

## Scrutiny & Category Committee of AJK Press Foundation reviews mplementation of earlier-taken decisions:



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MIRPUR (AJK): July 9: The second extra

-ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny and Category Committee under the aegis of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Press Foundation was held in the state metropolis on Wednesday reviewed the implementation of decisions taken in the previous session in detail, it was officially said.

The decisions including for those institutions they were officially communicated in the light of those taken in earlier meeting. It was noted that some had yet to be responded. Therefore, it was decided that reminder letters would be issued to the concerned state functioneries. says a press release issued by the Press Information Department of Azad Jammu Kashmir government on Wednesday.

” The meeting, held under the chairmanship of Committee Chairman Sardar Ejaz Khaliq Khan, was attended among others by Vice Chairman of the Press Foundation, Sardar Zulfiqar Ali, as an ex-officio member, while members Muhammad Shabbir Awan and Syed Abbas Gardezi were present in person. Other committee members, Tahir Masood and Mirza Aslam, participated via video link, according to the PR.

“It was resolved that all newspaper organizations would be asked to provide station-wise details of their representatives so that the local presence and contributions of journalists can be

accurately recorded. The committee also emphasized the need to design a comprehensive form for all members of the Press Foundation, which would include their personal, professional, and dependent information to facilitate efficient delivery of future welfare services.

A serious discussion was held on the possibility of providing pension benefits to working journalists in Azad Kashmir under the EOBI (Employees' Old-Age Benefits Institution), similar to the system in Pakistan. It was recommended that all registered newspapers and news agencies published in Azad Kashmir be included in this scheme, ensuring financial security for senior journalists after retirement.

On this occasion, Committee Chairman Sardar Ejaz Khaliq expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir, Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq, for doubling the annual grant of the Press Foundation on the motion of Vice Chairman Sardar Zulfiqar Ali. He also praised the district administration of Sudhnoti for approving the allocation of one kanal of land in Sudhnoti for the Press Foundation.

Sardar Ejaz Khaliq stated that the role of state journalists has always been historic – whether it was the Kashmir Freedom Movement, the movement for the completion of Pakistan, or any national emergency. Journalists from Azad Kashmir have consistently played a frontline role. He added, “Despite limited resources, the journalists of Azad Kashmir have proven their professional

capabilities on an international level. It would not be wrong to say that the journalism here, like its people, is brave, honorable, and a defender of ideological boundaries.”

He paid tribute to the Pakistan Armed Forces for their splendid military victory during the recent Indo-Pak tension, stating that the people and media of Azad Kashmir played a key role in boosting morale, highlighting facts, and exposing enemy propaganda during this historic success.

Reaffirming the committee’s stance, the Chairman emphasized that working journalists of Azad Kashmir, under the leadership of Vice Chairman Sardar Zulfiqar Ali, would continue to effectively promote the narratives of the state, the Pakistan Army, national security, the Kashmir Freedom Movement, and the movement for the completion of Pakistan. He asserted that the need of the hour is for journalism to go beyond mere news reporting and become a voice of the national narrative and a defensive stronghold – a responsibility the state’s journalism is fulfilling with great diligence”, the press release concluded..