Beyond the anchor's desk

Aaj Tak's Sayeed Ansari On Amplifying The People's Voice

Making A Newspaper Contest
AIS Noida
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INTERVIEW



Sayeed Ansari, senior anchor, Aaj Tak

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Behind every *khabar* lies a *kahaani,* behind every *awaaz* is a person waiting to be heard. In a newsroom racing against time, facts may make headlines, but it is the human stories that leave a lasting impact. For veteran journalist Sayeed Ansari, journalism is not only about reporting events; it is about the power of communication, questioning injustice, and the human conscience that must remain at its heart. In conversation with GT reporters, Ansari discusses his journey across media platforms and his message for aspiring journalists.

Stand by

For me, journalism is about raising my voice for common people's welfare and bringing their issues to the forefront, regardless of the medium. It is my way of contributing to the country. Human stories, especially those involving injustice, impact me the most. Whether it is roadside vendors fighting for their livelihood, farmers facing hardships, or stories about ordinary people, their stories stay with me the longest, even as I cover politics, sports, and national events. That lasting impression keeps me going.



Sayeed Ansari with GT reporters

Mic check ready?

Radio laid the foundation for my communication skills, teaching me voice modulation, clarity, and quality. While people often form impressions based on behaviour, body language, or looks, a voice conveys something much deeper. Even after years of experience, I still feel nervous before going live. I believe overconfidence can lead to mistakes, and humility is essential to growth. *Seekhne ka silsila kabhi khatam nahi hota.*

Signal strength

Reading and research are among the most important responsibilities of a journalist. It brings depth, graceful perspectives, and effective communication. An interest in literature can also make a person a better speaker and a distinctive writer. It has benefited me immensely. Technology may make information more accessible today, but young people must continue to read, research, and develop their own knowledge.

Breaking news

The rise of Instagram and YouTube Shorts does not signal journalism's end; it demands evolution. Today's generation prefers 40-60 second-long news flashes. When I began my career at Doordarshan, Hindi news followed strict approval protocols. Today, live reporting, flexible presentation, and Hinglish make journalism natural. Though TRP-driven competition drives performance, responsible reporting remains the priority.

Beyond the frame

The speed at which AI can gather information is commendable. Yet it cannot replicate genuine human connection to touch hearts and souls. Effective journalism requires understanding and empathising with audiences across both rural and urban India, connecting beyond geographical barriers. Anchoring, too, requires complete concentration, confidence, and preparation. Journalists must stay alert, and prepare thoroughly before going live and remain composed, even in challenging circumstances.

Signing off

Whatever career you choose, be responsible and accountable. Accountability shapes the way you conduct yourself, but responsible communication requires an understanding of people's struggles. *Accha patrakar banne se pehle, accha insaan banana zaroori hai. Aap sab apna bohot khayaal rakhna.*

Achievements

- Hindi Academy Journalism Award 2024–25 - Electronic Media category
- ENBA 2023 Bronze Winner - Best Anchor, Hindi
- ENBA Best Anchor Award 2017
- Limca Book of Records for 18-hour uninterrupted live-anchoring record
- BCS Ratna Best Anchor Award
- Experienced across Doordarshan, All India Radio, Sahara Samay, ABP News, News24, and Aaj Tak

AUUP Greater Noida

Celebrating excellence

Amity University Greater Noida organised a special academic programme and felicitation ceremony under the leadership of Prof (Dr) Ajay Rana, director general, to recognise outstanding contributions to engineering and healthcare. Dr Kalyan K Sen, president and chief technology officer, Sen Engineering Solutions, Inc; and Dr Avaneesh Agnihotri, senior medical officer, AYUSH Health Department, Govt of Uttar Pradesh, were honoured with the Amity Excellence Award for their respective achievements. The event was attended by the university's domain heads, faculty members, and students.

A key highlight of the programme was an insightful lecture delivered by Dr Sen, during which he shared his extensive experience in engineering innovation, research, and electrical power systems. Dr Sen is widely recognised for his remarkable contributions to advanced power transmission technologies, particularly Flexible Alternating Current Transmission Systems (FACTS) and smart power flow controllers. His lecture emphasised on the critical role of continuous research and technological innovation in shaping the future of engineering.

Dr Agnihotri was felicitated for his contributions to healthcare and social welfare. He has worked towards making homoeopathic healthcare accessible and patient-centred. During his tenure at Luksar Central Jail, he provided medical services to inmates. He has also been proactively involved in free medical camps and other health awareness initiatives. The programme underscored the role of academic institutions in recognising professional excellence, encouraging research and innovation, and celebrating contributions to society. By honouring Dr Sen and Dr Agnihotri, Amity University Greater Noida reaffirmed its commitment to acknowledging individuals whose work makes a meaningful difference in their respective fields.



Dignitaries at the programme