EDITORIAL

India and Data Journalism Revolution

There are ample of data around us that is being collected through various applications, market research questionnaires, polls, smartphones, card readers, CCTVs etc. We live at a time when so much data is generated, recorded and accessible. One of the most popular examples of Data Journalism project is Panama Papers. It was a project on Data Journalism which ran for a year and a half and revealed some of the shocking instances of fraud tax evasion and wrongdoing internationally. The leak, access and process helped the journalists to reveal such a big fraud. In India, the Indian Express gained credibility after covering the Panama Paper leak incident in the most responsible manner and from there the journey of Data Journalism took a pace in the nation. Now data is in every story be it in politics, crime, women rights, entertainment etc. Data Journalism might sound great and easy, but it is not so trouble-free that every journalist can do with big data. In recent years, we have been hearing about fake news and data journalism is a solution to it. Every single journalist can do low-tech DIY (Do It Yourself) data journalism and then only data journalism can revolutionize the news industry.

In India, Data Journalism is the need of the hour to move from fake news to verifiable and reliable news rooted in facts. It would allow reporting an incident based on the facts as well as allow readers to examine the facts. It basically aims to look at the journey of data journalism in India keeping in mind the current scenario of the nation. It will also aim to understand the holistic approach towards data journalism by quoting renowned people associated with the topic. One needs to understand that data journalism would help to build a more democratic, reliable, accurate and informing news cycle in the country. Data Journalism would help to keep the Indian audience informed more and better than ever before and the people in a position of power accountable tighter than ever before.

Mirko Lorenz explained Data-driven journalism in the simplest way through the diagram which is represented below.

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