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To News Editors:

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NUJ's Response to Government's Tabling of the Amendments to the Printing, Presses and Publications Act

The National Union of Journalists Peninsular Malaysia (NUJ) calls the government to obtain feedback from the public on the above law. The last amendment was done in 1984. It has been more than a quarter of a century and since then many things have changed. Now we have new players to rival the print media.

In line with our unanimous resolution passed at the NUJ Extraordinary Delegates Conference (EDC) on March 3, we call the government to establish a Parliamentary Select Committee to review **1)** the Printing, Presses and Publications Act (PPPA), **2)** the Sedition Act and **3)** the Official Secrets Act (OSA).

This is the unanimous decision made by NUJ's highest decision-making body and we were entrusted to convey this decision to the authorities.

The government had in the past obtained feedback from the public when it introduced the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act and on electoral reform.

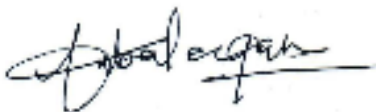
Likewise we hope the government will also get input from the public, as these acts must also express the will of the people.

The Prime Minister YAB Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak had also said that gone were the days the government knows all and as such it must engage the people and the stakeholders in the media industry.

The amendment on the PPPA appears good and there is an improvement.

However, it would be better if a holistic approach were to be taken to overhaul the act.

Thank you



V. Anbalagan
General Secretary
h/p 012-3881327