

**Press Council of India**  
**Report on Winter Internship Programme, 2024**  
**(February 12-March 12, 2024)**

**File No: 25/11/2023-PCI-Editorial**

**Introduction**

The Press Council of India in pursuance of its mandate under section 13 (2) (c) & (d) of the Press Council Act, 1978, conducted its fifth Internship Programme i.e. “**Winter Internship Programme (WIP) 2024**” from **February 12, 2024 to March 12, 2024** for **Journalism Students**. For the same, applications were invited from eligible journalism students nationwide vide Notice dated 08.12.2023.

After scrutiny of all applications received by the Secretariat *inter alia* considering the PAN India representation and statement of purpose submitted by applicants wherein they have justified their intent to join Internship programme and their academic performance, fifteen (15) candidates were selected for joining the WIP, 2024 (**Annexure-A**).

**Induction Session**

An induction session was held for the Interns in the presence of the Deputy Secretary on February 12, 2024, wherein the Interns were briefed about the functioning and objectives of the Council. The interns were also informed about their posting, role and responsibilities during their internship programme.

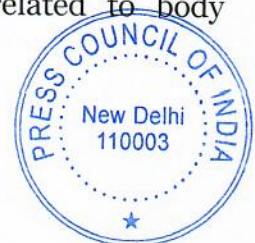
**Exposure to Working**

The interns were deputed for hands-on work experience in the Secretariat of the Council. They were posted in different Sections of the Secretariat i.e. Editorial, Meetings, Complaints, Levy and Rajbhasha, to have first hand work experience in different Sections of the Council.

**Research Paper**

As a part of the internship programme, the interns were asked to submit Research paper on the following topics related to the functioning of the press:

1. Are the existing legal provisions in India adequate to provide a safe and secure atmosphere to the media personnel to practice fair and ethical journalism?
2. Explore the influence of the phenomenon of publishing advertisements in the garb of news and paid news on Media Credibility
3. Impact of newspaper content segmentation on young readers: A study of the potential benefits/drawbacks of categorized reporting in Newspapers for Crime, Public Events, Sensitive Topics and others.
4. Do you think news media is being exploited for commercial gain, with the publication of vulgar or indecent content, misleading or obscene advertisements related to body



transformations, or any visual representations portraying pornographic material? Provide arguments for or against, with justifications.

## 5. Trial by Media and its Implications on Freedom of the Press in Contemporary Societies

### Analysis by Secretariat

All the Interns presented their research paper before the Committee consisting of Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary (Editorial) and submitted their reports on 11.03.2024 in groups, and Committee after deliberations evaluated the work of each group of Interns. For better understanding and guidance on PCI's sectional work, each intern was allotted a Mentor that were Section Officers of the concerned sections they were posted.

The Interns were evaluated by their mentors on the following criteria:

- ✓ Attendance and Punctuality,
- ✓ Discipline and sense of Responsibility
- ✓ Accomplishment of allotted work and quality of output
- ✓ Behaviour with the staff and officials of the Council.
- ✓ Complying with the Rules and Regulations of the Council

### Valediction

On the Valediction Day i.e. on 12.03.2024, an Interactive Session was held with Hon'ble Chairperson, PCI, Smt. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai. The interns also got an opportunity to interact with Dr. Baldev Raj Gupta, Member, Press Council of India and Secretary, PCI, Shri Nungsanglemba Ao.

### Mechanism of training interns

- a. The internship programme aimed at facilitating knowledge, promoting the sense of responsibility in the students of journalism and creating awareness about the Council and its mandate. The interns while working in Complaints Section put up several receipts of complaints lodged under section 13 and 14 of the Press Council Act, 1978. During the same, the interns learned about the procedure and requirements for lodging a complaint with Press Council of India and how the complaints are dealt by the office.
- b. The interns also prepared meeting notes/synopsis of complaints while working in the Meeting Section and attended the hearing of cases by the inquiry committee headed by Smt. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, Chairperson, Press Council of India. In the process, the interns had valuable first hand opportunity to observe the proceedings of the Council's Inquiry Committee. They witnessed how decisions are made by Inquiry Committee after both parties to a complaint are given fair chance to present their sides. This experience likely provided them with insights into the intricacies on how the right to freedom of speech and expression be exercised by these aspiring journalists in maintaining the credibility of the noble profession of journalism.
- c. During the internship, the interns also worked on and developed 5 research papers on the topics of relevance to media in the current scenario and gave presentation before the committee on their research work.



## **Conclusion/Outcome of WIP, 2024**

1. Through the internship program, the Press Council of India engaged with aspiring journalists, serving as a guiding influence in shaping their understanding of the ethical principles and responsibilities inherent in the field of journalism.
2. At the end of the Internship Programme, the interns expressed that the hands-on experience gained during the program has equipped them with the foundational skills necessary for excelling in their future careers as journalists.
3. Notably, interns highlighted their newfound awareness of the potential challenges and obstacles they may encounter in their journalistic endeavours, along with strategies for effectively addressing them.
4. Furthermore, interns acknowledged the importance of vigilance against the misuse of journalistic authority for personal gain, emphasizing their duty to report truthfully and responsibly.
5. Engaging in research activities during the internship not only enhanced the analytical abilities of interns who participated in the programme but also deepened their understanding of the subjects they explored, enriching their knowledge base.
6. The interns also got an opportunity to observe the quasi-judicial proceedings of the inquiry committee meeting and gained insights into the common mistakes made by journalists, the resulting repercussion and how to avoid such errors in their professional practice.



**Photo Gallery:**



**The Hon'ble Chairperson and other Senior officials with the interns of the Winter Internship Programme, 2024**



**A glimpse of the Valedictory Function held on 12.03.2024**





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भारतीयप्रेसपरिषद् Annexure - A

**PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA**

सूचना भवन, 8 सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स,  
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SoochnaBhawan, 8 - CGO Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

File No.- 25/11/2023

Dated: 12.02.2024

**Winter Internship Programme (WIP), 2024**

**Final revised list of Candidates**

Sl. No.	Applicat ion Number	Name	Course Pursuing and College/University	State
1.	30/WIP/2024-PCI	Ms. Sahanubhuti Krishnan	Five Year Integrated Programme in Journalism, Delhi School of Journalism, University of Delhi	Delhi
2.	43/WIP/2024-PCI	Mr. Priyanshu Kumar	Five Year Integrated Programme in Journalism, Delhi School of Journalism, University of Delhi	Delhi
3.	33/WIP/2024-PCI	Ms. Sweta Kumari	PG Diploma in Radio & TV Journalism , Indian Institute of Mass Communication, Delhi	Delhi
4.	22/WIP/2024-PCI	Mr. Rabnish Kashyap	Five Year Integrated Programme in Journalism, Delhi School of Journalism, University of Delhi	Delhi
5.	60/WIP/2024-PCI	Mr. Aditya Raj Sonkar	M.A. in Mass Communication, Banaras Hindu University	Uttar Pradesh
6.	38/WIP/2024-PCI	Ms. Zimra Rafiq	M.A. Mass Communication, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
7.	19/WIP/2024-PCI	Mr. Anant Jain	B.A. (Journalism and Mass Communication), Jagran Lakecity University	Madhya Pradesh
8.	45/WIP/2024-PCI	Ms. Prakriti Parul*	M.A. (BJ), Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication	Madhya Pradesh

\*Ms Prakriti Parul has been inducted from the Waiting list in place of Ms Jharna Rana as she has stated her inability to join the Internship Programme





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9.	02/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Rishika Raghuwanshi	M.A. Journalism, Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
10.	40/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Shreya Arora	B.A. Journalism and Mass Communication, IMS Unison University	<b>Uttarakhand</b>
11.	09/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Muskan Manvar	Master of Journalism and Mass Communication, Faculty of Journalism And Communication, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda	<b>Gujarat</b>
12.	03/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Mr. Sanjeet Singh Chahar	M.A. Journalism And Mass Communication, S.S. Jain Subodh P.G. College, University of Rajasthan	<b>Rajasthan</b>
13.	12/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Dipali Banka	BA Journalism and Mass Communication (Hons.), Shri Shikshayatan College, University of Calcutta	<b>West Bengal</b>
14.	49/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Yangchula Bhuttia	M.A. in Mass Communication and Journalism, Jadavpur University	<b>West Bengal</b>
15.	06/WIP/ 2024-PCI	Ms. Anwesa Bhattacharya	M.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication, Sister Nivedita University	<b>West Bengal</b>

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*\*Ms Prakriti Parul has been inducted from the Waiting list in place of Ms Jharna Raina as she has stated her inability to join the Internship Programme*