



KESATUAN KEBANGSAAN WARTAWAN SEMENANJUNG MALAYSIA
NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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TO ALL NEWS EDITORS

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KUALA LUMPUR -- The National Union of Journalists Peninsular Malaysia (NUJ) is deeply concerned about the drastic drop of national ranking on press freedom, following the recent release of the RSF annual World Press Freedom index by Reporters Sans Frontieres (Reporters Without Borders).

Malaysia had gone down 18 places to be at 119 among 180 countries, a steep drop compared to its ranking in 2020. It is a stark contrast when Malaysia rose dramatically to 101 previously, according to the index.

Therefore, NUJM calls on the ruling government to look into the various method to improve the environment for journalists to work without fear of harassment and self-censorship while at the same time repeal draconian legislatives which suppress media freedom.

"The RSF index basically indicates that the situation in Malaysia has actually gone from bad to worse. Emergency regulations introduced to contain the Covid19 spread however was instead used to target critical reporting.

"At times like this, NUJM would like to remind the government that objective reporting is the best vaccine against disinformation".

On behalf of the NUJ Executive Committee

CHIN SUNG CHEW
General Secretary
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