

JMC 30: Citizen Journalism

Citizen journalism is a rapidly evolving form of journalism, which has enabled ordinary people to report newsworthy situations around them. It means citizens themselves report the issues confronting them. The advent of Information and Communication technologies (ICTs) has proliferated the process of citizen journalism.

Objectives

Nowadays mainstream media do not serve as the only source of news. The alternative news sources on Internet, such as blogs, web portals, social networking sites and websites featuring user-generated content (USG), give a good competition to mainstream media. It is, therefore, important for students to understand this novel trend in journalism. They also need to learn how to deal with the challenges posed to mainstream media by citizen journalism.

UNIT- I Understanding Citizen Journalism

- Citizen Journalism- concept and definitions.
- Characteristics of citizen journalism.
- Types of citizen journalism.
- Significance and demerits of citizen journalism.
- Citizen journalism vs. mainstream journalism.
- Role of information and communication technologies in proliferating citizen journalism.

UNIT- II Historical Perspective

- Evolution of citizen journalism. Where did the term ‘citizen journalism’ come from?
- Old and modern citizen journalism.
- Citizen journalism in India.
- Television citizen journalism. CNN-IBN’s ‘*The Citizen Journalist Show*’
- Online citizen journalism in India.
- State of citizen journalism in Kashmir.

Practical Work

Practical work will involve the exercises as per the details above. The practical work will be assigned and assessed by the concerned faculty.

Suggested Readings

- Allan, S., & Thorsen, E. (Eds.). (2009). *Citizen Journalism: Global Perspectives*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc.
- Tremayne, M. (Ed.). (2007). *Blogging, Citizenship, and the Future of Media*. London, New York: Routledge.

- Prasad, K. (Ed.). (2009). *e-Journalism: New Media and News Media*. Delhi: BR Publishing.
- Campbell, W. J. (2001). *Yellow Journalism: Puncturing the Myths, Defining the Legacies*. USA: Praeger Publishers.
- Axford, B., & Huggins, R. (Eds.). (2001). *New Media and Politics*. London: SAGE Publications.
- Coyer, K., Dowmunt, T., & Fountain, A. (2007). *The Alternative Media Handbook* . London and New York: Routledge Taylor and Francis Group.
- Criado, C. A., & Kraeplin, C. (2003). *Convergence Journalism*. Texas: Southern Methodist University.
- Dewdney, A., & Ride, P. (2006). *The New Media Handbook*. London and New York: Routledge- Taylor and Francis Group.
- Flew, T. (2002). *New Media: An Introduction*. UK: Oxford University Press.
- Ganesh, T. K. (2006). *Digital Media: Building the Global Audience*. Delhi: GNOSIS Publishers of Educational Books.