

Seminar on Science Journalism by Dr. Deepika Bhaskar on 05 May 2018

Delhi School of Journalism conducted a Seminar on 'Beyond the boundaries: Science, Media and Journalism' on 5 May 2018 by Dr. Deepika Bhaskar, Deputy Dean, Research and Coordinator, Centre for Science Education and Communication, University of Delhi. She is well known for her contribution to the field of science, research and teaching.

Dr. Deepika started her talk with a question "what you will do if you want to cover a story on Science?" Many students replied differently according to their understanding and opinions. She focused on a tag "Science is for all." "Science stories are relevant for everybody whether it is a farmer, a researcher, a student or whoever", she said. She reminded the students that a science story needs to be written in such a way in which everybody can understand it.

She said that everything we see, contains a science story in itself. She related the science with a fabulous example i.e. *Pranayam*. When someone says, " Go for *Pranayam*, it will improve your health." She explained the science behind the *Pranayam* that if someone does it he or she inhales oxygen in a good quantity and this renews new cells and tissues in the body and makes our immunity system stronger as well. Hence, for a journalist it is important to relate the science with the society. If one is going to do a science story, it should have a catchy headline and it must be comprehensive and interesting to all the classes of the society.

'Finding new material is also science', she said. She also talked about the challenges of science journalism. If someone wants to report a science story, then one has to be very careful of its economic, political, psychological aspects as well. The story should be written in such a way in which it will peep in the shoes of a scientist, a journalist and a common man as well. She also said that title should not be scary. She explained embargo in science journalism that sometimes a story cannot be published if research is under process and until the embargo is cleared.

Finally she paid a high note with a video on smog vacuum cleaner in China. Relating the Science to daily life via a scientist to a common man, is most prestigious thing that is required in science journalism.

Report by Rohit Mittal