

a copy of the contract they have been forced to sign and also give an undated letter of resignation alongside.

This meeting accuses the newspaper managements of enforcing in newspaper offices bonded labour practices and forcing illegal and inhuman terms on working journalists that endangers the very foundations of healthy and robust journalism. It calls on the Government to take note of these practices and initiate steps to end them forthwith. It also calls upon the NUJ (I) leadership to explore all legal and collective options available to expose these practices and seek their eradication. On the other hand the concerned unions have shown

exemplary solidarity in fighting the managements' propaganda war against the Majithia Wage Board recommendations under the Confederation leadership and frustrate the managements' despicable tactics.

This meeting finds that there is no substance in the excuses advanced by sections of the Central Government to delay the notification as required under the Act along with the voted recommendations in the Majithia report. It calls upon the Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh to fulfill the promise he made in this connection to the delegation of the Confederation including NUJ (I) when it called on him on July 2 this year at his residence in New Delhi

and to ensure that Majithia Wage Board's recommendations including the five voted resolutions are notified without any further delay. Any failure to do this would result in a storm of unrest in the newspaper industry and affect the working of the Press and would be counter-productive to the government itself in all its aspects.

The meeting also demands that the Prime Minister order an enquiry into the failure of the Union Labour Ministry in getting the recommendations notified even seven months after it received the Majithia report and into the procedures the Ministry adopted from time to time to harass the board's functioning and subsequent developments.

NUJ (I) welcomes Government decision on Wage Board

New Delhi (October 25, 2011): The National Union of Journalists (India) on October 25 welcomed the Government decision to accept the recommendations of the Justice Majithia Wage Boards on the emoluments of working journalists and non-journalists in the newspapers and news agencies.

In a statement, issued in New Delhi, the NUJ (I) president Prajnananda Choudhury and Secretary General Ras Bihari said they welcome the Government decision accepting the recommendations of the Majithia Wage Boards but at the same time regret the long delay of ten months in government coming to a decision after the recommendations were received on December 31, 2010.

We also congratulate the Confederation of Newspaper Employees Unions and its General Secretary M.S. Yadav for the relentless effort put in along with the NUJ (I) and other constituent unions

to bring the Boards into existence and successfully conclude their work and then get the Government to adopt the recommendations, they said in the statement.

The statement further said the newspaper/news agency employees displayed exemplary unity of purpose and readiness to sacrifice for the cause of getting the Wage Boards function, recommend and get the government notify the recommendations. This solidarity would further strengthen the trade union movement among the newspaper/news agency employees under the leadership of the Confederation.

The NUJ (I) would wait for the Government notification on the issue before giving its detailed response to the long delayed step raising the emoluments of the employees, working journalists and non-journalists alike that has come, it is recalled, 13 long years after the last revision.

