**Lecture # 7**

**REPORTER**

**Difference between Journalist & Reporter**

Journalist is a wider term. A sub-editor, a columnist, an article writer, an anchor or any person who is working as newsman or working on news desk can be called a Journalist.

The term reporter applies to a

* journalist who covers field stories report from the site.
* Reporter is a specialist form of a journalist.
* We can say a journalist who is responsible for gathering information and present it on mass media is called a Reporter.
* Reporter is supposed to be the explainer of complicated issues in simple and communicative manner. The main role of reporter is to present news in digestible format for viewers.
* Reporters gather information in variety of ways. Tips, press releases, witness events, Interviews, Public records and other sources.
* Reporter covers the event which is assigned to him by his organization/Newspaper or TV Channel.
* Reporters split their time between working in the newsroom and going in the field to witness events or interview people.

**QUALITIES OF REPORTER**

To be a good reporter one should have special qualities.

* One of the basic qualities of a reporter is to have an IPTB. IPTB means “it pays to be inquisitive”. He should have the quality to be curious his eyes and ears should always be in search of News. He should have the quality to sniff the news.
* In life every one has a story to tell: A reporter should have a quality to compel others to tell the newsworthy story.
* A reporter should always take care of accuracy of news.
* He should be quick to report. He also has to take care of viewer’s interest in the news item.
* Reporter should be cool headed. A cool head means he should be calm, cool and collected.
* He must have the ability to work in an atmosphere of hurry and excitement.
* Reporter must be physically fit to move around.
* Reporter should have the quality of awareness (alertness). He should be quite vigilant enough.
* Reporter must possess technical knowledge of the application of equipment. It will help him to establish command over technical staff.
* Reporter should be a dedicated worker and have the quality of Resourcefulness. Resourcefulness is a quality of being able to cope with a difficult situation. He has an ability to deal with unusual problems.
* Reporter must take care of time management. He should utilize maximum time to achieve his goals.
* The quality of decision making on the spot is a great quality. One decision on time can save many upcoming problems. In-fact decision making is a process of recognizing a problem and provide an opportunity to find a solution.

**Classification of Reporters**

**CHIEF REPORTER**

* Chief Reporter is a journalist who is supposed to be a senior and experienced Reporter.
* The Chief Reporter is an incharge of a team of reporters. He has to assign them duties and regulate them as per the policy of newspaper of the television channel.
* He also plans the special coverage of the expected news and assign it to reporters.
* Chief Reporter has to see that all the activities are covered properly and nothing important is missed by the reporters.
* Most of the invitations for press conferences, public meetings, demonstrations, agitations and strikes are addressed to him. He deputes his reporters to cover these events.
* The Chief Reporter also receives a lot of information from Government handouts, press releases and other publicity material for publication. He selects and asseses their news worthiness.
* He also look afters the administrative matters concerning with reporters and reporting.
* He also plans new investigative and interpretative reports by deputing reporters.

**THE CORRESPONDANTS**

There are different kinds of correspondents who work for newspaper and TV Channel.

**THE LINER/Stringer** : The liner is not a full time journalist. From time to time he may send news stories to the newspaper. Liners are paid on the basis of lines of the news stories published in the newspaper or broadcast on a TV Network.

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS:** They are generally very experienced professionals having vast and varied contacts with official sources, with opposition sources and Government sources, with diplomatic sources, with embassy sources, with fellow reporters, with private secretaries of various ministries and companies.

**Freelance Reporting**

Definition: A professional journalist without long term commitment to any employer is called freelance

journalist.

A freelance reporter is a self employed person.

Freelance professionals move from one country to another.

Benefits: Freelancers generally enjoy a greater variety of assignments than in regular employment.

Drawback: Uncertainty of work and income.

**Cub**

Cub is the binger in the News Reporting field

**NEWSCASTER/NEWS PRESENTER**

News presenter is a person who presents a news show on television, radio or on web is called News Presenter. He can be a working journalist or simply a reader who reads news bulletin prepared by others. In different countries the news presenter is called by different nomenclature. Some called them

“Newscaster”, “Newsreader”, News presenter”, “News Broadcaster”.

To be a Newscaster or Presenter you do not have to look like a movie star, but you should have the ability to perform and your appearance should be acceptable.

Television is a close-up medium, concentrate mainly on your face. For this reason, majority of viewers recognize you by face and key to appearance is to have a unique and memorable look.

**NEWS ANCHOR:**

A person who presents a news show on Radio or on Television is known as an Anchor. Anchors are the one who gets the publicity. Readily rewarded or blamed instantly. News Anchor should have the good knowledge of: Politics, Sociology, Government functioning, Skilled in broadcasting technology, Computer operation and public speaking discipline. News Anchor must have the ability to write his own scripts or read what the reporters and desk staff had written. News Anchor must be detail oriented, organized, flexible and multitasking person, at a time he has to speak, listen and to read from teleprompter/Autoque. News Anchor’s behavior should be friendly, articulative and easy to watch or listen. A good professional News Anchor must have the following characteristics:

Educated in Journalism

Skills in communication

Knows reporting

Copy editing skills

Writing ability

Command on language