TWO SIDES OF A COIN

A Webinar on American and Indian Media Scenario

With Mr. Ajit Sahi, Senior Journalist

On 30th April 2020





Moderated By

Ms. Nipunika Shahid

Associate Proffesor

ASCO

On 30th April 2020, Amity School of Communication organized a webinar on News Literacy: A comparative perspective between the US and Indian Media' with guest lecturer Mr. Ajit Sahi, an eminent journalist popularly known for his investigative stories. Considered to be one of the pioneers of journalism in India, Mr. Sahi has been the Editor of Tehelka, Channel 7, (now known as TV18) TVI, Financial Express and has done numerous extraordinary stories like the famous SIMIs & fodder scam related to Lalu Prasad Yaday.

The session was informative concerning the news literacy aspects of the journalists and the audience as well. Being a prominent speaker at various international forums, like the US Congress and also at Harvard University the cases and examples of media and how news is treated in the US and India made the discussion very educative.

He delved into the aspects of fake news as well as half-baked news that not only mis-inform the audience but encourage rumour mongering as well. Talking about Indian media outlets, he pointed at some of the prominent newspapers of India and taking examples of reports on Covid-19, he explained how most of the times many journalists have no clear idea of what

they are writing about which leads to a very blurred image of current events. The seminar was conducted with a presentation to help his lecture and that included images which helped to visually educate the students and faculty.

Moderated by Ms. Nipunika Shahid of ASCO, the webinar was made more interactive as she has a been a former TV journalist and is an eminent newsreader with the All India Radio.

It added more depth to the session as Ms. Nipunika, who has been in the ASCO department for more than 12 years, has previously worked for 9 years in Hindustan Times, Zee News, ETV (TV18 now), Sahara Samay, and news agency ANI where she covered numerous socio-political & environmental stories and taken interviews of eminent personalities like Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, Chief Minister, and other big personalities.

The webinar session, thus, proved to be very beneficial for young students who are aspiring journalists as well as the faculty who got an insight into the global media situation. On behalf of the ASCO department, we thank Mr. Ajit Sahi for taking out time and imparting his knowledge to the eager students and faculty.