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AMITY SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Expressions



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Dilemma:

Teachers, students in a fix as the country is on the brink of a second Covid-19 wave

Vaishali Gautam

The year started well with the advent of the vaccine and declining number of active Covid-19 cases across the nation, and hence schools and colleges started re-opening gradually for senior students while taking necessary precautions. From March 1 most schools re-opened primary

Educational institutions RE-OPENING

sections as well, alas this was short lived as Covid-19 cases started surging again in the country leaving the educational institutions and students in a state of dilemma.

Amidst this confusion, different institutions in various states have opted for a variety of methods to impart education safely. While some institutions have opened completely, some are following the 'hybrid'

TO OPEN OR NOT TO OPEN!

As per the Twitter handle of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, several states of the country have witnessed the fresh spike in Coronavirus infection. Maharashtra is the worst affected followed by Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Many of these states have imposed restrictions/partial lockdowns in cities/regions/districts reporting the highest Covid-19 spike

or 'blend' mode in which students are given the choice of opting between online or offline mode, while other institutions are still operating online entirely.

Where efforts are being made to bring the education system back to normal, there is also a fear of the second wave of the virus. Students and teachers do understand the loss they are facing but are held helplessly by the claws of the uncertain condition. The bafflement is at its height, be it due to the coronavirus or about the future of the entire human race.

We got a closer view of the different modes of campus reopening while having a conversation with a couple of college-going students from different states. Sushmita Mitra, a second-year engineering student from Bhubaneswar, Odisha, said that her college firstly started only for the final year students but from March 17, it opened for all the batches. "Now all the classes, be it practical or theory, are being conducted offline, taking strict care of the SOPs, including social distancing, wearing masks, and sanitization."

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Editor's Desk

March first week saw schools and colleges opening across the country, however, little did everyone know that by month end the situation will be back to square one with academic



institutions once again closing courtesy second wave of the pandemic.

In UP seeing the situation, the state government has directed all schools and colleges till class 8 to be closed till April 4. Higher educational institutions, meanwhile, continue hybrid mode of education keeping all Covid protocols in mind but in the wake of Holi and Easter celebrations, the students too packed their bags for home.

The steady trickle of youngsters at the beginning of the month waned and the enthusiasm with which students had joined their classes has also spiralled downwards. Scared over the second Covid-19 wave, both parents and students were sceptical whether they would be able to resume their respective academic sessions. Senior batches hurried up with their practical assignments to complete their final semester.

Meanwhile, not wanting to get the semester delayed, Amity University gave options to students for offline/online examinations and plans are afoot to go ahead with examinations.

Perhaps the unpredictable behaviour of virus is going to continue and we now have to think of living with it while maintaining Covid health protocols. Unfortunately, we as a community have failed to follow social distancing, wearing masks & hand sanitisation measures as a precautionary measure thus leading to this grim situation.

The government, however, is trying to speed up the vaccination covering as many people as possible. The two available vaccines Covishield and Covaxin are so far showing good results.

Now, the onus is on us and more so on youngsters to raise awareness on the issue of Covid protocols and ensure that they are followed. The bug question is: Can students come forward in taking up the responsibility as a voluntary service in educating masses about it.

I think it's high time the younger generation, which has strong immunity, can take it up as a social cause so that we can fight the virus effectively and return to normalcy in the coming months.

Prof (Dr) Sanjay M Johri

Journey from '5W's & 1H' to video producer



It is okay to be basic; it strengthens your foundation. The first lesson I remember from ASCO is '5Ws and 1H', which has stayed with me ever since. Amity School of Communication (ASCO) taught me to be inquisitive and question even the simplest things because there you will discover and learn lessons that are unforgettable.

I joined Amity in 2013. Graphic design and video editing has been my field of interest since the beginning. It was Mohit sir's first practical class of Graphic Design, and I assumed that we would merely copy everything he would do. But to my surprise, he asked us to design a book cover. There I was exploring every tool of the software, and finally creating my first design.

ALUMNI CORNER

Fast forward to Amiphoria when our HOI Dr. Sanjay Mohan Johri trusted me, a first-year student, with the responsibility of designing a poster for the photography exhibition. I still reminisce that overwhelming emotion I experienced when I saw my work displayed outside the auditorium.

It was the beginning of my professional journey. From editing my first film to my first internship, ASCO has stayed with me in every big or small challenge and new ventures, eventually shaping me for the real world, like a potter sculpting a clay pot. I pursued my Masters and opted for specialisation in Video editing. Along with it I worked on several freelance video designing projects. It paved a path for my first job which was of a video producer at 'Khabar Lahariya', India's only women-run digital news platform. I later joined Brut, a global media publisher as their video producer for Instagram India, where I am currently working. My task is to create short videos targeting Gen Z. But no matter how far in the journey I've travelled and where I am destined to reach, those 5Ws and 1H learnt in ASCO has and will stay in my heart forever.

*Areeba Naseem
Video Producer, Brut India
(Batch 2013-2016)*

Women solo travellers face societal gauntlet with confidence

Shreya Kumar

At times our lives become monotonous and boring leading us to a realization that we are not living the exciting life that we want. One way to respond to it is by bottling up this feeling. The other, a better and livelier way is to go for travelling, not just to loosen up, but also to explore places, meet new people, get a change of scenery and most of all, to learn about oneself.

Travelling is an experience that has the power to reach beyond our wildest dreams in currencies of knowledge, experience, memories, and so on. While the idea of solo traveling has always been exciting and life changing, unfortunately it is considered not so decent for women, especially in India. The reason is the long-debated topic of women safety.

An India Travel Survey which was done by TripAdvisor found that 94% women feel unsafe traveling alone while 24% respondents said they worry when they travel within India but not when they travel to international destinations.

Nikita Singh, an employee at a tech company, who has travelled a lot in India as well as abroad shared about her travelling experiences that were sadly marked by eve-teasing and at times racist comments from the people. "Society has issues with women traveling alone but I believe the world is opening up, people are breaking barriers and now we, women must live for ourselves", she stated.

Vaibhav Sharma, an MBA student opined that the society in which we live, doesn't permit women to travel alone just for recreation, until it's very important and is unavoidable. "What will the society think—this stops us from doing what we like to do and what we want to do. But society consists of individual people with their own individual thought process, so not everyone thinks the same," he argued.

Mr. SP Prabhat, a retired Lawyer from Gaya Civil court, says, "A child, whether a girl or boy, should be treated equally, be it studying, playing, or travelling." While talking about 'Solo adventure', his opinion remains the same. "The only thing that is needed is that the person, man or woman, should be mature and bold enough to face the world alone", he added.

So, to all the woman reading this, when you travel solo just even for once, and return back you are going to see the world in a completely unique way. It helps develop a sense of independence, patience, and a resolved state of mind. With more confidence and open mindedness, you will be always up for new challenges and you will get to know yourself better than ever.

To open or not to open!

Continued from P1

She also added. "Going back to college after almost a year felt the same as going there for the first time. If anything, it took even more time to settle this time under the new normal conditions."

Another second-year student from Dehradun, Uttarakhand, pursuing law, informed that her college is working in a hybrid mode for now, leaving the choice to students whether they want to go for offline or online classes. She further added, "It will be better to delay the reopening for a while since the state is also organizing Kumbh in Haridwar this time. Even though strict rules and regulations are being fol-

Now all the classes, be it practical or theory, are being conducted offline, taking strict care of the SOPs, including social distancing, wearing masks, and sanitization

- Sushmita Mitra |
STUDENT

lowed, I believe that online classes are not the best option for learning but putting lives at stake would have extreme repercussions."

It was in March 2020 that the country came to a grinding halt due to the lockdown imposed to curb Coronavirus. A year has gone by, yet the fear remains as the country looms on the verge of a second wave of the deadly pandemic. For the time being it is time to take the precautionary measures more strictly as the battle against the virus continues.

Viral videos making people famous in a blink!

**Everywhere
buzzing
“Yeh Hamari
pawri ho
rahi hai”!**

Rinil Srivastava

Remember the time of the '90s when we had to do so much hard work to show our talents, much less aspire to become famous? Well 21st century has surely changed that. Even a 15-second video can make you more famous than 15 years of hard work. Social media is like a daily routine for us now. Checking notifications on social media comes first now, sometimes even before brushing the teeth or having the bed tea. Today's world revolves around social media sites as people are more active there, than in real life. Have you ever heard about viral videos? I am sure that you have.

The world is currently in a party mood or we should say 'pawri' mood. With the words “Yeh mai hun, yeh hamari car hai, aur yeh hamari pawri (party) ho rahi hai” stuck literally in everyone's mind since the 'pawri' video went viral on Instagram. Dananeer Mobeen, a 19-year old teenage Pakistani influencer, shared her 'pawri ho rahi hai' video with the world and became an internet sensation overnight as the video went viral on multiple social media platforms and renowned content creators like Yashraj Mukhate, started coming with their recreations of the video. Soon after that, from soldiers to doctors, police to politicians everyone started buzzing on this tune.

Rekha Sharma, an Interior Designer emphasized on the positive aspect of the video and said, “The ‘pawrti’ video has become a trend, and it's quite interesting that a normal video has a great power to bring positivity and harmony between two nations.”

Khushi Verma, a student smirked

as she came up with her twist of the trend, “yeh mai hun, yeh meri book hai, aur ye mujhse padhai bilkul nahi ho rahi hai”, and further added that she is certainly loving this trend.

As the pros and cons are the two sides of the same coin. Viral videos also have their negative side. Few videos which went viral had nothing to do with talents or struggles. They instantly became popular just by having a good face, or by saying something creepy which is not a talent.

Amar Singh, an engineer opines, “I think the video is hilarious and entertaining. But also there's nothing like a talent in her video. It's about her luck that she became famous.”

Social media can bring fame and change the lives of struggling people in a blink. Some people are talented and struggling in their life but didn't get that opportunity which they deserve. Social media is a platform that might offer this and with a bit of luck even you can get recognition for multiple things like spreading essential news, informative content or any other utility of the platform.

On one hand where videos made by social media users are bring happiness, joy and positivity to the life of people; there are some content creators who defame our culture by making abusive content as well. As whatever we see or hear affects our psyche, sometimes the bizarreness of such videos causes rage, evoke hatred and ultimately lead to stress. Hence, we should pick the right lane and at the same time understand that being famous and being successful are two different things. However, everyone is entitled to have a little fun so make the best out of these trends and viral videos.

The unforeseen perks of Covid-19

As of April 16, 2020, Ramanand Sagar's popular television serial 'Ramayana' was seen by 7.7 crore viewers, DD India said on its official Twitter handle

Bhargavi Singh

One year ago, on 25th March 2020, lockdown was imposed and none of us could imagine what was in store for us.

Fast forward to 2021, the world has changed drastically yet we are still as unsure of the future as we were before. The fear of a second wave, new strains of the lethal virus and possibility of another lockdown has us anxious again. Nonetheless, in this long rollercoaster ride there were a few silver linings in the dark clouds of Covid-19 too.

The initial stages of lockdown proved to be a boon for nature. Wildlife across the world thrived, Mother Nature finally got a well-deserved break from humans. When the world came to a sudden halt, we realized how fast we were running while missing out on the journey of life. The pandemic gave us perspective. Be it brushing up on an old skill or learning a new one, all of us discovered sides of ourselves we never had the time to explore before. Riddhima, a first-year student, says she fell in love with cooking during lockdown and started an Instagram page to showcase her talent.

The precious memories we have of the time spent with our loved

ones is a treasure we wouldn't trade for the world. Remember the time when all of us sat together with our families to watch Ramayana? The stories our grandparents shared with us showed us how little we knew about them.

Digital literacy has increased in the past year and now parents don't even need lessons from their kids anymore. Pooja Kashyap, a housewife and mother of two, shares, "I can say that I had to become rela-

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, PM 2.5 reduced by 24 per cent during the pre-lockdown phase and further reduced by almost 50 per cent during the lockdown phases as compared to levels observed during 2019

tively more tech-savvy during pandemic so that I could help my kids with their studies and projects. The online shift of education has kept the learning of both kids and adults

going simultaneously."

Amidst all this, the most valuable thing COVID-19 taught is the strength of a community. Ritika, a first-year student, recalls how she used to go to the market for the elderly couple next door during the initial days of the pandemic for getting essentials and medicines. "I even taught the lovely elderly couple how to video call their children who used to live in different cities at that time," reminisces Ritika.

Along the way we learnt the wonders kindness can do. And let's not forget how we all have become masters of basic hygiene, armed with hand wash and sanitizers all the time to protect ourselves from virus and unknowingly also from germs and bacteria.

Now that the world has reopened and almost adjusted to the new normal, the emotions we felt and things we learnt should also stay as a part of us and while you wait to see what's next in line, remember to pat yourself on the back for coming this far.

GET, SHOT, GO!

Lensman: Trilochan S Kalra





Getting summer ready the smart way

Sanjana Saxena

Have the long cold nights and chilly days of winters left you sluggish and homebody? Perhaps, the work from home format courtesy COVID-19, has also put its two cents in leaving you unmotivated to get out of the bed. However, with the sunshine reaching your room through windows, it is time to reset your body to get ready for the vibrant days of summers.

From fresh seasonal vegetables and fruits to the hot sunny days, the summers have a lot for us. Arushi Srivastav, a budding freelancer says, "Getting ready for the summers is one of my favourite things to do. The best thing about summers is mango, which is my favourite fruit. On flip side, the harsh sun always keeps me worried about my skin and I have to take double care of it." It is true that the UV rays are stronger during the summers but so is the chance of having fun in the sun. So, this summer keep your worries at bay with following preparations.

First things first, make your skin summer ready. The dry and cold days of winters often turn our skin into a flaky and itchy mess. Hence, it is best to adopt a healthy skin care routine or shuffle up your current one for summers. Try exfoliating and taking showers or bath regularly to gently buff away the dead skin cells. "A holy grail for me is to apply sunscreen and also get a daily dose of Vitamin D", says Arushi and adds further, "Drinking plenty of water is yet another important thing".

Sitting at our desks, working or just binge watching our favourite TV series had made us prone to mindless eating. Summers are the perfect time to spruce up our eating habits. Dr. Yadav, a homeopathic physician based in Lucknow advises, "Eat when you feel hungry, pay attention to the colors, smells, flavors and nutrients of what you nosh on. Also,



if you lapsed on your exercise routine during winters, then start it again but begin gradually".

As far as cosmetics and makeup go, keeping them unchanged in the hot and humid days of summers does not bode well. Triyanshi Parihar, a lifestyle blogger, who also reviews cosmetic products quips, "Since the skin gets oilier in summers, replacing thick winter moisturizers by light-weight gel moisturizer goes a long way." She further adds, "Using DIY mask in which people add lemon to de-tan is something to steer clear of, since lemon is harsh and strips the skin of natural oils."

Last but not the least, stay extra vigilant about regular hand washing. Get out in the sun but make sure that your mask is on and sanitize or wash your hands to protect yourself from the lethal virus still gripping the country.

■ **Apply sunscreen at least 15 to 30 minutes before heading out and reapply every 2 hours as it tends to wash away with sweat.**

■ **Do not chase very high SPFs as components like zinc and octobenzene compounds can be harsh on skin and cause dehydration and patches.**

■ **Meet water requirement with right food like Watermelon (contains 91.45% water), Cucumbers (95% water), Coconut water (94% water) and Celery (95% water)**

Is Hero XPulse 200 a right choice for you?

Sahil Sheikh Siddiqui

Today, we are talking about the most affordable adventure motorcycle in India, The Hero Xpulse 200. Hero launched the BS6 version of Xpulse 200 in June 2020.

The 200cc oil-cooled engine of the Xpulse 200 generates a power of 18.08 PS at 8500 rpm and a torque of 16.45 nm at 6500 rpm and is equipped with a 5-speed manual gearbox. It has a digital console and comes with dual disc brakes and single channel ABS at the front. The mileage claimed by hero is 49.01 kmpl on the highway and 42.37 in the city and comes with 13 litres fuel capacity.

Talking about chassis and suspension, it has a tubular diamond chassis with telescopic suspension at the front and 10-step adjustable monoshock suspension at the rear. It is equipped with large spoked wheels with 21-inch tyre at the front and 18-inch tyre at the rear to perform better on the off-road trails. It has a kerb weight of 157kgs.

Xpulse 200 is a perfect motorcycle for someone who is a beginner in Dirt riding or Off-Roading or someone who is searching for a fun secondary motorcycle for the weekend thrills in the woods. You can also do daily commute and grocery shopping with it. It's definitely a good motorcycle for Indian road conditions, where other bikes will be struggling to pass through the potholes and bumps Xpulse 200 will just glide over them very easily.

There is also a Rally kit available for the

Xpulse 200 in the hero showrooms for Rs.38,000, which makes the bike taller and a more extreme off-road tool, which you can upgrade to after you learn to play with the stock Xpulse 200 and decide to go a step further. The Rally kit includes new fully adjustable front and rear suspensions, a flat seat, handlebar risers, new gear shifter, new tyres and a longer side stand.

Xpulse 200 comes with a price tag of Rs.1,15,228 (ex-showroom, new delhi), there aren't any competitors of Xpulse 200 currently in its segment in India. Sometimes, people often compare it to Royal Enfield Himalayan, which is illogical as Himalayan is a 411cc motorcycle and comes with a price tag of Rs.2,04,985, which is Rs.89,757 more than the Xpulse 200. It is a motorcycle which few people may not like at the first sight but I personally love the motorcycle (looks are subjective and can change from person to person). You will also definitely love the

Xpulse 200 after riding it. So,

what are you waiting for?

Go out with your license and safety gears, get a test ride and get the answer to the question

"Is the Hero Xpulse 200 a right choice for you?"



UP students recall lockdown blues in coaching hub

Rinil Srivastava

Kota is a city that has both the tourists as well as the youth hooked, for a myriad of reasons. With the attractive tourist spots like the Chambal valley, the rich wildlife of Mukunda (Tiger Reserve), the history of temples and forts, it captivates the attention of all. However, for the youth, the city has a whole other treasure of jewels. The city has renowned engineering and medical entrance exam coaching institutes like Allen Career Institute, Resonance, Bansal classes, Career point and other institutional chains in the city. Going to Kota is a dream come true for many, however, different people have different experiences here.

Pragya Mehra of PCM taking coaching from Resonance, Kota, shares, "After class 11, I decided to do JEE preparation from Resonance. The classes went well with the opportunity of learning from experts. Yet, unlike my expectations, students missing the classes was rather a common phenomenon here. The forbidden fruit of bunking the class and the pressure and expectations from the family and institute, at times, left me in a turmoil. I even thought of returning home because I was starting to get depressed with the load. Luckily, with the support of my family and friends, I mustered the strength to get through that state of mind."

Much like everything else, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the experience of students studying in Kota in 2020. Vaidehi Rai, a biology student who went to Kota for enrolling in Allen Career institute says, "The infrastructure of the institute was brilliant and I found that

all facilities were available within the campus. However, by the time I reached the phase of subsequent lockdowns, courtesy the pandemic, the nightmare began as I was stuck there. Every student of Kota, irrespective of the coaching institutes, started a social media campaign using the tag #SendUsBackHome, urging authorities for help. Being away from family was hard but the threat of virus hit harder. After some time, the UP government sent more than 200 buses to bring us back which was followed by thermal screening and COVID-19 tests. Now, the coaching institutes have started teaching online but I will always remember this unprecedented experience I had in Kota."

The opportunities that the city brings to youngsters comes with responsibilities. Another student Rishi Garg shares, "I had rather a fearful experience while living in a PG in Kota. A boy from my hostel, worrying about the future and stress, cried in a state of severe depression till he fainted. He was given medical care immediately and each student got a mentor for guidance and help both emotionally and academically. This experience taught me that it is necessary to be determined but not to the point of overstressing and comparing oneself with others."

No matter what city, the dreams come true if you work hard enough but not get too hard on yourself. For the newcomers, Rishi Garg adds, "I would say if you are living away from your family in a hostel, try to think always positive, talk with teachers or friends, and always believe in yourself." After all, the city welcomes the young minds with opportunities to explore both career as well as the beauty Kota beholds.

Astrology: Science, art or superstition?

Drishti Vanaik

Is Astrology science or art? Is it something to be taken seriously or a pass time? While the believers will argue the logic behind every prediction; the nay-sayers will simply laugh it off as superstition. However, believer or not, one cannot deny its existence across the globe be it in the form of numerology, Chinese zodiac, runes, tarot and near home kundali or horoscopes.

When asked, a professor, on condition of anonymity quipped, “Does astrology impact our lives? And if it does, then where does the concept of free will fit in when everything can be predicted within the parameters of the 12 zodiac signs?” He raised a valid point, the answer to lies buried deep in our psychology and belief.

We often see Indian men and women wearing rings or being very particular about the auspicious day when they buy a new car, decide to enter new home, the date of their marriage and so on. Tune in to television and you will find several programmes dedicated to this issue with astrologers and even tarot card readers discussing the impact of major planetary changes on mortals and many a times even joining panel discussions ahead of major events. Remember before the New year

eve when every astrologer worth his/her salt predicting what the coming year heralds for each sign.

Commenting on the issue, Dr Harish, at the Mangalam Astrology Centre, Jankipuram, Lucknow, states “Astrology is a very personal and distinctive phenomena. What people see or hear they tend to believe in it more. If someone exhibits the traits of their zodiac sign, then they gravitate towards trusting in astrology and if the person does not have those qualities then they don’t believe in it”.

Priyanshi Srivastava, an MBBS student says, “I am an Aries. I have most of the traits demonstrated by my zodiac sign as Aries are commonly being referred to as the Sun-Sign with vitality and outspoken behavior.” However, Sneha Tandon who regularly organizes live Tarot Card reading sessions on

Facebook says, “Zodiac signs aren’t really accurate, so be cautious as it may or may not be true. If you want to really believe in it then consult a professional first.”

A professor on condition of anonymity said he visits his astrologer once in three months just like a periodic medical review and discusses the good and bad time that lies ahead of him. By profession he is a medical professional, but he firmly believes in astrology and remains in constant touch with his family astrologer. Meanwhile, in an article by The New Yorker, “The Astrology In The Age Of Uncertainty”, it is mentioned that millennials who believe that astrology and science or equivalents are inciting the revival of the practise even though in the few cases where astrology has been used to generate testable expectations and the results were

examined in a careful study, the evidence did not support the validity of astrological ideas.

Contrary to such reports, astrologers at Astha Jyotish Kendra, Janki Vihar colony say, “Common people tend to believe more in forecasting and palmistry when something unforeseen or alarming happens to them. To avoid any misfortunes in future, they become eager to know if something bad is forthcoming so that they can find a remedy for it”. It is true that instead of a blank headboard, human minds prefer to know in advance

whether something good or bad lies ahead.

All of us remember Prime Minister Narendra Modi exhorting people to “Thaali Bajao, Taali Bajao” campaign during the Janata Curfew on 22nd March, 2020. Subsequently, he came up with “Candle-Lighting” activity during the prolonged Lockdown as a result of COVID-19 pandemic. Was there any link with the astrology and planetary conditions may be a matter of debate but people talked about superstition and planetary conditions as masses tend to seek some answers or predictions during difficult times and uncertain scenario.

While the discussions and debates on the issue is endless; it all boils down to an individual’s belief on the subject. Believe it or not but its existence cannot be denied—the choice is yours.

Zodiac signs aren’t really accurate, so be cautious as it may or may not be true. If you want to really believe in it then consult a professional first

Sneha Tandon | TAROT CARD READER

'Better to watch soap dramas than news channels'

If you ask anyone to define the scenario of TV news today, words like 'noise, yelling, endless debates' would unfortunately be the common answer

Adeeba Lari

TV news has been known for its candour and the ability to convey information in an unbiased and simple manner. Broadcasting platforms like BBC, CNN, and even Doordarshan, have lived up to the high standards in bringing quality news through the bold voices of anchors who earned the respect of viewers.

Back in 1959, when television was still a foreign concept in India, Pratima Puri delivered a five-minute Doordarshan's debut news broadcast in a makeshift studio, marking a new era for the entire nation. In the years that followed TV news evolved into a sophisticated and trustworthy source of information for millions of people.

Doordarshan even opened a new channel called DD News due to the increasing popularity of TV news and by 1988, the trend of 24*7 News channel came into existence, courtesy StarNews.

"My father would make us sit before dinner to watch news, it was important for us as most of us couldn't read the newspaper and didn't have knowledge or patience to sit and read. Anchors like Shobhana Jagdish were our idols", recalls Akhtar Jahan, who was twelve years old when television news had become a phenomenon. "Now, it's better to watch these soap dramas than hear the anchors shout indecently in news bulletins", she says with a discontentment found in the viewers

of all ages today.

While international broadcasters like BBC and Al Jazeera are still, by large, maintaining the high standards of delivering news, Indian channels have fallen into the trap of communal discords, selective fact reporting and TRP minting cacophony of panel discussions.

"From the times of single-frame-studios, serving recorded half-an-hour bulletins, to the new era of multiple 24x7 news channels with the thrill of breaking news, the journey has now reached the point where news studios look like shelter home of wild animals sitting in studios and howling incessantly. Sadly, having seen all of it as a TV journalist, the journey from cradle to crescendo and now to the almost very disturbing demise", comments Namita Pathak, a former Aaj Tak news anchor. Her words are a testimony of the state of television news today.

Television news anchor being divided in left or right wing is a dangerous trend as it is causing the division of masses that consume their news. The viewers of today have been divided by their own political standing. If you wish to listen to pro government facts, you listen to Arnab Goswami, and if you wish to listen to the other side, you tune into NDTV and listen to Ravish Kumar. What is left to watch is a series of gossip news and human life stories that are broadcast to grab attention and thus help ratings.

With the high rise of new media, television is already being viewed as a declining medium and certainly, TV news has done little to preserve its prestige and charm. One can only hope to get the good old days of Indian media back, when parents would urge their children to sit and listen to the news for getting informed without the needless TRP-driven chaos on the screen.

