

## LATEST NEWS

### JFA bats for Pak scribe's freedom of expression



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Expressing concern over [\(/taxonomy/term/2166\)](#) the Pakistan government's indirect threats to a Pakistani scribe for his recent media reports in the acclaimed newspaper Dawn, the Journalists [\(/taxonomy/term/2506\)](#)' Forum Assam (JFA [\(/taxonomy/term/2488\)](#)) urged the Islamabad based government to show respect to the media. The northeast India [\(/taxonomy/term/2367\)](#) based scribes' forum argues that the Nawaz Sharif government should not act against [\(/taxonomy/term/1929\)](#) Cyril Almeida with personal vendetta, who showed his commitment in reporting the ongoing rift [\(/taxonomy/term/2234\)](#) between the civilian government and the military in the backdrop of Indo-Pak conflict.

It may be mentioned the Islamabad regime got angry over [\(/taxonomy/term/2166\)](#) Almeida's report titled 'Act against militants or face international isolation, civilians tell military (<http://www.dawn.com/news/1288350/exclusive-act-against-militants-or-face-international-isolation-civilians-tell-military>)' and put him on an exit control list meaning Almeida can be stopped from leaving the country.

"I am told and have been informed and have been shown evidence that I am on the Exit Control List," twitted Almeida recently. Dawn's senior scribe however reiterated that he loves his country very much. The exclusive report was published a week after the Indian armed forces conducted a surgical strike on terrorist camps [\(/taxonomy/term/2017\)](#) inside Pakistan occupied Kashmir. Carried out on 29 September, the unique strike was in revenge against [\(/taxonomy/term/1929\)](#) the 18 September terror attack in Uri of J&K by the Pakistan based militants killing 19 Indian soldiers.

Later the Pakistan government issued a statement claiming the news report 'was clearly violative of universally acknowledged principles of reporting on national security issues and has risked the vital state [\(/taxonomy/term/2332\)](#) interests through inclusion of inaccurate and misleading contents'. Prior to it, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif had an exhausted discussion with the country's army chief [\(/taxonomy/term/2020\)](#) General Raheel Sharif, ISI chief [\(/taxonomy/term/2020\)](#) Lieutenant General Rizwan Akhtar, interior minister Nisar Ali Khan and Punjab chief [\(/taxonomy/term/2020\)](#) minister Shahbaz Sharif.

The JFA (/taxonomy/term/2488) pointed out that the Pakistan government should admit respect Almeida's right to report in the recognized media outlets and also urged both New Delhi (/taxonomy/term/1868) and Islamabad regimes to deal (/taxonomy/term/1922) with the situation affectively to prevent further escalating the violence in the border areas.



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