

Report (2019)

Journo Junction 2019, the annual academic event of the Department of Journalism was held on 7th February 2019. The theme of the academic festival was 'Media and Marginalities: Issues and Concerns'. Unveiling of the departmental student publication: Communiqué, by the keynote speaker, Rituparna Chatterjee and Principal Dr Kalpana Bhakuni marked the inauguration of the event. Ms Chatterjee, a correspondent with Reporters Without Borders also runs the twitter handle @indiametoo. She discussed the realities of representation of minorities within and by the media. She further spoke about the recent #Metoo movements and its impact in media workspaces. The keynote address was followed by a bilingual panel discussion entitled 'Mirroring the absence: Communities, Spaces and Issues of Equality' by Purvi Gupta from She the People TV and Laxmi Sharma from Khabar Lehariya. They discussed the issues of representation of minorities and challenges faced by women reporters. They also explored the scope and ground level implications of recent cyber activism movements like #MeToo and #SmashBrahmanicalPatriarchy. While Laxmi Sharma shared the difficulties faced by Female Dalit reporters on the field, Purvi Gupta discussed the challenges and scope for women reporters online. The final session was entitled 'Locating Marginalization: Caste, Sexuality and Media'. Queer activist Vikram Aditya Sahai and Founder and Director of Project Mukti, Sanghapali Aruna spoke about the issue at length. Aruna shed light on the abysmal condition of news reportage when subjects of the report are Dalit and especially Dalit women. Furthermore, Sahai discussed how the contemporary media treats news relating to the LGBTQ+ in a discriminatory and biased manner. Citing various examples, they challenged and educated the audience of budding journalists on reportage of sexual and caste-based violence. Along with academic sessions, various competitions and entertainment programs were also held at the festival. Students from different colleges enthusiastically participated in Feature writing competition, Photography competition, Harry Potter Quiz, Meme making contest, Slam poetry battle and Treasure hunt. The festival culminated with a standup comedy act by Comedian Parvez Hassan and a performance by the band Awaan. A Print Production Workshop was organized for the final year students of Journalism on 30th August, 2019. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Ruchika Mahajan, Faculty member of NISCORT, New Delhi. The students were imparted training in DTP (Desk top publishing) and the computer softwares Adobe Photoshop and InDesign at the workshop. The third year students of the DSE Photography course were taken on a study trip to the Museo Camera Centre for the Photographic Arts, a vintage camera museum on 8th November, 2019. They were taken on a tour of the museum by its founder, Mr Aditya Arya who also explained the evolution of the camera as an image recording device.