



Press Release

11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

## CAIT urge Editors Guild to take action on NewsClick controversy

Making strong condemnation of NewsClick's Chinese Funding and Compromise of Indian Sovereignty, the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) in a communication sent to Editors Guild of India, has urged to take immediate cognisance and take action against NewsClick.

CAIT National President Mr B C Bhartia & Secretary General Mr Praveen Khandelwal in letter to Guild said in an age where the role of media has transcended its traditional boundaries, the need for ethical journalism that aligns with the values and aspirations of a nation is paramount. While we acknowledge the role of journalism as a pillar of democracy, we must also highlight the importance of journalistic integrity in safeguarding national sovereignty.

Mr Bhartia & Mr Khandelwal said that the allegations of NewsClick's association with Chinese funding and the propagation of Chinese propaganda are deeply concerning. Given the fraught history of China's aggressive economic policies and its disregard for fair trade practices, it is essential that media outlets operating within India remain unwaveringly committed to our nation's interests and principles.

Both the trade leaders said that the wounds inflicted by the Galwan Clash during the pandemic, which resulted in the tragic loss of several Indian soldiers, remain fresh in our collective memory. In the face of such adversities, the unity and sovereignty of our nation become non-negotiable. It is profoundly disappointing to observe NewsClick, a platform that should ideally work in harmony with our national values, veer towards compromising our sovereignty.

The communication further said that the dissemination of accurate information is the cornerstone of responsible journalism, and any potential compromise in this area poses a grave threat to the national fabric. As stakeholders of unbiased information dissemination, we appeal to the Editors Guild of India to reflect on the allegations against NewsClick.

CAIT has urged for a thorough examination of NewsClick's funding sources, and we implore media organizations to be vigilant in ensuring that their financial foundations remain transparent and untainted by external interests that might not align with our national imperatives.

The CAIT hoped that its communication will serve as a clarion call for introspection and action. As the guardians of journalistic ethics, we trust that the Editors Guild of India will consider the gravity of these concerns and take necessary measures to uphold the sanctity of unbiased journalism, free from external influences that could endanger our nation's integrity.

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