairman Speech

Press council Nepal Narayan Prasad Sharma

Respected chairperson of WAPC and Madam Rey

General Secretary of WAPC Mr. Christopher, other members of the executive council of WAPC and distinguished guests.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all in Press Council Nepal. On half of PCN Nepal. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you all for choosing Nepal as your venue for the WAPC executive council meeting of this year.

Respected guests,

Today, we are feeling so proud that we have got opportunity to meet the responsible Members of world Association of Press council's (WAPC). This meeting has provided us to be familiar with each other and exchange views.

In Nepal, press council was established in early 1970. Its real object was to check and maintain to discipline The journalists who were critical of the party less political system and royal autocratic regime.

It was re-organized after the abolition of that system in 1991. Under the new democratic system media began to flourish.

Council was empowered to formulate and En-force a code of conduct for the journalists who violate the code of conduct formulated and accepted by the press council as well as federation of journalists.

Press council performs monitoring, evaluations and classification of all papers. Approximately, Here are registered thousand papers. Among them weeklies, dailies, fortnightly so on.

Now, Electronic media also is flourishing. Radio, Television, F.M. redoes are growing on.

Council conducts seminars, interaction among the journalist and people.

Including chairperson the council consists of 12 members, nominated by the government. President of federation of journalists also is member. One is the secretary general, Secretary of information department of the government.

We have entered a new era of globalization. The concept of the global village has come into practice due to development of science and technology.

You can feel wonder, in ancient time our forefathers have educated us) स्वदेशे भुवनत्रयम्, वशुधैव कुटुम्बकम्) It means we all are as family members in the world.

But we are facing many challenges like

1. Security of the journalist,
2. Editorial freedom
3. Code of ethics
4. Intervention of governmental and non-governmental agencies.

It is sure media is empowered but for what and for whom.

I hope the day will come when we will be really free ruled by the region and conscience but not by power and vested interest.

Now, is it voice of the voiceless? I doubt. Sometimes we may be cursed to be guided by the non ethical elements in the name of professional journalism.

I hope the day will arise when we will be really free from present weaknesses.

I expect on this historical moment our closed relationship and co-work will generate a positive environment towards quality media development.

THANK YOU

24 Oct, 2010