

DELHI SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

University of Delhi

Journalism Workshop by Prof. Ambarish Saxena

on Saturday, 25 November 2017



On Saturday, 25 November 2017 students of Delhi school of journalism got an invaluable opportunity to meet and interact with Prof. Ambarish Saxena, a renowned media expert and academic head of Zee institute of Media Arts (ZIMA) and Zee institute of Creative Arts (ZICA). Aparajitha Nair, an English journalism student introduced him to the audience.

Talking about the importance of technology in today's world, he praised the digitisation and the convergence of media which enabled the audience to have quality media consumption. From print to radio to television, technology has revolutionised the media industry, he observed. Professor Saxena delved into the implications of diversification of news media platforms quoting the examples of 'The Wire' and 'Newslaundry'.

At the same time, he expressed concerns about the absence of regulation on social media which led to misinformation and misinterpretations resulting in

various kinds of societal tensions. "The main drawback of social media is absence of gatekeepers and lack of internal regulatory mechanisms, and consequently derogatory things are circulating on social media", he said. Talking about the future of conventional media in India, Prof. Saxena predicted "The way things are happening, conventional media may lose its prominence in coming 20 years".

He also gave some valuable tips to the budding journalists. Asserting on the importance of language in journalism, he said "you cannot stick to one language rather one has to be multilingual to thrive in journalism". He suggested the media students to keep in mind the ethical aspects and use their wisdom and discretion while reporting. He also observed that writing against establishment and vested interests may invite problems and the irony is that nobody comes to the rescue. He encouraged everyone to start their own news portals and strive hard to create standard contents for the readers. Following this, Prof. Saxena addressed a series of questions, most of them were based on freedom of speech and expression at the wake of Padmavati film controversy.

Alishan Jafri on behalf of the entire DSJ fraternity thanked him for his precious insights.



(With inputs from **Siddharth Singh** and **MD Imran Hasib** | Semester BJ &

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