

## Inauguration of Delhi School of Journalism

By Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Vice President of India

On 21 December 2017



Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Honourable Vice President of India and the Chancellor of University of Delhi formally inaugurated the Delhi School of Journalism, University of Delhi on Thursday, 21st December 2017 at the Convention Hall in the Vice Regal Lodge. Prof. Yogesh Kumar Tyagi, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi, Shri. Ram Bahadur Rai, Chairman, Advisory Council of Delhi School of Journalism, Prof. J.P. Khurana, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. J.P. Dubey, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Devesh Sinha, Dean of Colleges, Shri. Tarun Das, Registrar of University of Delhi and Dr. Manasvini M. Yogi, OSD of Delhi School of Journalism were present. Also, Deans and Principals of various colleges of University of Delhi, other university functionaries and other invited guests attended the event along with students of DSJ and their parents/relatives.

The inauguration ceremony began at 04:00 pm with the National Anthem, followed by lighting of the lamp accompanied by *shankhnaad*. The students of the Music Faculty performed a Sanskrit *vandana* which was highly appreciated by the Vice President.



Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, Chairman Advisory Council in his welcome address said that he hopes DSJ would be able to set a benchmark in Journalism education for the entire country that is either at par with the best in the world or rather is much better and advanced than them. Prof. Yogesh Kumar Tyagi, Vice Chancellor University of Delhi addressed the gathering and laid down his vision of the newly instituted journalism school. He also highlighted that Delhi School of Journalism is the first of its kind to offer integrated programme (including undergraduate and post graduate level) in Journalism.

During the event, hon'ble Vice President inaugurated the first bilingual and biannual newsletter of DSJ - 'Srijan'. Afterwards, Shri Venkaiah Naidu officially inaugurated the Delhi School of Journalism by unveiling a digital Plaque.



In his inspirational inaugural address, Shri Naidu emphasized on the importance of every student to first master his/her mother tongue and then go for other

languages. He appreciated the bi-lingual Journalism programme at DSJ. He stressed on the importance of Hindi language in national integration.

He went on to say “Journalism has always been looked upon as a mission to serve people—primarily, it is a public service. Journalism is ultimately a ‘unique vocation’ to serve the truth and hold a mirror to the contemporary happenings in a society. The press has been described as the ‘Fourth Pillar’ and ‘Watchdog of Democracy’ because of the critical role it can play in protecting the interests of the people and moulding public opinion.



While the press and journalists enjoy certain privileges like easy access to the corridors of power, these privileges reciprocally demand responsibilities from the Press and the journalists. They may make constructive criticism of the governmental policies, but at the same time they are morally and constitutionally obliged to strengthen the democratic institutions and respect the socio-cultural ethos. It should be remembered that the Freedom of Speech and Expression enshrined in our constitution is not absolute, but bound by reasonable restrictions.”

He further observed “In view of the critical role journalism plays in protecting democracy and in serving the larger good of the society, the profession must maintain highest ethical, moral and reporting standards. Journalists must never shirk from the core principles of journalism like independence and objectivity and shun unhealthy practices such as sensationalism.”

He suggested 10 qualities to the budding journalists to be successful in JOURNALISM. They are:

1. Be Joyful
2. Be Objective
3. Be Unbiased
4. Be Responsible
5. Be a Nationalist
6. Be Artistic
7. Be a Lifelong Learner
8. Be Inquisitive
9. Be Strong
10. Be Mindful

He concluded his speech by saying "I want to emphasize that 'A journalist must be a Joyful, Objective, Unbiased and Responsible individual, with Nationalist moorings and Artistic skills. He or she must be a Lifelong Learner with Inquisitive mind, Strong Will and Mindfulness'. I hope that these values will be cultivated at the Delhi School of Journalism.

Let us dream big. I would like the Delhi School of Journalism to become one of the top global journalism schools in the near future. Collective efforts of the university officials, teachers and students will definitely yield results. Let this institution be instrumental in producing some of the dedicated, creative and highly skilled journalists and communication professionals, who can contribute significantly to the growth of the nation and in creating a 'New India' where the aspirations of the people are fulfilled."

Prof. J.P. Khurana, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, concluded the event with a vote of thanks. This was followed by the recitation of National Anthem.

With inputs from **Aparajitha Nair** (I Semester BJ)