

Orientation programme for B. A.(JMC) students in DME**Sumit Awasthi makes a passionate call for pursuing journalism with credibility and compassion**

Journalism is a passion, a kind of madness, it is a kind of revolt and revelation, there are no compromises in it, one cannot make quick money in this and there are no short-term goals. If you want to pursue journalism, do not run after money, but to pace your steps with credibility and compassion.

These words of motivation and caution came from Mr. Sumit Awasthi, an established name in TV journalism. He was addressing the fresh students of B. A.(JMC) and their parents as part of Orientation Day function held in Nelson Mandela Auditorium of Delhi Metropolitan Education (DME) on August 13. The function was organized by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication for welcoming the students.

Addressing the Orientation Day function as Chief Guest, Mr. Awasthi, elaborated on Journalism and Professionalism. He drew some lines of demarcation between anchors, journalists and reporters. He encouraged the students to align their interests towards video journalism, anchoring and reporting. He asked the students not to lose their sight and patience despite failures.

Dr. Ambrish Saxena, an accomplished media professional, addressed the gathering with his valuable thoughts and wisdom. He recommended thorough study and hard work as pre-requisite to enter the media industry. He explained the importance of being up-to-date with the happenings around us. He aptly said that students fail to understand the news which leads them to lose interest with time, and hence they aren't able to contribute much to the development of the society. This needs to be corrected, he added.

Mr. Aman Sahni, Vice Chairman of DME, laid emphasis on the

creative aspects of the coursework as prescribed in the syllabus. He said that DME is the right place for the students to become responsible and highly-skilled media professionals, while calling upon the students to make use of the opportunity they have got. The students must desire for the best and excel in their interest areas, said Mr. Sahni while advising them to dream and put all their efforts in realizing the same.

Justice Bhanwar Singh, Director General of DME, presented a motivational speech to the audience. According to him, journalism takes the father's role in the society. He praised the characteristic attitudes of the journalists exhibiting the traits of honesty, exercising restraints in their profession, showing boldness and risking their lives with a dedication to report precisely and accurately.

Dr. Susmita Bala, Head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, welcomed the students and

their parents, members of DME Management and the guests. She said that the success mantra for an individual is sincerity, punctuality, regularity and discipline. She wanted the students to adhere to it religiously in order to be successful in life. She called upon the parents to extend a helping hand to the college and urged them to share the problems faced by their wards.

Dr. Bhavish Gupta, Director (Officiating) completed the orientation ceremony with his inclusive vote of thanks, while appreciating the words of wisdom by Mr. Sumit Awasthi. The Department took a noble step of distributing saplings to the guests and the students as a symbol of growth and prosperity.

Mantra for success, as enumerated by Sumit Awasthi

1. Choose 'work' over 'name'
2. Observe the changes in the country
3. Write continuously and be part of an active & unbiased publication
4. Do not aspire to be a politician
5. Learn to say, "No, I will not do this."
6. Follow only 'mission' and no 'commission'



Interview with Mr. Sumit Awasthi

Do not be a follower, make your own followers: Sumit Awasthi



“Journalism is not a profession, it's a passion”,

said the senior journalist Sumit Awasthi in an interview with Divyani Raghav, a third year student of Journalism.

DME got a golden opportunity of having the gracious presence of eminent journalist Sumit Awasthi as the chief guest in the Orientation function held on August 13. He was generous enough to interact with the students and injected zeal in the budding journalists.

Excerpt from the interview:

Q: According to you, what are the merits and demerits of being a journalist?

A: Both are interlinked. As a journalist, you have the power to question anything. We meet many celebrities as part of our jobs. Our profession gives us this privilege. But this

privilege walks hand-in-hand with major responsibilities. If we meet such personalities and talk to them, it doesn't mean that they are our friends, but because we want our viewers and readers to get a better view of what goes behind the highlighted events. At the same time, we have to remain grounded and maintain our credibility as reporters.

Q: Many times, a journalist gets stuck in a dilemma between ethical and unethical means to gather a news story. What should a journalist do in such situations?

A: There are two things to it. The Indian Constitution gives you many powers. Investigative journalism exists in the name of freedom of speech and expression. In Article 19 (1) (a), we have got an authority to expose a sin with the help of hidden cameras. But it should not be done for your personal benefits. We should not misuse our weapons or cross our limits.

Q: State any three things that you feel a journalist must possess?

First, a journalist should be aware. Second, he should have a strong reading habit, especially students like you should inculcate such habits. And third is the usage of social media. You are very powerful with social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with you. Use it wisely. And it's a challenge. You must be able to sense the agenda behind a fake Whatsapp message. So, this sense of judgment should be present in a journalist.

Q: Message for our audience?

A: There's no substitute for hard work and honesty. This field is like a spotted cage and you are supposed to get out of it without getting any spot. You are deliberately falling into it, and now it's your responsibility to rescue yourself without getting spoilt.

Induction Programme of B. A.(JMC) Students

Dr. Saxena calls upon students to share and exchange ideas for learning

Knowledge is all about sharing and exchange of ideas, and it is the collective responsibility of the teacher and the taught to help creating and enriching this dynamic process of learning, said Dr. Ambrish Saxena, an accomplished media professional, in the Induction Programme of B. A.(JMC) students in Nelson Mandela Auditorium of Delhi Metropolitan Education (DME) on August 8. All the newly admitted students from the morning and the evening shift attended this session.

An educator, trainer, researcher, anchor, and a political analyst of repute, Dr. Saxena emphasised on practical training and asked the students not to keep themselves restricted to the theoretical part of the prescribed syllabus. He said that the students should be well aware of whatever is happening in the industry since it will enable them to understand the functioning of media better.

Dr. Saxena, who is currently holding the charge of Zee Institute of Media Arts (ZIMA) and Zee Institute of



Creative Arts (ZICA) in ZLL/ZMCL as Academic Head, asked the students to increase their media use. He told them that at the international level the media usage parameters determine the status of development. The prime agenda of media should be development, and budding media persons should have clarity on this aspect, he added.

Series of Lectures by Dr. Ambrish Saxena

Various facets of media discussed in brainstorming sessions with students

In August, series of lectures were conducted by Dr. Ambrish Saxena, eminent media professional, educationist and researcher, for the students of B. A. (JMC). He discussed issues related to freedom struggle and growth of journalism, evolution of broadcasting and radio programme formats, and contemporary trends in media.

Lecture on contemporary India

Delivering an introductory lecture on Contemporary India for first semester students in the Nelson Mandela Auditorium on August 18, Dr. Ambrish Saxena discussed issues related to freedom struggle like the revolt of 1857, Quit India Movement and India's wars with China & Pakistan. He also discussed various cultural, social and economic issues of India.

Dr. Saxena advised the students to research on contemporary issues which will help them to develop the right analytical skills and a better understanding. He discussed the Indian political system, Indian history and the process of elections in India. He also talked about vital issues like the price determination process of petrol and diesel and the effect of GST on taxation.

Dr. Saxena elaborated on the consequences of wars which lead to the destruction of mankind. He focused on developing a mindset filled with curiosity, and motivated students to erase all the passivity by taking a step forward to become concerned and alert citizens.

Radio broadcasting and formats

Dr. Saxena delivered a lecture on the growth of radio broadcasting in India for the third semester students on August 23. He discussed at length the history, structure and importance of radio broadcasting in Independent India.

Dr. Saxena talked about the history of radio, government-run and private radio channels, the presenters, different formats and classification of target audience for different channels. He also educated the students about when and how Vividh Bharti, Rainbow, Gold, Rajdhani and Indraprastha channels were setup. He shared an enlightening view on how radio is developing as source of information rather than just as a form of entertainment.

Focus on learning with credibility

“Learn to reject, growth is a dynamic process”, said the eloquent speaker, Dr. Ambrish Saxena.

Having an interaction with the fifth semester students of B. A. (JMC) on August 4, Dr. Saxena talked about the learning process while asking the students to prepare themselves for the challenges of the industry.

Dr. Ambrish Saxena said, “The industry is performance-based, it demands validity, intricacy, strong understanding and general knowledge.” He also added that writing is also an essential component and one should have the capability to perform on multiple platforms.

Dr. Saxena concluded by saying that students should never depend on one medium as “addiction of one medium may pollute your mind”. He added, anything written and said should be substantiated with data obtained through credible sources.

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Speaking as Guest-of-Honour in the Induction Programme, Dr. Saxena talked about technological innovations in media and asked the students to acquire skills not only in conventional but digital media as well. He concluded the session wishing the best to the students and the faculty members.

Earlier, Mr. Aman Sahni, Vice Chairman of DME, apprised the students with the commitment that DME has for quality education. Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Senior Advisor to DME, asked the students to rise up to the level where they would be benefitted the most by the education and training imparted in this institution.

Dr. Susmita Bala, Head of Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, welcomed the guest, the students and their parents. Dr. Bhavish Gupta, Director (Officiating) extended the vote of thanks to the Guest-of-Honour, the Management of DME and the parents/guardians of the students.

Faculty Achievements

Ms. Manmeet Kaur

Conducted a workshop on 'Techniques of Writing Research Paper' scheduled on 29th May - 4th June, 2017 held at Khalsa College for Women, Ludhiana in association with ARAS (Association for Research & Advanced Studies).

Dr. Ramani Swarna

- Participated, published and presented the paper titled 'e-Learning Empowerment In India - Likert Scale Technique' at the International Conference on 'Recent Advances In Computer Science, E-Learning, Information & Communication Technology' on 19th August, 2017 at Jawaharlal Nehru University.
- Chapter titled 'Personal Identity in the movies of James Cameron' got accepted to be published in the 'Critical Companion To James Cameron', published by Lexington Publishers.



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