



# THE ROLE OF JOURNALISM IN INDIA

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## ABSTRACT

The paper will discuss the role of journalism in India. India is the world's largest democracy in the globe as well as the second biggest population Nation. Now days, the Indian journalism has been playing very important role in the all kinds of print and electronic media. Significantly, the majority of young journalists are come from rural and semi-urban areas. Today in India, more than 114 online news papers are available on daily internet basis. The present article is going to deal the role of journalism in India.

## INTRODUCTION

In 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the role of Journalism has become a significant part of the every society. The biggest democratic country has played very important role in the part of mass communication and journalism. Indian Journalism nowadays as a full involves quite one facet to be restricted. Journalism forms associate degree integral a part of the lives of all. The globe of Journalism is regardless of age and outlook additionally as no matter status and creed. Within the Journalism business, limitations are limited! The Journalism sector is calculable to be one in all the foremost expansive and booming industries. It's by currently fully clear that, Journalism persons play the noteworthy job of rental them plenty recognize what's happening around the world which too at intervals minutes of the happening.

More important for journalists to not only have all round knowledge, but to also update their skills in the face of changes in technology that have made sweeping changes to business models of newspapers. This is evidenced by the shutdown of print editions of some of the leading international journals, as well as the recent sale of *The Washington Post* to Amazon founder Jeffrey Bezos. Newsroom integration is another of the major consequences of these changes. In mid-2013, Network 18 said that they would set up an integrated newsroom, consisting of its leading broadcast and digital news outlets in the business media space. <sup>1</sup>

Professor Austin says, "Data mining is one area that will expand hugely. It will be indispensable for all journalists to have digital skills. The Indian print media is taking baby steps in this direction. All the newspapers have websites, and most are optimised for handheld devices. The shift away from paper to online will accelerate, and journalists who have multimedia skills will have an advantage over those who gambled that print will be around for another decade or two." <sup>2</sup>



In this connection, the Internet or the net media is one in all the most recent and largest sorts of mass communication provided that it's no precincts; it's obtainable uniformly throughout the globe. It's unquestionable that one in all the foremost wanted career choices nowadays is that of changing into media persons. There's a route to hitch the media because it is one in all those rare sectors wherever the youth will realize respite from the traditional fields of drugs and engineering and at a similar time avoid being classified as obstinate. The media so is associate degree impending and promising feature of this day. It's a limitless world of opportunities each for the world yearning for jobs in it, and therefore the ones wanting to create the foremost of it to lift voices against wrong conduct. Media conjointly encompasses cinema and amusement, though the larger a part of it involves news and journalism. Since times old, a forum or platform to lift support and awareness against what's unacceptable was being afraid. Mass media within the type of newspapers and TV proven to be the correct medium. The role of media within the society isn't unknown and is totally simple. Journalism nowadays is that the entity that creates life easier, bridges the gap, fills all voids and makes communication the least bit levels very simple, exceptional and substantial. Yes, sometimes the media do create use of a trifle one thing so as to sensationalize however that tiny little bit of swindle is an element of each job undoubtedly. 'The fourth estate' is what journalists are selected as. That so leaves very little for United States of America to mention to what extent the media is indispensable.

*"Most schools and colleges spend too much time preparing students for careers and not enough preparing them to make social decisions.... In short, modern societies have developed vast institutions have an affinity for material concerns and a primordial fear of moral and social ones."*

*-David Brooks-New York Times Columnist*

However, the Newspapers became robust establishments. Circulation and revenue grew up. House owners didn't stay content with one daily newspaper. The business enterprise homes further to their stables different dailies and periodicals meant for niche readerships. A house, for instance, would have a general interest English newspaper, business daily and daily newspapers within the regional language. Identical cluster would have periodicals for ladies, kids or farmers. Some have specialized journals for readers inquisitive about, say, literature, cinema, culture, vehicles, computers or travel and commercial enterprise. With the arrival of contemporary technology, it became potential for a publication house to print copies of its periodicals at way of places.

Pro-globalization and easing policies initiated in 1991 brought in changes within the economic situation that were welcome by industries within the country. Within the method, newspaper trade conjointly stood to learn. Computers, that were exceptional in newspaper offices in metros, were put in for desk-top-publishing even in dailies in smaller cities. Web was shortly to follow in mid-90s. Mobile phones with



audio-video recorders became commonplace among journalists in metropolitan centers, cities and tiny cities throughout the last 3 or four years.

Critics, however, lament that the trendy technology has modified solely the face of Indian journalism. It's not a lot of a mission, however a profession to create profits for the house owners. These critics say the newspapers currently have engaging layout, quality printing and quality newsprint; however there's no 'substance' within the contents. Coverage is superficial and journalists lack social commitment. Academicians and journalists from sixteen states UN agency attended the national conference control in Pune in February 2007 were unanimous in speech communication that English people and 'language' newspapers didn't replicate the important problems facing the country.

Many different genres in journalism have been explored in recent decades. Malik says, "Today's journalists come from diverse backgrounds both in terms of intellectual disciplines as well as socio-economic backgrounds. Earlier, reportage was limited to government, politics and Parliament. There was hardly any coverage of development, environment and business, which are widely written about today."<sup>3</sup>

## HISTORY OF INDIAN JOURNALISM

The first in Indian, the Journalism has begun by an Irishman in 1780. Kolkata was the first place to circulate of print news paper on weekly basis. However, the East Indian Company had targeted readers and among the officials and families. The English news paper had begun by the British people in before independence. Subsequently, Indians had begun bringing English news paper and local news paper in located Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi. After 1857, the British people took control all over the India. In those days, the news papers were divided into two groups, one was British running papers and second one was Indian freedom fighters.

The first newspaper in India was circulated in 1780<sup>4</sup> under the editorship of James Augustus Hickey. Named *The Bengal Gazette*, it mainly printed the latest gossip on the British expatriate population in India. On May 30, 1826 *Udant Martand* (The Rising Sun), the first Hindi-language newspaper published in India, started from Calcutta (now Kolkata), published every Tuesday by Pt. Jugal Kishore Shukla. Maulawi Muhammad Baqir in 1836 founded the first Urdu-language newspaper the Delhi *Urdu Akhbar*. India's press in the 1840s was a motley collection of small-circulation daily or weekly sheets printed on rickety presses. Few extended beyond their small communities and seldom tried to unite the many castes, tribes, and regional subcultures of India. The Anglo-Indian papers promoted purely British interests. Englishman Robert Knight (1825-1890) founded two important English-language newspapers that reached a broad Indian audience, *The Times of India* and the *Statesman*. They promoted nationalism in India, as Knight introduced the people to the power of the press and made them familiar with political issues and the political process.<sup>5</sup>



## **DIGITAL REVOLUTIONS (INTERNET, FACEBOOK, WIKIPEDIA)**

India joined cyber world in 1995, quite late compared to the West, though web was accessible to researchers earlier additionally. Within the initial amount, internet access was restricted to solely four metros. It had been terribly slow. PC penetration was terribly low. However, the penetration improved as costs of computers began falling and internet property unfold to little cities once personal service suppliers came on the scene.

By 2007, Republic of India had A calculable base of forty two million web users, that was three.6 per cent of the planet users. Though this base was way below the web users of USA (which was 210,575,287), China (162,000,000), Japan (86,300,000) or FRG (50,426,117), Republic of India graded fifth within the list of prime twenty countries victimization web. In case of Republic of India, this was noteworthy as a result of she continues to be thought-about a developing country. Advanced countries have higher infrastructure and resources for fast development in info and Communication Technology (ICT) space. Republic of India lacked even in availableness of power in cities and villages in each state with none exception. It had been thus no surprise that Republic of India would lag behind in terms of pc penetration, web property and its usage throughout the initial part of ICT.

Against this background, publishers of Indian dailies were hesitant ab initio to launch internet editions. Even later, aside from a number of English and 'language' dailies, majority of the newspapers place up their websites as a 'me-too' syndrome. Research was undertaken to document standing of on-line journalism within the initial part (1995-98) as scholarly person treatise by the author of this paper. Later on, another project was undertaken with support from University Grants Commission and was titled ever-changing Profile of audience of Republic of Indian Newspapers on Internet: a standing Report on on-line Journalism in India. With co-investigator Dr Ms Ujjwala Barve, it had been meted out at Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Pune, within the town.

These twelve non-English languages area unit out of the twenty two languages formally recognized by the government t of Asian nation. The information shows that newspapers within the rest 10 languages don't have net editions. These languages are: Sindhi, Nepali, Konkani, Manipuri, Kashmiri, Sanskrit, Bodo, Dogri, Santhali, and Maithili. Publications in these languages don't have massive circulation and cater to populations targeted in smaller pockets in their individual regions. English, not enclosed within the schedule of official languages, is co-official language which will be employed in the government administration. It's understood by educated individuals meet in several components of the country, preponderantly residing in cities and cities. English newspapers area unit revealed from metros and bigger cities to cater to the readers in their jurisdictions. Most of them have massive circulation figures and revel in status among the elites. Advertisers patronise these dailies due to the circulation figures, high visibility among bureaucrats, industrialists and therefore the educated category.



Table -1: ONLINE NEWS PAPERS IN INDIAN LANGUAGES

S.L.No.	Language of news paper	No.of papers
1	Assamese	01
2	Bengali	07
3	English	39
4	Gujarati	06
5	Hindi	17
6	Kannada	04
7	Malayalam	07
8	Marathi	12
9	Oriya	04
10	Punjabi	01
11	Tamil	06
12	Telugu	06
13	Urdu	04
	<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>

Journalism programmes are offered in a number of universities around the world. Yet many journalists do not have a degree in this field. Earlier this year, Press Council of India chairman Markendey Katju commented that journalists should have professional degrees. So, what is the role of journalism schools and to what extent do they groom students? “Preparing someone to be able to be a broker of information does require a particular skill. Journalism programmes are useful in this regard. An institution should not limit itself to providing vocational skills, but also include within its ambit critical and analytical approaches to doing journalism, with an understanding of how journalism and the media fit into society and their roles in society. Colleges should be able to give journalists an understanding of the industry that keeps pace with the changes in journalism,” says Professor Baines.<sup>6</sup>

Journalists’ roles have evolved in the past half century, from writing stories on a typewriter to editing on a computer; and from jotting down everything on paper to having recording devices at their disposal. Recent years have seen the burgeoning of journals and newer platforms of mass communication. In fact, with the onslaught of technology and other inventions associated with the Internet, getting acquainted with application development and other new media tools is necessitated.<sup>7</sup>

This makes it all the more important for journalists to not only have all round knowledge, but to also update their skills in the face of changes in technology that have made sweeping changes to business models of newspapers. This is evidenced by the shutdown of print editions of some of the leading international journals, as well as the recent sale of *The Washington Post* to Amazon founder Jeffrey Bezos. Newsroom integration is another of the major consequences of these changes. In mid-2013, Network 18 said that they would set up an integrated newsroom, consisting of its leading broadcast and digital news outlets in the business media space.<sup>8</sup>



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### VARIOUS ROLES IN JOURNALISM CAREERS

When we speak of the term journalist, you'll be newperson acting on the sector or a sub editor, “subbing” a reporter’s copies. That’s why you ought to have data on the hierarchies in journalism.

REPORTER	The journalist, within the capability of a newperson is that the most simple however essential position. He’s the one World Health Organization collects the story info and is additionally, usually the one World Health Organization gets the story idea! If you wish to be a newperson, you would like to own that “go-getting” perspective, the will to drag out facts of a story, conduct interviews and gather 1st hand info. Some of them take an expert lensman on too. A newperson has to have a way of your time and accuracy; the person shouldn’t shirk from going at odd hours to seize a ‘breaking news’ story. Remember, it’s all regarding right temporal order and a special angle delivered to your story that ‘clicks’! Therefore, a newperson is that the one World Health Organization senses a story out of a rather mundane piece of news! There area unit Special reporters additionally employed sometimes World Health Organization concentrate on a specific field like Education, politics, crime or Sports.
FEATURE AUTHOR	A regular all told tabloids, a feature author offers the readers that abundant needed respite from the regular routine news. Feature writing is regarding telling the readers a story, a completely researched, meticulously bestowed story. The distinction between a feature author and a newperson is that a news author might not have enough preparation time as a result of the urgency and temporal order of reports. A feature author will arrange a story for months. These area unit human interest stories. That doesn’t mean a feature writer’s life is less complicated – they need to identify and juggle multiple stories at identical time.



<p>INTERN</p>	<p>It is not as simple to start out off in real time within the field of journalism. To hone and fine tune your skills, coming out as Associate in Nursing intern for a newspaper/tabloid is that the most suitable choice. Not solely would you get most exposure however additionally an enclosed data on however a newspaper works.</p> <p>Many students whereas following their degree/diploma for journalism take up Associate in Nursing post and by the time they're pass out, they're able to hit the floors! As Associate in nursing intern, you're either paid per article or a hard and fast regular payment.</p>
<p>PROOF READER</p>	<p>The story has been written by the newsperson however wants associate in Nursing initial check: Is the punctuation in place? Any grammatical errors in constructing the sentence? Wrong synonyms used? A proof reader scans the reporters' copy giving his nod on writing system and descriptive linguistics checks!</p>
<p>SUB EDITOR</p>	<p>Once the proof reading is finished and accuracy of information is checked, the sub-editor takes the copy in his hands. 'Subbing a copy' involves revising the article to suit the necessities of the paper/tabloid. He additionally has to provide Associate in nursing acceptable and 'dashing' headline that we tend to, as readers get 'hooked' to! A sub-editor's job needs imagination, a complicated understanding of the language and an honest data of reports regionally further as globally.</p>
<p>DESIGNER</p>	<p>If you're accustomed reading over only 1 paper each day (like myself), you're bound to notice the distinction in page layouts and area utilization. There area unit some papers that area unit incommodious with info and lose charm. The designer involves your rescue and places the articles, advertisements in such a way that ensures lucid reading! The designers receive the ultimate articles from the Sub-editors/Senior sub-editors and additionally get the area page availableness details.</p>
<p>NEWS EDITOR</p>	<p>To become a News editor, you would like at least half-dozen to 7 year's expertise as a Senior Sub Editor. This person is crucial for the sleek transition of stories from reporters to the sub editors and from there on to the planning team. He plays the role of 'Quality check', and if needed might re-write necessary or Page one stories, guaranteeing fine quality news and is second in line to the Resident Editor.</p>



EDITOR / RESIDENT EDITOR	This person is clearly on high of the road and in distinction to what folks might imagine; he's really the foremost actively concerned member within the team. He has got to supervise the ultimate quality of the paper, brainstorm new concepts for stories and is ultimately liable for the ultimate output. He takes selections to rent new columnists once the requirement arises and has the most important responsibility of keeping in line with the deadlines. An Editor has got to be artistic, a calculated gambler sometimes, instrumental for the consistency and continuity of the paper. While not a correct editorial head, any newspaper/tabloid operating will go haywire!
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### Summing Up

Today, News is a globally important media form. It flows at incredible speed. 24/7, across several technologies, and for both local and international contexts. Its satellite form is available, for example, in most bars. World-wide. Not only that, but its major reports can have a swift impact on politicians, on stock markets and the other sites of power. Its codes have been learnt and are often attempted by those opposing vested power.

Journalism has come a long way since then. Today, a journalist is anyone who contributes in some way to the gathering, selection, and processing of news and current affairs FOR THE PRESS, RADIO, FILM, TELEVISION, cable, and the internet; and journalism is the profession to which they belong. Thus, editors, correspondents, assistant editors, reporters, sub-editors, proof-readers, cartoonists, photographers, (“photo-journalists”) are journalists; so are, camera crew, audio, and video editors, news readers, producers, directors and the managing directors “stringers” are part-time journalists, while “ free –lance” journalists are those who are occasional contributors.<sup>9</sup> Journalism as a craft, a profession and even as a trade or business is two centuries old. It was made possible by the coming together of a number of technologies as well as several social, political and economic developments. The main technologies that facilities the development of large-scale printing and distribution of print material were the printing press and the railways.

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