MAHARAJA AGRASEN COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

YUGAANTAR

ANNUAL MAGAZINE BY ANCHORING POOL

GET RID OF STAGE FEAR

Tips from experts to overcome fear of public speaking

PERSONAL GROWTH

A testament to how personalities are shaped on stage

ANCHOR'S SECRETS ?

THE STAGE IS ALL YOURS

A COMPREHENSIVE OUTLOOK
TO STAGE PRESENCE

@mac_anchoringpool

Under the Patronage

Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari

Principal

Maharaja Agrasen College,

University of Delhi

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About US

We are the Anchoring Pool, the anchoring and public speaking society of Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi.
A place where confidence is wielded in every voice and where creativity finds its spotlight and takes the centre stage with a mic in hand.
Established in 2018, Anchoring Pool and its members have stood more than speakers, they are the voice that turns every event into an experience which no one could ever forget.
As one of the only two societies dedicated to anchoring and public speaking in the DU circuit, we take pride in building speakers who carry clarity, charm and confidence wherever they go.
Anchoring Pool's mission is to turn stage fright into stage delight, an opportunity to shine in front of everyone through their great oratory and communication skills that go beyond college life and to shape personalities that shine everywhere from classrooms to greater stages.





Reaching new heights in every tenure, Anchoring Pool always takes the initiative to give a better platform to students for the nourishment of their soft skills and make them a great orator at the end.

Anchoring Pool stands tall as a symbol of professionalism, confidence and adaptability; a society where voices are trained, personalities are refined and creativity gets unleashed.
Anchoring Pool is not just a society, but an entire legacy that continues to live and give the deserving opportunities to the passionate speakers as our tagline says....

THE STAGE IS ALL YOURS!

YUGAANTAR'26
MAHARAJA AGRASEN
COLLEGE

THE EXPERIENCE LEDGER

Years behind the stage confidence



CONFIDENCE UNLOCKED: AUDIENCE, BACKSTAGE AND YOU

YUGAANTAR'26

ECA CONVENERS

Public speaking is a skill that has always fascinated me as an academician. I have always admired individuals who truly own the stage with their eloquence and confidence, turning words into powerful tools of connection and influence.

My own journey into public speaking began with an unexpected opportunity. I was asked to anchor a formal event in the college auditorium. While I was comfortable delivering lectures in a classroom, addressing a hall filled with dignitaries and a large audience felt entirely different. The stakes seemed higher, and so did my self-doubt.

As the day of the event approached, I found myself battling a whirlwind of emotions along with nervousness, hesitation, and an unexplainable sense of unease. I questioned my ability and wondered if I would be able to meet expectations. Yet, deep within, there was a quiet determination urging me to step forward and prove to myself that I could do it.

When the moment finally arrived, I chose to trust myself. I steadied my nerves with deep breaths, composed my thoughts, and wore a confident smile. As I began anchoring the event, something remarkable happened—the fear gradually faded, replaced by a sense of control and connection with the audience. By the end of the program, I was appreciated by everyone. That moment became a turning point, significantly boosting my confidence and self-esteem.



Dr. Ekanshi Gupta
Convener, ECA Committee
Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce
Maharaja Agrasen College

From then on, I made a conscious decision to embrace every opportunity to speak before a larger audience. Over time, I had the privilege of anchoring numerous college events, including seminars, conferences, workshops, and annual functions. Each experience added a new layer to my learning, refining my communication skills and stage presence.

These experiences carved a public speaker within me. Today, as the Convener of Co-curricular Activities at my college, I stand before audiences with confidence, grace, and clarity.

Getting out of my comfort zone and anchoring a very formal event where the high profile guests are the attendees was a very different experience which I always want to remember as an important lesson in my life.

All these things could never be possible if I couldn't push myself that day when I was anchoring for that first event. The stage has always provided me better learnings which I am always grateful for and public speaking will always be an important aspect in my life journey.

Public speaking, for me, is no longer just a skill; it is a journey of self-discovery, resilience, and growth.

ECA CONVENERS



Ms. Aarti Nagar
Co-Convener, ECA Committee
Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce
Maharaja Agrasen College

Public speaking is often cited as one of the most common fears, yet it remains one of the most transformative skills a person can acquire. My first experience with public speaking was during my school days. I prepared extensively for that day, and it turned out to be a memorable experience. Public speaking not only helps you express your thoughts effectively but also boosts your confidence. Facing the stage can feel nerve-wracking at first, but with proper preparation and practice, you can overcome your nervousness and stand out among the audience. As the saying goes, "The more you speak, the better you speak."

A good orator is known for preparing intensely before speeches.The expression, gestures such as hand movements, eye contact are also being emphasized on before addressing the audience. Beyond the physical, the structure of the content plays a vital role. A well-organized speech follows a logical flow, starting with a hook to grab attention, followed by a series of supporting points, and concluding with a strong call to action. The use of storytelling and rhetorical devices can further enhance the listener's engagement, making complex ideas more relatable and easier to digest.

Swami Vivekanand delivered one of the most iconic speeches in history at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago on 11 September 1893.His speech promoted the message of religious tolerance and universal brotherhood, leaving a lasting impression on the global audience. It made him an internationally recognized figure and sparked greater interest in Indian philosophy, particularly Vedanta and Yoga. During British rule, his words instilled a sense of pride and confidence among Indians. Even today, the speech is remembered as a landmark moment in global public speaking and intercultural dialogue.

Furthermore, the evolution of public speaking in the digital age has introduced new dimensions to how we communicate. Today, an orator must be mindful of both the physical audience in the room and the potential global audience watching through a screen. This requires a balance of traditional stage presence and a tech-savvy approach to delivery. The fundamental principles, however, remain unchanged: sincerity and authenticity are the keys to building trust with those who are listening, regardless of the medium being used.

Thus it can be stated that a good speech can leave a powerful and lasting impact on the audience by inspiring, informing, and influencing their thoughts. It captures attention, creates emotional connection, and makes the message memorable. Whether it is a short classroom presentation or a keynote address at a major conference, the ability to articulate a vision clearly is an invaluable asset. By mastering this art, individuals can advocate for change, share knowledge, and leave behind a legacy that resonates long after the final word is spoken.

PROFESSORS



Prof. Gitanjali Chawla
Professor, Department of English
Maharaja Agrasen College

I am trying to recall my first public speaking experience, many many moons ago when I was under the spotlight facing what seemed then, a zillion pair of critical judging eyes; I remember walking onto the stage with butterflies in my stomach, my heartbeat pounding fast, clammy palms and a choking sensation. I must have been in class 9 or 10. As I walked in, I promised to myself that I will never do this again. Why put myself through this trauma. When I looked at the audience nervously, I spotted a smile, an expectant gaze, a warmth in the unending sea of new faces. I held on to that and started speaking! It was almost like a personal conversation with that smile over there, with that warm look on the other corner.

Gradually I felt calm and confident. As I went on and on, the audience became a friend, and I was in a zen state. Calm and with increasing confidence, I went on and on. A huge round of applause after I finished emboldened me and I knew that public speaking was my domain. But! I wasn't born with it. It was and continues to be a skill that I work hard at.

So what is it that I do to hone this essential soft skill. I practice several times, even today. I record myself on my mobile phone and pay attention to where I need to pause for effect, where I need to modulate my voice, where to emphasise and more importantly when to look at the audience when I am reading from a script in my hand.

Audience contact is very very important. If you don't connect with the audience, no matter what you say on stage, will fall flat. It is important to engage with them, to make each one feel that you are reaching out to them. How does one do that? Body language is the key! What you say is important but equally important is how you say it. Relaxed shoulders, a warm smile, frequent eye contact, movement of hands at the right moment but at the same time not to appear to casual. Stage craft is a craft, a skill that needs to be nurtured. Do remember, every time your teacher walks into class, she/he is performing, communicating, She/He is getting direct feedback from you even without you knowing it. Your glazed bored eyes are a giveaway that the teacher has failed to hold your attention.

We are also fighting lower attention spans and the devilish attraction of the mobile phone which seems more endearing than any faculty. Every teacher is trying to build a connection because the key to public speaking is that connection – and do remember! speaking is effective only when there is active listening and not passive hearing.

I am much older and also experienced, but still make mistakes, particularly when I speak in Hindi, my comfort zone in the professional sphere is English. I practice diligently, check with colleagues about my diction, I seek feedback and more importantly learn from my mistakes. Do remember, all of us can be good speakers but we have to work towards it.

PROFESSORS

Speaking in front of the audience without any fear or hesitation is an artistry itself. As a journalist and as a professor too, I strongly believe that public speaking truly defines and enhances the personality of an individual.

In my early days of journalism, public speaking has helped me a lot. My first ever experience was a lesson and a memory which taught me how to be confident and just be yourself when you speak. In 2010, I was working with Doordarshan national channel as a journalist, I had to report an incident by doing on ground coverage. That was the first experience when I was speaking in the middle of public on a crowded street of Connaught place and my cameraman was recording the reporting and everyone was staring and talking. I was already nervous at that moment as I was doing my first ever reporting for television where the whole nation will watch me and listen to me and during the coverage the common crowd was also present and they all were watching me.

This incident made me very conscious and I was thinking about why they were looking at me and it was making me feel very uncomfortable at that moment. But I didn't lose my calm and told myself that yes Shruti you can do this. At that moment, I felt that I'm doing nothing wrong and just doing my work. Let's ignore everyone else and focus on my work. From that day I found my way out of that hesitation and it really helped me a lot with my confidence building.



Dr. Shruti Goel
TIC, ANCHORING POOL
Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism
Maharaja Agrasen College

Now looking at that incident, I feel very grateful that I stepped out of my comfort zone and here I am, as a Professor of Journalism at Maharaja Agrasen College and the Teacher In Charge of the anchoring and public speaking society. I feel very confident whenever I address a gathering or whenever I anchor on stage.

Recently, I anchored the inaugural ceremony of the National Conference organised by the department of Journalism in front of several dignitaries and I was appreciated by everyone for the way I spoke in the event.

When I look at these moments, I always cherish that from being hesitant in my first ever coverage to anchoring events and delivering speeches; I've seen myself growing as a public speaker. That ground reporting was a lifetime lesson for me where I broke the barriers which were restricting me and now here I am teaching everyone how we could master this skill by just believing in ourselves.

As there is a famous quote by Maya Angelou that, “People will forget what you said, they will forget what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel”. By this as an academician of Journalism, where communication is the essential key to connect with your audience, I believe that public speaking always makes people remember what persona an individual carries and this is a life saving skill which everyone should have.

ANCHORING POOL

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

ANCHORING POOL STEPS OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF MAHARAJA AGRASEN COLLEGE

FROM BLUEPRINTS TO BREAKTHROUGHS

From owning the stage to opening a stage for others. This time Anchoring Pool was not speaking but it was letting other speakers shine with lots of humour and laughter. A casually discussed raw idea which was initiated in an online meeting when the core team of Anchoring Pool decided to step up as organizers and give college a memorable event, it turned out to be something which no one expected in the society. The dream of every tenure is to make the Anchoring Pool shine in the auditorium as a separate entity where we own the stage but as organizers.

On 1st September 2025, for the very first time in the history of the Anchoring Pool and of College too, we organised our very own stand up comedy competition - ‘Humour Hustle’. Thinking of hosting a competition like this was exciting in meetings but a tough challenge in execution. Anchoring Pool was stepping in the shoes of an organiser for the very first time with high hopes and dedication to make this event a grand success.

Before that, the main question was, ‘how do we convince the teachers and especially the Principal to let this thing happen?’ But as we say that some things are in the destiny to happen so indeed our Humour Hustle was too. Everything got approved and to make the event more grand, we also invited an external judge for the event who was an established stand-up comedian. He was none other than the comedy star from the United City of Ghaziabad - Akshay Srivastava. Reaching out Akshay was not a big deal for us as he was our alumni too and he also wanted to get back to college when he achieves something in life and this event was a moment for him to revisit those walls and corridors and be an inspiration for the emerging artists as well.

Along with him the another judge for the day was Dr. Alok Puranik - a journalist and satirist by passion but a Professor in Commerce by profession, knows the elements of comedy timing, punchlines and good writing. As someone who understands the true essence of this art, Sir provided his full support as a judge to let this event happen.

Humour HUSTLE



This was the first time that a society organised something in a non-fest duration and that too on a large scale. Hence, it was predictable that everyone had higher expectations from us to deliver the best, and we also were so enthusiastic on that day but the level of excitement and hype in the audience was not expected. The auditorium which has about 400 to 500 seating capacity only was completely houseful with around 700 to 800 people in the auditorium, including students and teachers and there were so many people waiting outside the doors just to be in the auditorium even if they didn't get a seat. This was something that left us stunned at that moment as organisers. We were so much confused that how to respond to the situation as it was overwhelming and challenging too that how are we going to cater such a large audience in our event but eventually the support staff, security and members of cultural council of our college really helped a lot with the crowd management and smooth flow of event and heartbeat of every member was thumping by seeing such numbers of audience in the auditorium.

Since this was a big event we wanted our very passionate juniors to have that opportunity and get a new experience as anchors. Syed Abdullah Ashraf and Alakshya Singh were the anchors for the event. They both showed bright on stage and also hooked the audience with their creativity in speaking, expressions and stage presence. The event was graced with the auspicious presence of the principal, Prof Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari. Sir delivered the welcome address before the event where he also showed his satirical skills which left everyone with laughter and surprise to see the humorous side of Principal sir.

After this humorous and witty welcome address, it was time to begin with our rising stars of comedy. The anchors led the event in their way by captivating anchoring and perfect chemistry which held everyone till the end. Reflecting on their experiences, Syed Abdullah Ashraf said that - “this has been the most flawless auditorium event till date, speaking from my experience last minute changes were handled like a pro, properly and seamlessly; for me this event was something which I can't forget till the end as an anchor. While on the other hand, Alakshya’s remarks on her experience were - “this was the most amazing and easy event I've ever been a part of. Both the judges and participants were on time and there was no use of fillers as the event followed a flow, and even the last minute changes weren't a burden. A huge shout-out to my co anchor for coaching me on the way. Thank you to my seniors and my POC for keeping us calm and chill”.

These remarks from the anchors showed how the whole society managed everything from top to bottom and even if there were changes the anchors didn't lose their calm and carried the event with grace in their anchoring. The event was uplifted by a special performance by our very own guest Mr. Akshay Srivastava. Through his comic timing and punch lines he showed everyone why he was the judge in the event, leaving everyone laughing hard and giving appreciation to the participants. Akshay graced the evening and made it more memorable for everyone. The post event formalities were done and we wrapped up with the event with a satisfaction in our hearts and exhaustion in our minds, everyone was happy and proud on each other that they together as a team hosted their first event as organisers and this event was a great success as no other event witnessed such a large number of audience ever.



There was proper coordination, teamwork, patience and an intent to show that we are also good in organising events on a larger scale. The event taught us that no matter how big a challenge is, if you all are standing tall as a team there is nothing impossible and we believe that we attained that idea of team spirit and collective effort to make this event such a success where we got so much appreciation.

This event left everyone entertained, amazed, happy and only talking about one name which is **THE ANCHORING POOL**.



FIRST EXTERNAL EVENT

For the very first time when an anchor from the Anchoring Pool stepped out to anchor an event which no one ever thought to anchor or even see it.

On a random morning, the trainer in Ronak's gym told him about annual national level bodybuilding competition which is organised by him, as he was figuring out who should be the anchor for the day. Then he casually asked him to anchor and Ronak said jokingly that yes he will do it for sure as he is very much experienced with it because of the society. But the organiser remembered him and one day he came and told Ronak that he will be the anchor of the event. That moment was something unexpected which happened as this was the first opportunity for Ronak to shine beyond the college and anchor an event which is from completely different genre and this type of event was never seen before.

This was the major challenge as an anchor for him as he had no idea what to do at the moment, but still he accepted the offer to anchor in the event. Days passed and the event came closer and closer, and the stage of nervousness was rising everyday. With basic event lineup and random information, Ronak was all left with assurance that there is nothing to worry about the anchoring but deep down Ronak knew that this event is definitely not gonna be a cake walk.

On 14 December 2025, the Bodybuilding Health and Fitness Association of India organised their competition Mr and Mrs Delhi 2025. The event was organised by the vice president of the association Mr Manjeet Singh Rana and the chief guest was Mr Anil Gupta, a social worker in Delhi who graced the event with his auspicious presence. The event started with a huge delay of 3.5 hours of the designated time and in the winters it was getting more difficult to manage the level of anchoring throughout the event. There were major changes in the flow of the event without proper communication and coordination and everything had to be managed by the anchor itself on stage.

This major task made it difficult for Ronak to anchor but he believed his instincts and confidence and then he started to anchor without any help from anyone by making critical decisions on what to say or what to announce next. By the words of Ronak in which he said that "this event was something crazy which I've never imagined before, a genre of event which is different from other events which I have anchored till now are not even close to this one which I did today".

The event ended on a successful note and everyone appreciated the anchor as he had to manage between two commitments as the very next day after the event he had his University exam. Everyone present there was very impressed as the anchoring level was pushed further by Ronak and that too in front of around audience of 800 people where no one is to provide any moral support to him but his intuition kept him till last to anchor his very best event as this was the first time that someone stepped outside of College and why not he should be that first one to do so.

This event boosted his confidence and ability to manage everything without any problem and to show his best ever performance to others, leaving a lasting impact on audience, participants, guests and sponsors who reached out to him for further collaborations, this event provided Ronak such exposure that no one could ever imagined as an anchor as no event is easy to anchor by anyone and his experience says it all.

FIRST WIN



Everyone can glam up and own the stage they are familiar with but it takes extra guts to enter a new stage and command it with the same confidence. This is exactly what our talented anchors Dhanya Kaushik and Navya Rana achieved when they made the stage theirs and got the second position at the Anchoring Competition organized by the Anchoring Club of Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi.

Alongside these star performers, two other teams from our society-Vanya and Rashi, and Ronak and Lagan also represented us with equal enthusiasm and creativity. Their performances earned them special mentions for their unique concepts and commendable execution. Guiding the entire delegation was Ronak Kumar, the Editorial Head of the Anchoring Pool, whose mentorship and support played a crucial role in shaping all the team's journey.

The Anchoring Competition gave the participants the liberty to choose a hypothetical event such as reality show, talk show, award night, stand up comedy etc and make a script for it. Additionally to add an interesting layer, an on the spot task was assigned to add spontaneity.

Representing our society, our anchors chose to put on their shiny glittery coats by deciding to anchor an award night show. To resemble with an actual award show and stay in relevance with the publications of the year, they chose a starting theatrical act as Rehman Dakait and Jameel Jamali from Dhurandhar which was a blockbuster hit of the year which was loved by all. Having a presence of mind regarding the type and course of the event enhances the scripting and the further execution. If the anchors hadn't understood the relevance of the glamour in the event and incorporated the acting gig in the starting then they might not have even won. Moreover, they played well with the hype of the movie as by acting like Dhurandhar character in a comical way they got the eyes of the audience glued to them.

The real test came in the second round, where they were asked to incorporate Gen Z slang into their performance on the spot. Rising to the challenge, they blended contemporary language naturally into their script, making it both relatable and entertaining. Their ability to adapt in real time highlighted their presence of mind and connection with the audience.

While performing on stage they even faced a technical glitch when one of them's microphone stopped working where they professionally handled the situation. Reflecting on the experience, Dhanya shared,, " Even though the microphone stopped working mid way, we kept our head in the game and slayed the stage as if it was a real award show. The crowd cheered and clapped with the genuinity that they actually enjoyed the act that we put up with."

Navya Rana reflected on the experience, saying, "Around 25 teams participated in the competition. It was a proud moment for us to win. Everyone appreciated our presence on stage and the fun we brought with us." Their journey at the competition was not just about securing a position, but about representing their society with confidence, creativity, and composure. From conceptualising a strong act to handling unexpected challenges, they demonstrated what effective anchoring truly looks like.
In the end, this achievement goes beyond a trophy or a title. It highlights how stepping out of one's comfort zone, trusting one's preparation, and embracing spontaneity can transform a performance into a memorable experience. As they returned, they brought back not just a win, but inspiration for every aspiring anchor to take the stage no matter how unfamiliar and make it their own.

SAY IT RIGHT

ANCHORING POOL: THE ANCHORING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SOCIETY











Everyone has had that moment. You know exactly what you want to say, it's right there in your head, clear and perfect, and then the second you start speaking... it disappears. Say It Right, a speaker session organised by Anchoring Pool, the anchoring and public speaking society of Maharaja Agrasen College, started from that exact feeling. It wasn't just about speaking better, it was about understanding why confidence shakes, why words slip, and how to take control of that moment instead of letting it control you.

Held on 17th April, the event was anchored by Anupama Royal and Yashvi Pandey who handled the stage with confidence and made everything feel smooth and put together.The session brought together speakers who approached communication from different angles.The session brought together different perspectives on communication, each focusing on an important aspect of public speaking. Sunint Kaur spoke about why people often freeze while speaking, explaining that it is not because we don't know what to say, but because our mind and body react to pressure. She highlighted how nervousness is natural and can be managed with awareness and control. Heena Kumari then focused on voice modulation and the importance of tone, explaining how the way you speak can change how your message is received. She also shared practical interview tips, pointed out common mistakes people make, and explained how to overcome them. Vineet Mishra spoke about confidence and presence, emphasising how the way you walk, carry yourself, and take pauses can shape the impression you leave on the audience.

The event was pretty smooth, with no major problems as such. Everything felt well planned and properly in place. The scripts were clear and on point, and enough time had been given for preparation, which really showed during the execution. Nothing felt rushed or out of sync, and there were no noticeable errors. It was one of those events where things just fell into place naturally, and everything was handled in a calm and organised way, making the entire experience feel effortless for the audience.

As the event began, the audience slowly started to build up, and with it, the energy in the room also grew. What made the session stand out was how interactive it felt from the very beginning. It wasn't one of those events where people just sit and listen quietly. The speakers made a conscious effort to keep everyone involved, asking questions, inviting responses, and creating moments where the audience could actively participate.People stayed connected till the very end, not out of obligation, but because they were genuinely interested and involved in what was happening.

Reflecting on the experience, Anupama Royal shared that it started with a mix of excitement and nervousness, but as the session went on, that nervousness slowly turned into confidence. It made her realise that anchoring is not just about speaking, but about actually connecting with the audience. Yashvi Pandey described it as a bittersweet experience, as it was the final event of the Anchoring Pool of this tenure. At the same time, it felt meaningful, like everything came together in that moment. She also noticed a change in her own confidence and presence, and the supportive energy in the room made it all feel easier and more natural.

In the end, it wasn't just another session you attend and move on from. It stayed with you in small ways. In the way people listened, in the way speakers spoke, and in the quiet confidence that built up in the room. It showed that anchoring and public speaking is not about getting every word right, it is about showing up, being honest, and holding the moment. And when that happens, everything else just falls into place.

ANCHORING POOL'S

STAGE EXPERIENCES



BEHOLD THE CHAOS

The stage feels very calm from the audience but the real chaos prevails at the backstage

8TH MAY, 2025

FAREWELL 2025



A farewell is more than just a formal exit; it is a delicate bridge between the comfort of shared corridors and the vast, daunting expanse of the future. It is a moment where years of laughter, late-night submissions, and college canteen debates are distilled into a single afternoon. As the outgoing batch sat together one last time, the room was filled with a bittersweet symphony of memories, The Anchoring Pool took the stage to bid a memorable farewell to the seniors.

Farewell 2025 at Maharaja Agrasen College was anchored by Vedika Sethi and Utkarsh Srivastava, a masterclass in professional composure, defined by a transition from high-stakes anxiety to a seamless, systematic execution. While the atmosphere behind the scenes initially felt the heat of nervous energy, the anchors turned that pressure into a fluid performance the moment they stepped into the spotlight. It was an event where The Anchoring Pool had to demonstrate its strengths, proving that even under the scrutiny of a shifting program, true professionalism remains unshaken.

This was an important event but was announced only 2 days prior to the event. The team was especially nervous because it was unofficially their first event without the oversight of their experienced seniors. Moreover, the event coincided with the Annual Day 2025 which pushed the timings of the event to mid- afternoon which made the audience impatient.

Despite a crowd that was difficult to manage at times, the anchors maintained firm control of the room, ensuring the dignity of the occasion was never compromised. The real test, however, came from the unpredictability of the schedule; just moments before the curtains went up, anchors had to implement last-minute script changes, cutting lines that had been carefully prepared.

Navigating such a situation required more than just public speaking skills; it required an ability to adapt without losing momentum. Operating on a tight timeline, the team had to prepare for a stage that allowed for significantly less rehearsal time than usual. But as the event progressed, the festivities on the stage took over the patience of the audience and they were completely indulged in the Mr and Ms. MAC competition and the performances by their talented juniors of Septune and Natraj.

The success of the day was deeply rooted in the synergy of a supportive team. POC played a pivotal role as the bridge between anchors and teachers, coordinating between different parties to ensure the ceremony remained free of unnecessary drama. Before the event, the collaborative spirit was equally strong, with the editorial team providing essential support in refining the script. This internal network acted as a safety net, allowing the anchors to perform with a sense of confidence that masked the lack of extensive practice.

By the time the final thank-yous were delivered,Vedika said,"For me, anchoring the farewell 2025 was honestly such a fun experience, everything turned out really well. Utkarsh was an amazing co-anchor and made things super easy for me. Also, shoutout to my backstage team. They had our backs the whole time. It really went smoothly and I was truly grateful for the opportunity". The faculty expressed high satisfaction with the result, ultimately proving that when a team acts as a cohesive support system, they can overcome last-minute friction and logistical hurdles to deliver a polished, professional, and memorable milestone.

15TH AUGUST, 2025

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



Independence Day marks a significant milestone in the history of our great nation, when we were free from oversight and had to stand on our own feet with the whole world watching us. India has been successful in this feat since the past 78 years. Similarly Anchoring Pool entered a new era under the leadership of a new core team which had all eyes on them and great expectations associated with them.

Maharaja Agrasen College celebrated the 79th Independence day in the college premises, anchored by Ishaan Goyal and Harshika , hosting Dr A. K. Dubey, former Registrar University of Delhi as the Chief Guest along with Prof. Dinesh Khattar, Principal Kirori Mal College as the Guest of Honour. The event was expected to take place in the college ground but owing to rain forecast, it was shifted to the auditorium a day prior to the celebration.

The preparation by the anchors, however, started almost a month prior because it is a confirmed event that is always anchored by The Anchoring Pool. Believing in the philosophy of always keeping the best foot forward, it was decided that the event would be anchored by the third year students who had fewer chances to showcase their confidence but were eager to prove themselves. Along with them Alok Pandey, a second year member was chosen to deliver a heartfelt poem on patriotism.

Anchors had prepared a script almost two weeks prior to the event and were completely prepared to deliver their absolute best but there remained an uncertainty about the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour and other dignitaries that would be present. They received this information three days prior to the event but it was of no use as the guest could not be available due to some commitments and then Dr. A.k Dubey and Prof. Dinesh Khattar graciously accepted the invitation and was finalised a day prior to the event.

The unpredictable monsoon weather also made it impossible for the anchors to stick to the traditionally followed event structure and had to utilise the backup anchor to accommodate the change in the structure. The flag hoisting was anchored by Sarika Chauhan in the college ground amidst the rain and facilitated a smooth hoisting and gave the celebrations an energetic start.

The event proceeded in the Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Auditorium where the audience was seated and patiently awaited the arrival of the guests. After the addresses by the dignitaries, Septune and Natraj proceeded to give a heartfelt tribute to the nation and its freedom struggle. The event went on without any further changes and the anchors maintained a calm and patriotic feel throughout the event.

After the event, Ishaan said,"Anchoring the Independence Day is already a very big responsibility and that too being the first event under our team had me really nervous but the amount of practice and preparedness made us ready for any type of challenge. Harshika was excellent for how nervous she was before the event" and Harshika also mentioned,"I feel truly proud to have hosted the Independence Day event and I'm glad it went so smoothly. My co-anchor, Ishaan, was an excellent partner. His calmness and motivating nature really supported me throughout. This event taught me a lot about overcoming stage fear, handling the challenge of hosting in an auditorium, staying calm under pressure, and getting back on track even when things didn't go as planned. Overall, it was an enriching and unforgettable experience". Reflecting that in new situations, the anchors on the stage can be the support system for each other and lead any event to be successful.

23RD SEPTEMBER, 2025

VSC FOUNDATION WEEK

”The highest manifestation of strength is to keep ourselves calm and on our own feet” said by Swami Vivekanand ji is the golden mantra that an anchor should follow when being on stage, holding the mic in front of a curiosity-filled audience ready to grasp every ounce of knowledge provided. And this was very well reflected by our anchors, Sarika Chauhan and Abhishek Kumar Maurya from the Anchoring pool, the anchoring and public speaking society of Maharaja Agrasen College, when they anchored the foundation week speaker session of Vivekananda study circle of Maharaja Agrasen college.



The event was handed over to the anchors just 2 days prior to the event with minimalist details and yet they conjured up with the perfect narration to the event, anchoring it with impeccable perfectionism. There were few impromptu changes given to them which they were able to glide through smoothly while being steady at their feet and keeping a calm head.
This programme was led by the distinguished speaker, Kumari Priyadarshini Ji, who was present to share her knowledge and insights. The audience was highly curious and interactive, requiring the anchors to remain confident and composed throughout.

When an event features two anchors, a frequent oversight in educational institutions is providing only a single microphone. In such situations, it is the anchors’ presence of mind that determines how smoothly things unfold. As Abhishek noted, “Though only one microphone was available, my co-anchor and I managed the coordination effectively.” Rather than allowing the limitation to disrupt the flow, skilled anchors adapt gracefully. It is their professionalism that ensures the event does not descend into chaos—because if both anchors compete for attention instead of cooperating, the entire presentation risks failure. Ultimately, such moments reinforce the importance of coordination and sharing on stage.

Throughout the event, the anchors maintained a sense of ease and composure, reflecting both confidence and preparation. Sarika, the co-anchor, remarked, “This was a formal event, and I knew it would be smooth as butter.” Their seamless execution highlighted not just their individual abilities, but also their strong teamwork and understanding of the event’s tone.

Anchoring is not merely about speaking; it is about adaptability, coordination, and professionalism. Even in less-than-ideal circumstances, skilled anchors can turn challenges into opportunities to showcase their competence. The success of an event ultimately lies in how well the anchors manage both the stage and each other, ensuring a smooth and engaging experience for the audience.

30TH SEPTEMBER, 2025

PRARAMBH 2025



On 30th September 2025, Maharaja Agrasen College organized Prarambh 2025, a vibrant Freshers' event aimed at welcoming the new batch with enthusiasm and energy. The event brought together students, faculty members, and guests, creating an atmosphere filled with excitement and celebration. The programme was anchored by Sejal, Tanishka, Utkarsh, and Aatif, while the event was coordinated by Ronak and Anuradha under the guidance of Teacher Coordinator, Dr. Ekanshi Gupta. The esteemed panel of judges included Dr. Farah Khan, Prof. Deepa Sharma, and Dr. Anupama Jaidev.

The event featured a mix of formal and informal segments, along with cultural performances like Natraj and Septune, which added charm and vibrancy to the celebration. The anchors played a crucial role in maintaining the flow of the event, bringing energy to the stage and engaging the audience throughout.

However, the journey of organizing Prarambh 2025 was not without its challenges. There were numerous last-minute changes that created a sense of urgency and pressure among the team members.

One of the key issues was the postponement of a dance entry, which disrupted the planned schedule. A major error occurred during the felicitation of the judges due to a mix-up, which required immediate handling and quick thinking from the team. The informal segment of the event had several empty spaces, indicating a lack of proper planning and coordination.

Despite these setbacks, the formal part of the event was executed exceptionally well and received great appreciation from the audience and faculty members. The anchors displayed confidence, adaptability, and teamwork, ensuring that the event continued smoothly even in difficult situations. Their ability to manage unexpected challenges highlighted the importance of presence of mind and coordination in live events.



The experience was particularly enriching for the anchors. For many, it was not just about hosting an event but also about personal growth and learning. Sejal expressed how the experience boosted her confidence and how the support from the team, especially the coordinators, played a vital role in making the event successful. Similarly, Tanishka described the event as an amazing and memorable experience, appreciating the cooperation of her co-anchor and the guidance provided by the team.

One of the key takeaways from Prarambh 2025 was the importance of early preparation. The script should ideally have been started well in advance, preferably by mid-September, to avoid last-minute stress. Better planning and rehearsal of fillers could have enhanced the overall quality of the event.

In conclusion, Prarambh 2025 was a blend of challenges and achievements. While there were certain organizational shortcomings, the enthusiasm, teamwork, and resilience of the Anchoring Pool ensured that the event remained engaging and enjoyable. It served as a valuable learning experience, reinforcing the idea that anchoring is not just about delivering lines, but about managing situations with confidence, coordination, and composure.

26TH NOVEMBER, 2025

CONSTITUTION DAY 2025



On 26th November 2025, Maharaja Agrasen College commemorated Constitution Day with great enthusiasm and joy. The event was organized to celebrate the adoption of the Indian Constitution and to celebrate its values, principles, and relevance in Indian society. The programme witnessed the presence of esteemed guest, Prof. Himanshu Prasad Roy, whose insights added depth and significance to the occasion. The event was anchored by Harshika, this time, the Anchoring Pool was entrusted with the responsibility of conducting such a prestigious event. Despite the challenges, the team managed the event well with dedication and confidence. The event was assigned just a day prior, leaving very limited time for preparation. This created a situation of chaos and everything had to be done on a short notice, with several last-minute changes taking place even the night before the event. However, the commitment and teamwork of the members ensured that everything was managed effectively.

The script, though short and crisp, was thoughtfully curated and appreciated by everyone. It showed clarity, relevance, and a structured flow, which made the program flow extremely smooth with good execution. Harshika, as the anchor, displayed sturdy confidence and stage presence. Her voice modulation, clarity of speech, and composed demeanor played an important role in engaging the audience and maintaining the essence of the event.

Taking on the challenge of doing this event on such a short notice was full of complications and not an easy one, the chief guest interrupting the anchor while speaking which immediately required the anchor to adapt quickly and maintain continuity without disruption. An entire segment intended for audience interaction was compromised from the event, which again demanded instant action on stage. Despite these difficulties, the anchor handled the situation with calmness and professionalism, ensuring that the flow of the event remained as it was intended to.

The efforts of the team were widely appreciated. Teachers praised both the script and the anchoring, and the overall event was very well received by everyone present. The experience highlighted the importance of adaptability, coordination, and presence of mind in live events. It also proved that anchoring is not merely about reading from a script, but about being prepared to handle unexpected situations when they are thrown at you with confidence and grace. The words from Harshika after the event on her experience were " I feel truly fortunate to have been entrusted with this responsibility. Being a part of it was a wonderful experience that not only boosted my confidence but also helped me improve my stage presence. Despite the limited time for preparation, the event was conducted flawlessly. Seeing everything come together so beautifully was incredibly fulfilling, and the appreciation and praise from our teachers made the experience even more memorable."

Reflecting on the event, it was not just a formal celebration but also a valuable learning experience for everyone involved. It provided an opportunity to enhance communication skills, build confidence, and understand the dynamics of event management. The trust placed in the Anchoring Pool proved to be a significant milestone, setting a strong foundation for future responsibilities.

In conclusion, the Constitution Day event was a successful and enriching experience. Despite the constraints of time and unforeseen challenges, the team delivered a well-organized and impactful programme. It stood as a testament to hard work, teamwork, and resilience, leaving behind a sense of pride and accomplishment among all participants.

14TH JANUARY, 2026

VSC MEMORIAL LECTURE 2025



Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi, organised the Vivekanand Memorial Lecture on 14th January, commemorating the profound philosophy and vision of Swami Vivekananda. The session stood as a reflection of his timeless teachings, focusing on self-awareness, purpose, and personal growth.

The session was graced by the presence of Dr Nikhil Yadav as the distinguished guest, whose address offered meaningful insights and left the audience with a deeper understanding of life and self-reflection. His words resonated with the audience, making the session both impactful and enriching.

The event was held under the visionary guidance of the Principal, Prof Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari, and was eloquently anchored by Sejal Yadav, ensuring a seamless and engaging flow throughout the session. The formal setting of the event demanded clarity, composure, and precision, all of which were effectively maintained on stage.

From an anchoring perspective, the event reflected a smooth and well-managed execution. There were no last-minute major changes, allowing the structure of the event to remain intact and organized. Every segment was conducted with clarity, contributing to the overall flawless flow of the session.

While Sejal initially faced a few pronunciation challenges, she managed to overcome each one during the course of the event. Her ability to adapt in real time and improve her delivery showcased her confidence and dedication towards anchoring. This growth during the event itself became one of the most notable aspects of her performance.

The efforts did not go unnoticed, as teachers appreciated her anchoring and acknowledged the event's smooth execution. The positive feedback further highlighted the effectiveness of preparation and stage presence in formal settings.

Reflecting on her experience, Sejal shared that "this was a formal event and I knew it would be smooth as butter," especially with her prior experience of anchoring Freshers. She credited her seniors, saying "Anu di, Harshika di, and Sarika made sure everything turned out perfectly and yes it did." Emphasizing her preparation, she mentioned "I practiced really well for this event, so it was a good experience for me," and expressed that "all the AP members were happy and praised me." Concluding her experience, she described the event as "overall flawless."

The session ultimately fostered thoughtful dialogue and left the audience inspired to reflect, learn, and grow. From an anchoring perspective, it stood as a strong example of how preparation, support, and composure can come together to create a seamless and impactful formal event.

26TH JANUARY, 2026

REPUBLIC DAY 2026



On 26th January, Maharaja Agrasen College celebrated India's 77th Republic Day, honouring the nation's democratic heritage. The college celebrated the day the Indian Constitution came into effect with the feeling of pride and patriotism. The guests for the event, Justice S.N. Dhingra and Professor Sunil Soundhi graced the audience with their profound knowledge and insightful words. The anchors for the event, Vanya and Mishti impressed everyone with their impeccable speaking skills.

Anchoring an event as important as Republic Day is a big responsibility. Being given such a huge opportunity as first time anchors was both exciting and overwhelming for Vanya and Mishti. This was the first time the first years were anchoring Republic Day, so there were high expectations from them and the anchors were under a lot of pressure to be up to the mark and uphold the reputation earned by their seniors.

The event was supposed to be anchored in both Hindi and English, so it was a bit hard for them to switch between the languages while making sure they did not stutter over any word. There were a few hindi words they were having difficulty in pronouncing. The anchors also found impromptu lines challenging. Regardless of this, they rolled their sleeves, wrote a good script and practiced for weeks to make sure their dialogue delivery was smooth and perfect.

The event was a little chaotic and did not go as smoothly as planned. The unfurling of the flag took more time than usual because it was tied too tight. There was a little technical issue when the music stopped playing during the dance performance. But the anchors did not let it bother them. They did not freeze or panic, instead they stayed calm and focused on the rest of the event. They gave the ongoing event all their energy and attention and did not let it drift even once throughout the event. The anchors gave their all to the event and made sure to leave the trails of their words in the minds of the audience.

While recounting the event, Mishti shared how exciting her experience was. "The entire event felt so warm and encouraging because of the supportive seniors whose guidance made me feel comfortable on the stage. I am so grateful to have been given such a great opportunity."

For Vanya this was more than a great experience. It was a learning experience. "Anchoring this event was not only an unforgettable experience but it taught me adaptability, teamwork and clear communication. Anchoring Pool played a great role in reinforcing my confidence in public speaking. And I carry forward these new range of skills with pride and hope to do an even better job in future."

Their hard work, determination and excellence became a motivation and benchmark for their fellow members. Through this event, everyone realised the great importance of patience and relentless practice to be a good orator.

24TH FEBRUARY, 2026

MAC CUP' 2026



Maharaja Agrasen College Cup, or MAC CUP, is a week-long sports competition among the different colleges. The closing ceremony of the MAC CUP was organised on 24th February. This was a prize distribution ceremony to honour the hardwork, team spirit and passion of the players. It was the college's honour to host Mr. Gaurav Bidhuri, the international boxer, who was the chief guest who shared his success journey with the young players. The event was anchored with patience and resilience by Rashi and Awantika.

The anchors were only informed a day prior about the event. Giving them just one day to prepare the script and practice their dialogue delivery. This was their first event, so naturally they were both a little nervous about it, scared of messing up. The anchors did not have a POC and had to correspond directly with the teachers. Rashi had gotten sick the day of the event and there were tons of last minute changes. One of the guests backed out at the last minute and the other sent a representative from his company. The anchors were informed about this change only fifteen minutes before the event started.

Despite it all, the anchors smoothly overcame every hurdle in their way and gracefully anchored the closing ceremony. There was an obvious chemistry between the two anchors. They had great understanding and supported each other throughout the whole process. Both the anchors trusted each other and their script. In spite of being uncomfortable with anchoring in Hindi and struggling with hard words, the anchors did not stutter even once. They spoke gracefully and impressed the audience with their charisma and poise.

There was no chaos during the event because of their smooth anchoring and presence of mind during the event. Rashi shared her experience after the event saying, "Anchoring the MAC Cup was a really exciting experience for me. I was really nervous seeing the loud crowd but slowly I got confident and enjoyed handling the stage. The energy of the audience was really infectious and kept me motivated and excited throughout the event. I was really proud and got more confident than before."

Awantika talked about the importance of having a supportive co-anchor, "Because of this event I realised the importance of having someone to cheer for you and having an amazing co-anchor. I am pretty sure I would've messed up if it wasn't for Rashi. I was so nervous but she inspired me with her fortitude and her eagerness to anchor despite being sick. I learned so much from my first experience and am determined to do a better job in future."

These anchors are proof that it doesn't matter if the event is on short notice, as long as you are resilient you can conquer any challenge. Presence of mind and resilience are one of the most important and admired qualities of an anchor and public speaker. Without fortitude and quick-wittedness, the speakers lose their charm, impact and charisma.



SWARAGI

Septune : The Music Society

Septune, the music society of Maharaja Agrasen College successfully organized SWARAGI, a semi-classical and Bollywood light group singing competition, on 26th February, 2026. The event celebrated the richness of raag, sur, and soulful harmonies, as talented performers filled the stage with passion and musical expression. The entire atmosphere resonated with melody and emotion, creating a space where music connected both performers and the audience beautifully.

The event was graced by the presence of Mrs Rashmi Gupta, a distinguished Hindustani Classical and Light Music artist, as the esteemed judge. Her valuable insights and encouraging words added great value to the event and inspired every performer on stage to give their best. The event was gracefully anchored by Neha and Rudrakshi, whose confident and engaging presence kept the audience connected throughout. Despite multiple delays and moments of chaos among participants, both anchors maintained their calm and composure, ensuring that the flow of the event remained intact without affecting their delivery.

For Rudrakshi, this event marked a significant milestone as it was her first anchoring experience in college. She shared that “I was quite nervous at first, but with constant support, I gradually found my rhythm and confidence on stage.” She also reflected on the challenges, mentioning that “the event got delayed and participants started feeling frustrated,” but in that moment she understood the true role of an anchor, to “stay calm, composed, and maintain a constant smile despite the pressure.” By the end, she felt “more confident than ever,” making it a deeply rewarding learning experience.

Similarly, Neha expressed that “Swaragi was more than just an event, it was a learning experience.” Being her first anchoring opportunity, she learned “how to stay calm even in stressful situations, even when things don’t go as planned.” Despite the delays and challenges, she shared that “we managed to perform confidently and give our best on stage,” making it an experience she will always remember and pass on to her juniors.

The words of both the anchors reflect how this event was not just about hosting, but about growth, learning, and adaptability. From handling pressure to building confidence, SWARAGI became a platform where anchors discovered their true potential. From an anchoring perspective, the event stood as a perfect example of grace under pressure, proving that even amidst delays and challenges, a strong stage presence and composure can turn any situation into a successful and memorable experience.





YUVAAN INAUGRAL

ECA Committee



On 26th February 2026, a wave of excitement swept through Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi, as Yuvaan'26 unfolded with a spectacular beginning. The opening ceremony marked the commencement of the much-awaited fest, setting the tone for the days to follow.The ceremony was graced by eminent dignitaries whose presence added great significance to the occasion, including Shri Ashish Sood, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of the Government of NCT, and Prof. Balaram Pani, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi. Their presence elevated the importance of the event and added a formal grace to the celebration.

One of the most captivating highlights of the event was the Bhajan Clubbing presentation by Team NaadAura, where devotional melodies beautifully merged with high-energy rhythms, creating a mesmerizing fusion. The performance stood out as a unique blend of tradition and modernity, capturing the true spirit of cultural expression. Guiding the ceremony with remarkable ease and energy were the anchors, Utkarsh and Tanishka, who carried the responsibility of engaging the audience and maintaining the flow of the event. Alongside them, Ankit lit up the stage with his powerful speech on the Indian Knowledge System, leaving a strong impression with his words and delivery.



However, unlike what appeared on paper, the on-ground reality of the event came with its own set of challenges. As the ceremony began, a large section of the audience started moving out towards refreshments, leading to a situation where neither students nor teachers were fully present to witness the proceedings. From an anchoring perspective, this created an unusual and difficult environment, where maintaining energy on stage without a stable audience became the real test. Despite this, both Utkarsh and Tanishka did not let the circumstances affect their performance. Without any complaints, they continued to anchor with grace and composure, focusing on their responsibility rather than the distractions around them. Their ability to carry forward the event, even while the audience remained in constant movement, reflected their professionalism and dedication towards anchoring.

Amidst this shifting atmosphere, Ankit's speech managed to draw moments of attention, earning applause and appreciation despite the ongoing movement. His impactful delivery ensured that even in a challenging setup, the essence of his message reached the audience. Another hurdle during the event was a brief 10-minute pause caused due to the soundcheck for the Bhajan Clubbing performance. Such unexpected gaps often test the spontaneity and patience of anchors, and this moment was no different. Yet, the anchors handled the situation calmly, maintaining continuity without letting the disruption reflect on stage.

The event, though faced with practical challenges, highlighted an important aspect of anchoring, performing not just for the audience present, but for the responsibility one holds on stage. While the ceremony may not have received the full attention it deserved, the efforts of the anchors and speakers remained consistent and commendable. In the end, Yuvaan'26 was officially set into motion, marking the beginning of a vibrant fest. From an anchoring perspective, this event stood as a lesson in resilience, professionalism, and grace under pressure, proving that true stage presence is not defined by the size or stillness of the audience, but by the commitment of those who hold the mic.





AAMAD

Nataraj: The Indian Classical Dance Society

On 26 February 2026, one of the most graceful segments of the annual cultural fest Yuvaan returned with its own quiet charm. Aamad, the solo classical dance competition organised by Nataraj, the Dance Society of Maharaja Agrasen College, unfolded at the Portico, bringing with it an atmosphere that felt deeply rooted in tradition yet alive with expression.

Unlike the high-energy events that thrive on loud cheers and constant movement, this event carried a calm intensity of its own. The audience was drawn in not by noise, but by the depth of every performance. Each dancer stepped on stage with years of practice, discipline and emotion, turning every movement into a story. There was a certain stillness in the air, where even silence felt meaningful, and the audience responded with quiet appreciation that matched the grace of the performances.

The event was anchored by Kashish Thakur from the Anchoring Pool along with Shivangini from Nataraj. Coming from different societies, they had to quickly find a shared rhythm on stage, much like the dancers they were introducing. As the date of the event approached, there was a sense of responsibility that came along. For Kashish, being in her first year and anchoring during her very first fest added a layer of nervousness and excitement at the same time. It was not just about speaking on stage but about proving her ability to hold that space with confidence. Anchoring Aamad was not as simple as it seemed. It required a completely different approach where energy had to be controlled, words had to be chosen carefully and the tone had to align with the essence of classical dance. There were small delays, moments of uncertainty and the natural pressure of maintaining the flow of such a composed event. Adjusting to each other's style while ensuring smooth transitions was something that demanded presence of mind at every step.



Despite all of this, the anchors managed to keep the event flowing with ease. Their coordination gradually found its pace, and what started with slight nervousness turned into a composed and confident presence on stage. They understood that the focus should always remain on the performers, and they beautifully complemented the performances rather than overpowering them. The fillers, transitions and overall engagement were handled in a way that felt natural and unforced. As the event progressed, it became more than just hosting. It turned into a learning curve where real growth happened on stage itself. Handling nerves, adapting to unexpected situations and maintaining composure throughout helped in building a stronger sense of confidence. It reflected how anchoring is not just about preparation but about how well one can respond in the moment.

The event concluded on a fulfilling and graceful note. Aamad stood as a reminder that not every impactful experience needs to be loud. Sometimes, it is the quietest stages that leave the deepest impression. Reflecting on her experience, Kashish shared, "Aamad was a great learning experience for me. It was my first year in the society, my first fest, and I had to anchor an event. It was a bit difficult to handle the nerves, but my lovely and supportive seniors made it much easier for me. I really loved it." Her words capture the essence of the event, a journey of growth, support and stepping beyond one's comfort zone. From an anchoring perspective, this was not just an event but an experience that shaped confidence and created memories that will stay for a long time.

KARWAAN

Qissa: The Photography and Film Making Society



Some events pass by and you don't really think about them again. And then there are some that just stay with you for a while. Karwaan 2026 was one of those. Organised by Qissa, the filmmaking and photography society of Maharaja Agrasen College, under the aegis of Yuvaan'26, it brought together the DU circuit in a way that felt very real and full of life.
It wasn't just about performances or competition. It was more about the kind of stories that make you pause for a second, or sit quietly even after they end. Each film had its own space in the room. Some made everything go silent, some got quick reactions, but all of them left something behind. For those few hours, it didn't really feel like a competition. It just felt like a space where people were sharing something that mattered to them.

The event took place on 26th February in Room No. 237, with Samarth Jain as the judge. It was anchored by Lagan Saini and Saumya Dwivedi, who handled the stage with a kind of ease and confidence that made everything feel put together. It never felt overdone or forced, it just felt right for the moment. From the audience side, everything seemed smooth and well-paced, like it was all naturally falling into place. But obviously, there was a lot more going on behind that.



The theme came in at the last moment, so there wasn't really time to sit and prepare properly. The script kept changing, and after every performance, the anchors had to respond right there, on the spot, and still keep it connected to the theme. It wasn't something you could fully plan. It had to be handled as it came. What looked easy from the outside was actually being figured out continuously in the moment.

As the event went on, the energy in the room kept building. The audience was loud, involved, and genuinely enjoying it, which made the whole atmosphere more alive but also a bit unpredictable at times. There were moments where things slightly slipped or got a little chaotic, and those were the moments that needed actual control. The anchors managed to bring the focus back without making it obvious or awkward, and that's where the whole experience started to feel different. It stopped being about saying the right lines and became more about staying aware, reading the room, and just holding things together.

After the event, this was something that even reflected in what the anchors felt about it. Lagan Saini mentioned that a lot of things didn't really go as planned, but that's also what made the event feel more real and engaging. Saumya Dwivedi shared that dealing with constant last-minute changes on stage was not easy, but it pushed her to trust herself more and made the whole experience feel more meaningful by the end of it.

In the end, what really stayed wasn't how perfect everything looked, but how it was managed. Because in anchoring and public speaking, it's honestly not about getting every word right. It's more about staying there, staying composed, and making sure things still come together, even when they're not going exactly the way you thought they would.





XUBERANCE

Natraj : The Indian Classical Dance Society

On 27 February 2026, the biggest flagship event of the annual cultural college fest - Yuvaan, was back again with a bang Xuberance - the western group dance competition organised by Natraj, the dance society of College. This event always pulls the audience in large numbers towards the auditorium. The anchors who were finalized to anchor the event were Ronak - the editorial head and Ishaan Goyal - the logistics head. As the members of the core team were the anchors, they had to set a new benchmark in the society and leave a lasting impression on the audience. The anchors of the event had a good bond beyond the society which was an essential factor for making the anchoring successful for the event. Anchoring Xuberance is no joke as this is the most informal event where the audience are difficult to manage, the execution of the event is not a cake walk and the confidence to carry throughout the event has always been a tough task.

As the dates of the event were near, the mental pressure was a challenge to deal with for the anchors. Constant changes in the event structure, communication gaps with the organisers, the self doubts raising questions on the capability of anchors to deliver their best on the stage, this wasn't going to be an easy deal for sure. The most innovative thing which they both carried for the event was that whatever they will say, it will all be unscripted. They did prepare some parts which were necessary but their main focus was to get the audience's attention towards them naturally, not forced. Everyone sitting in the audience was getting restless and eagerly waiting for the event to start but behind the curtains, the anchors were clueless about how they would manage to be the centre of attraction on stage. One thing which kept them together is that they both knew that they were nervous and tense but their buddy is there to support them on stage.

The event started, audience cheered for anchors and they started to show all their potential on stage through their anchoring. All the experience of these 3 years in the society was fully utilised on stage which kept the audience hooked throughout the event. The sudden changes, the delays in performances, the fillers and on spot lines delivery were swiftly handled despite so much mismanagement and frustration behind the stage.

The main thing which made this day memorable was the anchor's special performance. Both anchors showed that they are not only good speakers or anchors but they also got some moves to flaunt. The wittiness, the humour, the comic timing, the creativity in speaking and of course the dance, all these together made the event an unforgettable experience for the audience.

The event ended on a very successful note. They've justified the trust of the other core members and the expectations of every junior of society but deep down more than that, they both justified their friendship in this event that together they can make anything possible against all the odds. After the event, Ishaan Goyal said that " Never felt such intense pressure as this event but going through it for a continuous 4 hours really changed my outlook on informal events. Although, looking back have realised that I do need to work on my skills as an orator on a stage". These words by him show that no matter how excellent you work, always be keen to improve yourself and be a better version of yourself everyday. While on the other hand, Ronak said that "This was my first and last event in the auditorium,that day where everything was getting messed up, I still managed to shine bright on stage. The words of both the anchors show how important the event was and how gracefully they've managed to anchor with charm on stage. From the Anchoring point of view, this event was something different which no one could have ever imagined.



ATELIER

Meraki : The English Theatre Society

This is not where stories are told.
This is where they bleed, break,
and breathe.
And if you dare, they become you.







Meraki-The English theatre society of Maharaja Agrasen College , University of Delhi under the aegis of annual fest of Yuvaan, organised Atelier- the English theatre festival on 27th of February 2026.
The event wasn't just about acting; it was about portraying raw emotion, real issues, and unforgettable storytelling all wrapped in drama that kept the audience hooked from start to finish.
The event was anchored by Yashvi from the Anchoring Pool on behalf of Meraki and Shubham, a decorated member of team Meraki.
Atelier was more than a competition, it was a celebration of voices, emotions, and the beautiful chaos of theatre.
Words have the power to connect hearts and make everyone hear them, and when the words are said in the right way, it becomes a pure melody of understanding and interest amongst the audience, and that's exactly what the anchors did. Despite having a compact audience, the anchors made sure that even if the gathering of the auditorium was low, it was engaging. Apart from it , anchors faced many other hurdles like multiple changes in the script at the end moment and time shortage, anchors stood out and performed collectively well. They didn't just rule the stage, they lived their moment.
Anchoring is not only about speaking, but about owning the stage, and making the audience engaged no matter how huge or compact the crowd is.



DRESS TO IMPRESS

Srijan: The Art & Craft Society



Creativity is one of the most powerful tools possessed by humans that can turn limitless possibilities and imaginations into reality. This was the driving force behind Dress to Impress hosted by Srijan, the arts and crafts society of Maharaja Agrasen College, as part of Yuvaan'26, the annual fest of MAC. The event, organised on 27th February in room number 3, was a newspaper gala where participants transformed dull newspapers into beautiful and creative dresses, presenting them through an elegant ramp walk.

The event was anchored with poise by Vanya and Tanisha, who charmed the audience with their smooth delivery and calm demeanor. Although the gala was a triumph, the anchors encountered a few challenges along the way. The anchors had written a good script and practiced tirelessly to ensure the event went smoothly. But during the event, they faced a lot of hurdles. Chaos ensued for the anchors as soon as the event started. The newspaper gala was supposed to be held at Audi Lobby, but was changed at the last moment to Quadrilateral Area. During the event, they were provided with only one mic, which made it a bit difficult to focus on the script while constantly exchanging the mic throughout the event. Amidst the pressure of managing the event, the organisers directly asked the anchors to make last minute changes during the event, rather than consulting with their POC.

There were quite a lot of miscommunications between the organisers and the anchors. But the anchors managed to rise above it all and impressed everyone with their smooth dialogue delivery.

Despite being nervous and frustrated, Vanya and Tanisha stayed calm and patient throughout the event. They handled these challenges in a composed and graceful manner. Their smiles never once dropped from their faces. They kept faith in their script, skills and co-anchor throughout the event. Not once did they stumble over their words. After the event, they both were left with an unforgettable memory and an experience of managing a chaotic event.

While talking about her experience, Tanisha said, "I felt really grateful to anchor such a vibrant and stylish event. Being on stage and keeping the momentum going was both exciting and fulfilling. I would love to be a part of such events again in future."

Vanya shared what an enriching experience this event was and how deeply it resonated with her, "Every aspiring anchor hopes to anchor a grand event and for me this opportunity came with Dress to Impress. From incorporating last minute changes to sustaining the energy and delivering engaging commentary during ramp walk, every moment helped me refine my skills and grow into a more confident and adaptable anchor."

These anchors are proof that resilience and persistence are two of the most valuable qualities of an anchor. Dress to Impress became an unforgettable learning experience for them. They learned how to stay calm in the face of difficulty and tackle the hurdles seamlessly. It taught them that despite the chaos, it is very important for an anchor to keep a composed and polite front. After all, public speaking and anchoring is all about keeping a calm front even when everything is on fire.



BATTLE OF BANDS

Septune : The Music Society

There is something about music that instantly transforms the atmosphere, turning a simple gathering into a shared experience of energy and connection. This came alive during Battle of Bands, organised by Septune, the music society of Maharaja Agrasen College, as part of the college's annual cultural fest, Yuvaan. The event took place at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Auditorium on 28th February 2026, judged by Dr. Sumeet Anand Pandey and Dr. Kumar Gaurav, whose expertise and insights in music added depth to the competition, giving bands from different colleges a platform to showcase their talent and win hearts.

The evening was anchored by Aatif Khan and Harshika, whose lively presence and chemistry kept the audience engaged and responsive. Their energy set the tone for the event, creating an environment filled with excitement, applause and anticipation.Through their effortless stage presence, they made everyone feel involved in every performance, turning the auditorium into a lively space filled with claps, cheers, and hoots. However, like any live event, there were challenges; the event did not unfold exactly as planned. There was a delayed start, and out of six registered bands, only two could perform which was disheartening for both the organisers and the anchors. Along with this, scripting issues and last-minute changes added to the pressure of managing the event within a limited timeframe.

Despite these challenges, the anchors handled the stage with calmness and confidence. Their spontaneity, coordination and natural interaction with the audience helped maintain the flow of the event. They adapted quickly and ensured that the disruptions behind the scenes did not reflect on stage, keeping the energy intact throughout. Reflecting on her experience, Harshika shared, "The Battle of Bands was a memorable experience for me. Being my first informal anchoring event, it was both exciting and challenging. We faced scripting issues and last-minute changes, but it taught me to stay calm, be more open on stage, and handle situations positively. Even though things were a bit chaotic, the event turned out well. I'm grateful to my co-anchor for the constant support and smooth coordination."

Overall, the event turned into a valuable learning experience, highlighting that true stage presence lies in adaptability, confidence and the ability to handle the unexpected with ease. Their experience became a lesson in patience and resilience, showing that anchoring is not just about preparation or perfect delivery, it is about keeping the energy alive, thinking on your feet, and managing the stage with grace. In the end, Battle of Bands was more than a musical competition. For the audience, it was a great experience, and for the anchors, it was a reminder that enthusiasm, adaptability and composure can turn any challenge into a memorable experience.





KATHAKAAR

ANCHORING POOL: THE ANCHORING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SOCIETY

Stories have always found a way to touch people's hearts. Not only do stories entertain people but it's also a great way to pass on traditions. And this time these stories have acted as a bridge to pass on the legacy of Anchoring Pool, the anchoring and public speaking society of Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi under the annual fest of Yuvaan through Kathakaar- The storytelling competition held on 28th February, 2026 in the conference room. Kathakaar unfolded as an engaging on the spot story telling competition, designed across three dynamic rounds that tested participants on spontaneity, creativity, and oratory finesse, judged by a versatile actress, director, acting coach and voice over artist, Mrs. Madhumita Manvi.

The event was anchored by Dhanya Kaushik and Navya Rana, who added a distinctive theatrical dimension to the anchoring of the competition. Rather than limiting themselves to conventional hosting, they took on the challenge of aligning their anchoring style with the theme of storytelling. They crafted an overarching narrative of two former was both compelling and ambitious. However, bringing this concept to life demanded more than creativity. It required careful integration into the entire script so that the narrative sounded organically integrated rather than appearing as disconnected element. Each segment had to transition seamlessly, ensuring that the story remained consistent and engaging throughout the event. Beyond scripting, the real test unfolded on stage, where it had to sound and even look convincing. Throughout the event, the anchors seamlessly carried forward this narrative while managing the flow of the competition. Their ability to blend storytelling with anchoring brought a fresh perspective to the stage and was widely appreciated by the audience.



Reflecting on the experience, Navya shared, “Looking back, we do feel there were moments where we could have done better, but the appreciation and feedback we received truly made all the effort worthwhile. I learned a lot, and am yet to learn more.”Similarly, Dhanya acknowledged the learning curve that came with the performance, saying, “While we did make a few mistakes, I believe they were essential to our growth. The on-the-spot changes pushed us out of our comfort zone and taught us the importance of not depending entirely on a script. Overall, it was an incredibly fun and enriching experience.”



This experience also highlighted an important learning curve ...which is to never rely on the script completely. As the anchors ...had practiced their starting theatrical gig to the point of ...perfection, they were able to deliver it smoothly but the later ....live moments which demand spontaneity, like the on- ..the-spot changes were a slight hiccup in their excellence. They did stumble there, but as first-time anchors, it .....became an important learning experience to build ...confidence in their words, whether well-rehearsed or ...spoken spontaneously just moments before taking the ...stage. Their journey on stage reflected not just performance, but growth - embracing both ...preparation and spontaneity with equal courage. And .that’s the beauty of the stage, it makes you shine but also makes you learn.

SPIC MACAY



Cinema has always been more than just moving images. It is memory, philosophy, and emotion stitched together into timeless frames. Though sometimes today's cinema may not reflect the depth once enjoyed. Hence, it's necessary to once in a while deep down into the classic old movies and make our minds twist and turn with "What just happened?" It was in this very spirit that SPIC MACAY society for the promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth unfolded an event called Cinema Classics that wasn't just a screening, but an intellectual and cultural immersion. Under the banner of Virasat 2026, an evocative journey began with the screening of Rashomon, the legendary masterpiece by Akira Kurosawa. Known for its fragmented storytelling and exploration of truth from various perspectives, the film set the tone for an evening steeped in introspection and layered narratives.

The screening transformed the space into more than just a viewing hall, it became a crossroads of perspectives. As the story unfolded on screen, so did a deeper engagement within the audience, prompting them to question the nature of truth, perception, and human ego.

The session was further elevated by Prof. Vinod Verma, whose insightful deconstruction of the film guided the audience through its philosophical complexities, turning passive viewing into active contemplation.

At the heart of this seamless experience stood the anchor, Dhanya Kaushik. Anchoring an event of such intellectual depth demands more than eloquence; it requires sensitivity, timing, and an intuitive grasp of the audience's pulse. With remarkable poise, she navigated the transitions, held together diverse segments, and ensured that the narrative of the evening never fractured, much like the very theme of the film itself. In her own words, she said, " Much like the film with different perspectives of one truth, every event anchored is viewed differently by each and every audience. But the genuine feedback is the feeling that you get after the event. If it's happiness and pride, then you know you have done it right. And that's exactly what I felt because this time the event went perfectly well without any mishappenings. The impromptu was also executed as if it was not given on the spot."



Being the face of an event, especially while representing another society, means that what unfolds on stage is only the tip of the iceberg. The execution in those few spotlight moments has to be flawless, composed, and engaging, because the anchor becomes the voice and identity of the entire experience.Yet, what the audience witnesses is built upon days of unseen effort. The days leading up to The events are often just as demanding. Filled with constant coordination, revisions, and the quiet pressure of proving one's capability. From seeking approvals from heads to refining scripts, from aligning with the vision of the organizing team to rehearsing transitions, every step requires persistence and precision. It is in this behind-the-scenes hustle that an anchor truly earns their place on stage. The confidence seen under the lights is not instant; it is carefully constructed through preparation, resilience, and the determination to justify the trust placed in them. Thus, a great event requires precision, practice, and confidence all mixed to make a perfect potion.

VIRASAT '26

In a world that moves fast, the Kathakali recital, organised by SPIC MACAY as part of its Virasat'26 series at Maharaja Agrasen College, felt like a pause everyone needed. It slowed things down and quietly pulled the audience into a kind of storytelling that doesn't depend on words. The recital didn't rush. It unfolded. Every expression, every small gesture meant something, and even if you didn't understand the language, you could still feel what was being said. As it went on, the auditorium grew quieter, not because people lost interest, but because they were fully in it, watching, understanding, feeling. The event was held on 19th March in the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Auditorium and was graced by Thiruvattar Jagadheesan, whose presence itself felt powerful. The way he performed, through expressions and movement, made the stories come alive in a way that didn't need explanation. The event was anchored by Mishti Kapoor and Neha Bisht, who kept things moving naturally and held everything together without making it feel forced. From the audience, it all looked smooth, but there were a few small challenges in the background that never really showed. At the start, the anchors were a little nervous, especially with having to come up with lines on the spot and adjust to last-minute changes. But their coordination helped a lot. They had each other's back, and that made a difference. As the event went on, they settled in, found their rhythm, and became more comfortable. There was a small slip while pronouncing the chief guest's name, but it was handled so calmly that most people didn't even notice it.



The auditorium wasn't completely full, and the energy wasn't loud or overwhelming, but it had its own feel. Since hooting wasn't allowed, the reactions were quieter, but that didn't mean people weren't engaged. If anything, it made the attention more real. People were watching closely, picking up on details, staying present. It was the kind of silence that tells you people are actually paying attention.

Looking back, Mishti Kapoor shared that being part of Virasat felt like an important step in her anchoring journey, especially since it was her first time anchoring in an auditorium. From working on the script to finally seeing everything come together on stage, the whole experience felt rewarding. The support from seniors and appreciation from teachers meant a lot to her. Neha Bisht also described her first auditorium anchoring experience as something special. She expected to feel nervous, but surprisingly, she wasn't. There were a few moments during transitions that felt a bit overwhelming, but they managed them well, and everything flowed smoothly. She expressed her gratitude to her POC and the society for the constant support and the opportunity.



In the end, what stayed was not just the performance, but how everything came together. Despite the small challenges behind the scenes, it all felt smooth and almost effortless from the outside. It was a reminder that in anchoring and public speaking, it's not about getting everything perfect, it's about how you handle things when they don't go exactly as planned. Because what people see is not the pressure behind it, but the confidence with which it's carried.

SPIC MACAY



Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst the Youth (SPIC MACAY) of Maharaja Agrasen College , University of Delhi under the aegis of the annual fest ,Virasat , organised Kathak Recital on 18th March 2026.
Virasat was a four day festival which celebrated music , art and the culture of India. The event was graced by the renowned Kathak maestro Pandit Rajendra Gangani, whose presence as the guest performer itself elevated the significance of the recital. The auditorium was alive with the soft ringing of ghungroos. Words attained their own strength through the anchors.

Kathak is considered one of the prominent forms of classical Indian dance. It is characterized by the complex footwork, rich narrative qualities, and graceful movements performed by the dancers. In Kathak, there is a harmonious blend of rhythms, emotions, and techniques, which makes each performance an impressive sight to see due to the beautiful sounds of the dancer’s ghungroos and spins.

The Kathak recital was anchored by Sarika Chauhan and Rashi Lakhmani,The anchoring an auditorium event for the very first time in their lives. It was the anchors whose main job was to connect with the audience at large, engage and emotionally connect them with the performance.
Anchoring a classical recital is not merely about announcements. It demands sensitivity, composure, and an understanding of the art form. Rashi, a first-year student, approached the experience with calmness and grace. She describes it as a peaceful and memorable journey, where the cultural atmosphere made her more aware of her responsibility as a speaker.Her effort to maintain a soft and respectful tone reflected not just preparation, but a genuine connection with the essence of Kathak. Watching the performance live while hosting allowed her to immerse herself in the art, making her presence on stage feels natural and sincere.



For Sarika, a second-year student, the experience carried a deeper emotional intensity. From scripting to execution, her journey was filled with moments of exhaustion, pressure, and growth. Managing responsibilities across two consecutive events while anchoring the first day tested her resilience. Despite last-minute changes and backstage instructions, she chose to take the lead, ensuring her co-anchor was not overwhelmed. In that chaos, there were moments of imperfection, but also moments of courage. What stood out was not the absence of mistakes but the strength to continue without hesitation. She also acknowledged Rashi’s composure and adaptability, appreciating the ease with which her co-anchor handled sudden changes.
Together, Sarika and Rashi created a balance of energy and calm, structure and fluidity. Their anchoring did not overshadow the performance but complemented it, allowing the recital to unfold seamlessly.
In an event defined by tradition and artistic brilliance, the anchors became the subtle thread that held everything together. Their voices did not compete with the rhythm of ghungroos, but rather flowed alongside it, reminding us that anchoring, much like dance, is an art of presence, timing, and expression.

VIRASAT '26

On 20th March 2026, under the serene umbrella of Virasat'26, the SPICMACAY Society brought to Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi, an evening immersed in the depth of Hindustani classical instrumental music. The recital featured Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori, a torchbearer of the 300-year-old Sopori-Sufiana Gharana of Kashmir, whose music beautifully carried forward a rich and soulful legacy shaped by generations.

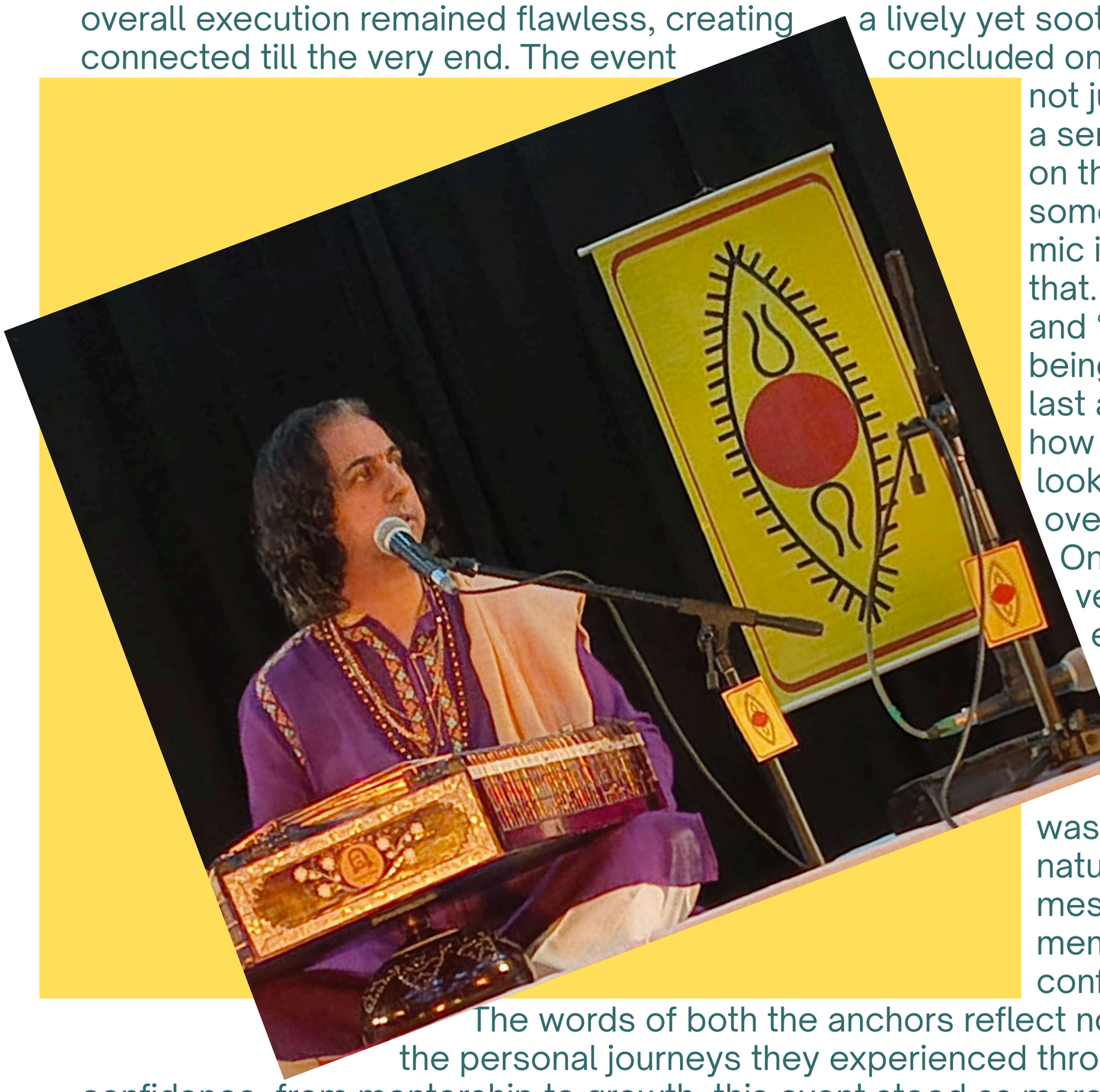


SANTOOR RECITAL
March 20,2026

The anchors for the evening, Adil and Siya, brought this musical journey to life with their composed presence and seamless coordination. Their natural connection with the audience added a distinctive warmth to the event. As members of the Anchoring Pool, they carried the responsibility of maintaining the essence of such a culturally rich evening while ensuring the audience remained engaged throughout. While the event appeared smooth and effortless on the surface, the journey leading up to it had its own set of challenges. With it being Adil's first event in the society, the preparation phase became a space of both learning and growth. Siya, being a senior and in her final year, not only focused on her own delivery but also guided her co-anchor through the nuances of anchoring, from pitch and tone to stage presence and audience connection.

The real test, however, came on the day of the event when almost half of their script had to be reworked at the last moment. Amid the rush and uncertainty, maintaining composure was not easy. Yet, somewhere between the pressure and their dedication, they found their rhythm and carried the event forward with confidence and grace.

As the event began, their calm energy reflected on stage. Their transitions were smooth, their delivery confident, and their chemistry evident in every segment. The performances were well-structured, and the overall execution remained flawless, creating a lively yet soothing atmosphere that kept the audience connected till the very end. The event concluded on a highly successful note, leaving behind not just appreciation from the audience but also a sense of fulfillment for the anchors. Reflecting on the experience, Siya shared that "there are some moments that stay with you long after the mic is off," and for her, this event was exactly that. She described it as "a full circle moment" and "a perfect end to a journey," especially being her first auditorium event as well as her last as a core member. She also expressed how "the journey wasn't as smooth as it looked" and how the last-minute changes felt overwhelming, yet meaningful in the end.



On the other hand, Adil admitted that "I was very excited but also a little scared," especially performing alongside a senior. However, as the event progressed, "slowly I got comfortable on stage," and what started as nervousness turned into enjoyment. He shared how "my co-anchor was supportive, and everything just flowed naturally," and described the recital as "truly mesmerizing," making it one of his most memorable days while helping him gain confidence and learn immensely.

The words of both the anchors reflect not just the success of the event but also the personal journeys they experienced through it. From handling pressure to building confidence, from mentorship to growth, this event stood as more than just a recital. It became a moment of learning, connection, and quiet achievement.

From an anchoring perspective, this evening was a beautiful blend of composure, coordination, and cultural depth. It was not just about hosting an event, but about holding space for art, tradition, and emotion and doing it with grace.

YUVA KUMBH

On 24th March, Maharaja Agrasen College organised Yuva Kumbh at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Auditorium. The Chief Guest for the event, Major General Vinod Kumar Tiwari and special guest for the event, Shri Satish Kumar shared their invaluable experience and insights about Atmanirbhar Bharat. The event also celebrated 100 years of RSS. This event was anchored by Anuradha and Utkarsh. They impressed the guests with their charming personality and graceful anchoring.



As the coordinators of Anchoring Pool, Anuradha and Utkarsh had to set a mark for their juniors and fellow members. They wanted to give their best to uplift not only their, but the society's image. Despite the challenges they faced, they did not falter even once.

The announcement of Yuva Kumbh happened on 20th March which meant that they only had four days to prepare for the event. They practiced day and night to make sure the event went smoothly.

Being friends prior to the event helped them, because chemistry and understanding between anchors is one of the most vital things while anchoring an event. They understood each other's strengths and weaknesses and helped each other through the event.

Even after having only four days to prepare, they proved that they are the senior members of Anchoring Pool with their smooth delivery, voice modulation and patient demeanor. Something that was noticed by not just the audience but the guests as well. Shri Satish Kumar especially praised Anuradha on stage for the graceful way she spoke.





There was a moment when most of the crowd was filtering out of the room. The guests and principal got a bit tense and impatient at the time, but not the anchors. They stayed calm and composed and politely requested everyone to stay back and maintain the decorum of the event. Something that was heavily praised by the guests.

Anuradha and Utkarsh set the bar high for the rest of the members. Through hard work, resilience, and patience, they proved that an anchor or public speaker is not just someone who reads off a pre-written script. But someone who stays composed, calm, and poised even during tense situations.

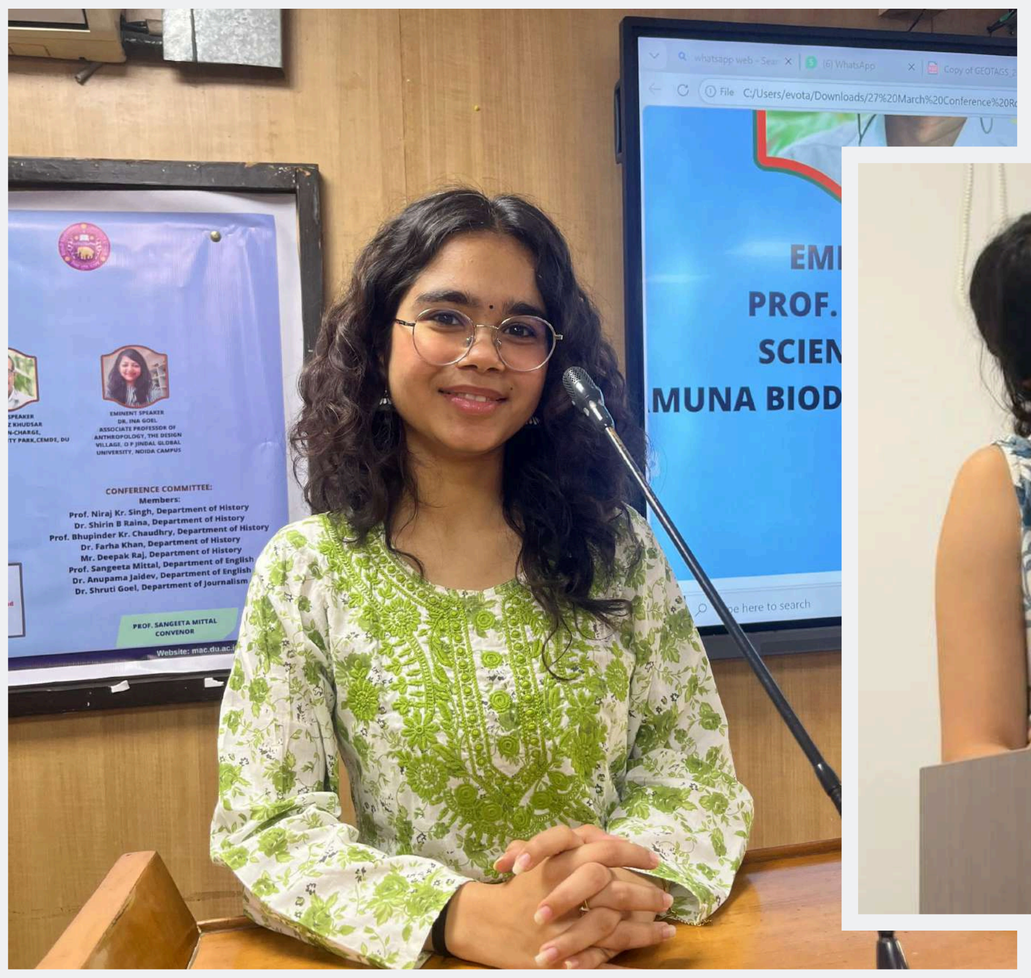
ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

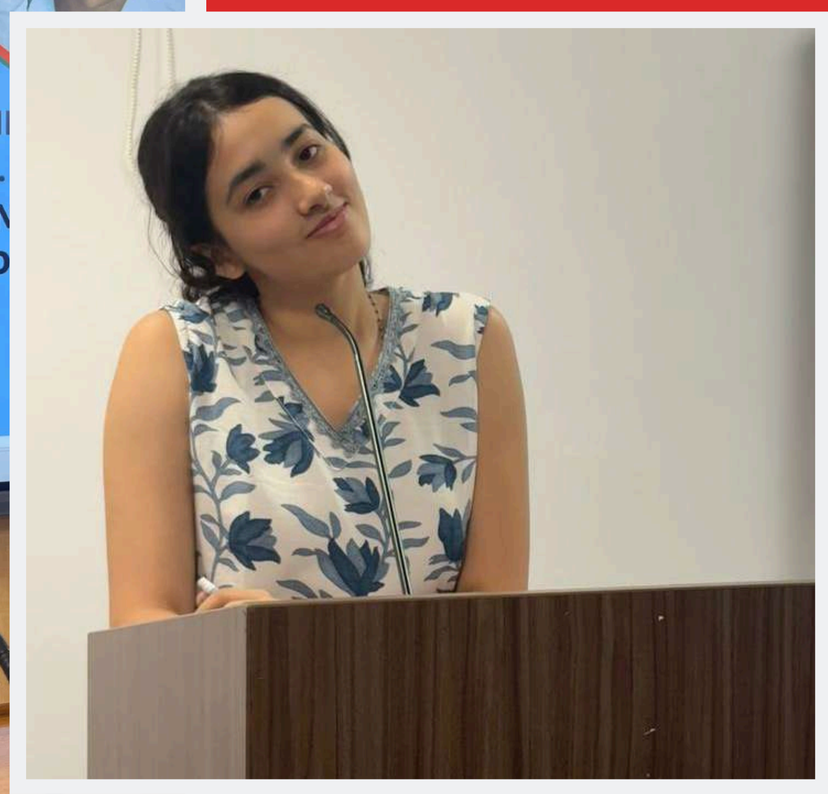
Some spaces don’t just hold conversations, they spark them. The National Seminar on Indian Knowledge System and Heritage Traditions, organised by the Departments of History and English of Maharaja Agrasen College, was one of those spaces. Held on 27th March, it brought together voices that didn’t just present ideas, but questioned them, explored them, and left you thinking even after the sessions ended.

The seminar was graced by Chief Guest Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra, Member Secretary of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, whose presence added real depth to the event. The keynote address by Dr. Anand Burdhan set the tone for the day, while speakers like Prof. Faiyaz Khudsar and Dr. Ina Goyal made the discussions feel engaging and meaningful, not just academic.

The day ended with the valedictory session, anchored by Lagan Saini, who brought everything together with ease. Prof. Baldev Bhai Sharma’s address gave a thoughtful close, making it feel less like an ending and more like a moment to reflect on everything that had been shared.







Behind all of this, things were not as smooth as they seemed. The anchors were informed just two days before, the The script kept changing, and What was initially planned as a joint anchoring by Saumya And Rudrakshi had to be split because of the number of paper presentations. It was a sudden shift, but they handled it calmly, without letting it show. Looking back, Rudrakshi Rautela described it as a last-minute opportunity she was glad she took, one that taught her to stay adaptable. Saumya Dwivedi called it a strong learning experience, especially as it was her first solo anchoring from the society. Lagan Saini shared that she realised anchoring is not about reading from a script, but about connecting with the audience, and letting go of the script actually made her more confident on stage.

In the end, what really stayed was not just what was said, but how everything came together. It flowed in a way that felt natural. And maybe that’s what anchoring really is. Not about being perfect, but about being present, handling whatever comes your way, and still making it look effortless.

ALUMNI MEET

On 28th March, Maharaja Agrasen College held one of the most memorable events at the college ground, the Alumni Meet, organised by the Alumni Association. The incentive of the event was to celebrate the memories and nostalgia of the old graduates of the college.



Graduates who remember Maharaja Agrasen College as what it used to be were proud to see what their college has grown into. It was a celebration of the Alumni who have achieved great success in life and made the college proud. The event was graced by the presence of Mr. Manish Sharma, the president of Alumni Association and Dr. Debosmita Paul, the secretary of the Alumni Associatio Alumni Meet was anchored by Angel and Awantika, who impressed the audience with their poise and patience.

An event as grand and chaotic as Alumni Meet brings a lot of challenges for the anchors. The scripting process was the least stressful part of the whole ordeal. The anchors wrote a nice script and practiced it day and night to build chemistry with one another and ensure smooth dialogue delivery. The first bump on the road was the uncertainties. Every day, the organisers added or removed a segment from the event, and the anchors had to change their script accordingly. Even an hour before the event began, there were many changes that the anchors were asked to incorporate in their script.

Then there were multiple changes and additions that happened during the event. The anchors were a little frustrated but they kept a calm demeanor and didn't let their frustration affect their anchoring.

Although the event was filled with chaos, the anchors learned the importance of presence of mind through the Alumni Meet. They made a mistake here and there, but instead of regretting it throughout the event, they made the rest of the event better with their smooth and charming dialogue delivery. The anchors did not panic or stress about the changes or mistakes. Instead, they took a deep breath and continued with the event. They learned to be present in the moment at all times and how important it is to stay calm, no matter the chaos unfolding in front of them.



When pondering the event, Angel said, "This was my first event, and I was so glad to get the opportunity to anchor something as grand as the Alumni Meet. I was a little nervous before the event started, but as soon as I was on the stage, I felt a little confident. Despite the changes, I tried not to lose my confidence and stay calm. I enjoyed anchoring the event and look forward to doing more events and learning more in the future."



Awantika shared how she learned to be composed on stage even when she felt like crying. "This event was an amazing learning experience for me. I enjoyed the event, but at the same time, I was really frustrated because of so many last-minute changes. At one point, I got a bit teary-eyed. Still, I stayed composed and kept faith in Angel and our script. I was so grateful to anchor this event. I had a lot of fun and learned a lot about the importance of a calm demeanor while anchoring."

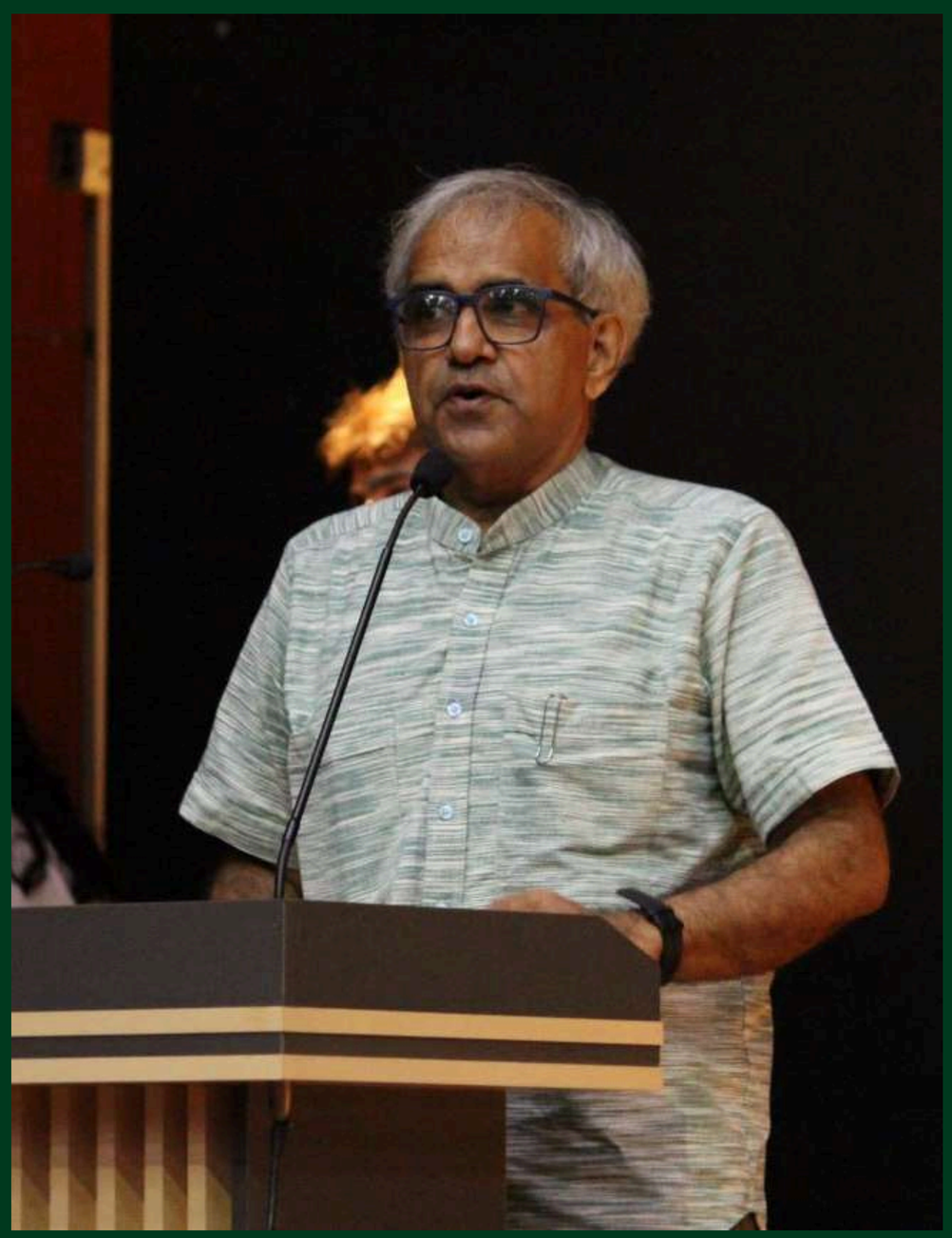
They learned that patience, composure, and situational awareness are the most vital qualities for anchoring and public speaking. It is important to stay level-headed even when faced with challenges. At the end of the day, anchoring and public speaking is all about being patient and composed even when everything erupts in chaos.

It's time to

BREAK FREE



PUBLIC SPEAKING -; SOME PRIVATE NOTES



BY: DR. ALOK PURANIK,
PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAHARAJA AGRASEN COLLEGE

Public speaking is like swimming. You cannot learn it by reading books, watching videos, or studying articles about technique. At some point, you have to get into the water and face the very real risk of drowning, or in this case, of being hooted out of the room.

I have been speaking in public for many years — at corporate events, literary gatherings, school functions, and political rallies. I have had standing ovations, and I have had silences so deafening I could hear my own heartbeat. Both have taught me more than any book on communication ever could.

Always Know Your Audience First

The single most important question before any speech is not what will I say — it is who am I saying it to? Most speakers prepare their content first and think about their audience later. That is exactly backwards.

Consider this example. Your topic is "The Role of Ramayana in Present-Day Management." Now imagine two scenarios. In the first, you are speaking to Class 10 students at a school function. In the second, you are addressing B.Com students at a management seminar. Same subject. Completely different preparation. With school students, you anchor the talk in stories — Hanuman's loyalty, Ram's leadership, Lakshman's teamwork. With B.Com students, you draw parallels with organisational hierarchy and crisis management. The content shifts because the audience is different.

Beyond educational background, consider their language comfort, their emotional state, and their expectation. Are they there to learn, to be entertained, or just to collect the certificate and go home? A speaker who ignores these questions is essentially shouting into a room with the lights off.

The Strategic Use of Humour

Humour in public speaking is widely misunderstood. Most people think it means telling jokes. It does not. Humour is a strategy — it lowers the audience's guard, makes them comfortable, and then lets your actual point land with far greater impact than a serious statement ever could.

Three things matter. First, timing. A joke at the wrong moment does not just fall flat; it damages your credibility. Humour must match the emotional temperature of the room.

Second, relevance. The best humour is not imported from a joke book — it emerges from the subject itself. When your funny observation connects directly to your main point, the audience laughs and remembers your message. Entertainment and reinforcement both at once.

Third, and I have learned this the hard way, self-deprecating humour is almost always safer than humour directed at others. When you make yourself the butt of the joke, the audience relaxes completely. They see you as human, approachable, and confident. That is a powerful place to speak from.

Humour also varies by audience, which brings us back to point one. What lands in Mumbai may produce confused silence in a small-town gathering. Know your audience before you decide how funny you plan to be.

Public speaking is an act of generosity. Prepare for them, not for yourself. And then, get into the water.

HOW TO MASTER PUBLIC SPEAKING



BY: Prof. Onshangla Zimik,
Assistant Professor,
Maharaja Agrasen College

Glossophobia, which is the fear of public speaking, is one of the most common social anxieties affecting even experienced speakers who feel some level of nervousness when speaking on stage. Public speaking, however, is not always delivered on stage as it extends far beyond. It can take place in a classroom, workplace, or political setting. Every time one speaks in public with a purpose and message, they are engaged in public speaking. In order for a speech to be effective and engaging, the speaker should be aware of a few essential components: content, voice, body language, and audience. When a speaker delivers well-structured content with clarity and confidence, demonstrates awareness of the audience by adjusting the language, tone, and anecdotes accordingly, and is supported by a strong vocal and physical presence, the speech most likely is going to hit a home run. All these components should work together for a speech to be effective. Even a well-crafted speech, if delivered with a weak physical and vocal presence, fails to resonate with the audience.

However, many people are not aware of their blind spots. Unless you know what you are doing wrong, you won't know what to correct or how to improve yourself. You simply don't know what you don't know. Communication and public speaker coach, Vinh Giang, uses the four stages of the learning model to explain how a person can go from not knowing something to mastering it, especially in speaking and communication skills. The four stages are unconscious incompetence, conscious incompetence, conscious competence, and finally unconscious competence.

In the first stage, unconscious incompetence, you simply have no idea of your incompetence. So, for example, if you have been mispronouncing a word, let's say “debt,” which is pronounced with a silent ‘b’ but you have no idea about it, you would continue mispronouncing, knowing no better. In the second stage, conscious incompetence, you realize “debt” is pronounced ‘det’.You become aware of your blind spot, and this awareness is the first step towards correcting yourself and growth. In the third stage, conscious competence, with that awareness, you are now able to pronounce “debt” correctly, but it still requires conscious and deliberate effort rather than coming naturally to you. Finally, in the fourth and final stage, unconscious competence, you have mastered the correct pronunciation, and you don't have to always self-monitor or mentally rehearse before speaking. With consistent practice, you have finally built automaticity.

Having taught a paper on Public Speaking for a semester, I have encountered students with varying speaking abilities, from confident and fluent speakers to those who struggle to speak in full sentences. One student in particular had a really difficult time during his solo presentation, breaking out in a sweat and barely managing to finish. After the class, he came up to me seeking my feedback and advice on how to improve his speaking skills. He appeared genuinely committed to improving himself and putting in the work. However, his delivery during the presentation was hindered by low volume, uneven pacing due to nervousness, and a closed posture. Having given him this feedback, I advised him to maintain a video journal where he speaks off the cuff for five minutes on any random topic every day. A month later, he performed better in the class group discussion. After the discussion, he approached me again and asked for my feedback. He told me that he had been following my advice and maintaining a video journal, recording himself speaking every day for the past month. He had clearly moved beyond stage two, demonstrating awareness of his weaknesses and mistakes and actively working to fix them; he was now in stage three and could ultimately reach stage four with consistent practice.

We are not born with an innate speaking skill. Public speaking is a skill that can be learnt with consistent and deliberate practice. Many people, unfortunately, get stuck in the first two stages. They give up thinking they don't have it in them to be a good speaker when, in fact, they haven't practiced enough to reach unconscious competence. Remember, confidence in speaking doesn't come before speaking. It comes from speaking. So keep speaking!

HOW NOT TO LOSE CALM WHEN ON STAGE



By: Manish Sharma,
Media Person Founder ,Media Box Productions

It is almost always chaos when you are about to speak on stage. Inside, you may feel fear, stress, and a strange rush of anxiety. That is completely normal. But from the outside, things can change dramatically in seconds—an audience may start hooting, the mic may stop working, or something unexpected may throw you off balance. In such moments, the first instinct is often to lose control. The real skill, however, lies in holding your calm when everything seems to be slipping.

I remember my first debate on stage. I was extremely nervous. In fact, I had a complete blackout. It took me seven minutes just to deliver what I had already memorized. The audience reaction didn't help either. But one thing worked in my favor—I did not leave the stage. I stayed. I continued despite the discomfort. That experience taught me something powerful: confidence is not built before going on stage; it is built while standing on it.

Speech after speech, I improved. I went on to become the best debater in Maharaja Agrasen College and won prizes in many different colleges. Eventually, all those debates and speeches shaped my personality so strongly that I entered the world of media and became a news person and an anchor. The nervousness never fully disappeared, but my ability to handle it became stronger.

Here are some practical suggestions to help you stay calm on stage:

1. Over-prepare, don't just prepare

Preparation is your safety net. Know your content so well that even if you forget a line, you can still continue. When you are well-prepared, your mind has something to fall back on during moments of panic.

2. Keep a few ready-made lines

Always have an opening line, a filler sentence, or even a light joke ready. These act as anchors when your mind goes blank. Simple lines can buy you time and help you regain control.

3. Accept the fear

Fear will come. Your heart will race. Your hands might shake. Accept it instead of fighting it. Fear is not your enemy—it is your body preparing you to perform. Once you accept it, it loses its power over you.

4. Don't forget to smile

A simple smile can change everything. It relaxes your face, calms your mind, and sends a positive signal to the audience. Even if you are nervous inside, a smile makes you look confident outside—and slowly, you start feeling it too.

5. Stay physically grounded

Control your breathing. Slow, deep breaths can calm your nervous system instantly. Stand firmly, feel your feet on the ground, and avoid unnecessary movement. Physical stability creates mental stability.

6. Handle the unexpected calmly

If the mic fails or someone interrupts, don't panic. Smile, pause, and address the situation naturally. The audience often respects a speaker more for how they handle problems than for how smoothly things go.

7. Give yourself time on stage

The first minute is always the hardest. But if you can stay through it, things start to settle. Every additional minute builds your confidence.

In the end, staying calm on stage is not about eliminating fear—it is about learning to perform despite it. The more you face the stage, the more it becomes your space. Your journey may begin with fear, but with persistence, it can lead you to confidence, recognition, and even a career built on your voice.

OWNING THE STAGE

Stage presence is not something you switch on when you hold a mic; it is something you become before you even step onto the stage.



BY: VINEET MISHRA
FOUNDER, THE GROWTH HUB- A PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

There's a powerful story from the Ramayana about Bali. It is said that whenever Bali entered a space, he would automatically draw away 50% of the strength of the person standing in front of him. Imagine that level of presence, not loud, not forced, just naturally dominant. That is what real stage presence feels like. You don't try to impress; your energy does the work.

Now think about this. Before you even walk onto a stage, how are you preparing yourself? Are you showing up casually, or are you showing up like Bali, fully charged, fully ready, fully alive? Because stage presence doesn't begin on stage. It begins in your preparation, your mindset, your self-image.

Then comes the story of Angad, Bali's son. When Angad planted his foot in Ravana's court, no one could move him. That wasn't just physical strength; it was conviction, belief, and unshakable confidence. That's what happens when you truly own the stage. Your words carry weight. Your silence carries power. Your presence becomes immovable.

But here's where most people relate more deeply. There was also Hanuman, a being of immense power, yet unaware of his own potential. He had the strength to leap across oceans, but he had forgotten who he truly was. Sounds familiar, doesn't it? Many of us are like Hanuman, full of talent, full of ability, yet held back by self-doubt. And then enters the most important role, the mentor. Jambavan reminded Hanuman of his true power. He didn't give him strength; he revealed it. That's what a coach or mentor does. They don't create greatness in you; they awaken it.

In today's world, every successful person you see has had guidance, direction, and mentorship. No one rises alone. If you want to unlock your true stage presence, find someone who can help you see what you cannot see in yourself. I say this not as theory, but as experience. I was once a boy who studied in a government school, with little exposure to this sophisticated world of communication and confidence.
I didn't have polished English, I didn't have stage experience, and honestly, I didn't even believe I could ever command a room. But something changed.

Through continuous practice, consistent effort, and learning from mentors, I started discovering my own voice. I worked on my communication, my confidence, my mindset, day after day. Slowly, the fear reduced, the clarity improved, and the presence started building.

Today, I stand as a Personality Development Coach, someone who owns the stage, not because I was born confident, but because I built it. And if I can do it, so can you.
There is a Bali inside you waiting to rise.
There is an Angad inside you waiting to stand firm.
There is a Hanuman inside you waiting to be awakened.
All you need is the right preparation, the right mindset, and the right mentor. Now, it's your turn to step onto the stage, not just to speak, but to own it.

WHY YOU FREEZE WHILE SPEAKING

BY: SUNINT KAUR
MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT | BEHAVIOUR & PERSONALITY STRATEGIST

"It's not that you don't know what to say. It's that your body doesn't feel safe enough to say it."

The moment you stand up to speak, your heart races, your hands feel cold, your voice shakes, or your mind simply goes blank. Sounds familiar? Perhaps it occurred in a classroom setting. You knew the answer, but when the teacher called your name, your voice didn't project as you intended. Or during a presentation, despite practicing perfectly, you felt as though everyone was observing, judging, and anticipating a mistake.

Consequently, you rushed, forgot key points, or simply wished for the experience to conclude swiftly. This reaction isn't due to a lack of capability, but rather because your body did not feel secure in that very moment. Most people interpret this as, "I'm not confident enough." However, this is not always the underlying issue. Sometimes, the core problem is that your nervous system perceives you as being in danger.

Public speaking transcends mere verbal communication; it involves being seen. For many of us, the experience of being seen has never felt entirely safe. "What will people think?" "What if I mess up?" "Don't say anything wrong." These are not merely thoughts; they evolve into physiological patterns. Consequently, when you are the focus of attention, your system reacts as if it needs to protect you.

This explains your body's responses. What you think is "I'm nervous" is often your body preparing for a threat. What feels like "I forgot everything" can be a freeze response. What appears as "I lack confidence" may simply be a survival response activated.

Why common advice such as "just be confident", "practice more", "don't be scared" does not work, because it attempts to resolve a physiological reaction with logic alone, without providing the mind and body the sense of safety they seek.

What actually helps is learning to regulate before you perform. Slow your breathing. Feel your feet. Ground your body. It also helps to shift your focus from "How am I being judged?" to "What value am I giving?" Humans often find greater security in giving than in asking. Therefore, shift your narrative from "being seen" to "being able to deliver value." At the same time, drop perfection. Perfection generates pressure, and pressure breeds fear. When you embrace imperfection, your body relaxes and creates familiarity as well. Your nervous system feels more secure with what is familiar. Practice speaking aloud, not just internally. The more your body experiences "being seen" without negative consequences, the less it will perceive it as a threat. At the same time, in your visualisation, allow small negative outcomes to happen as well—so your body learns that even when things don't go perfectly, you are still safe and able to continue.

Public speaking is not about eliminating nervousness; it's about feeling safe while being observed. The moment your body feels secure, your voice, clarity, and confidence will naturally follow.

A short visualisation practice can support this. Sit in a comfortable, calm position. If desired, play some gentle background music. Gently close your eyes and direct your attention to your breath. Inhale slowly through your nose and exhale gently through your mouth. Repeat this for 3 to 5 breaths. With each exhale, allow your body to relax a little more. Now, begin to imagine yourself stepping onto the stage. You are calm. Your breathing is steady. Your body feels grounded. You take your position and look ahead.

Now, as you begin to speak, allow a small imperfection to occur. Perhaps you forgot a word. Perhaps your voice trembles slightly. Observe this. And now, envision yourself not reacting with panic. You pause. You take a breath. And you continue. You do not rush. You do not shut down. You remain present with yourself. Feel what it is like to manage the moment, instead of fearing it.

Now, gently advance the scene. See yourself a few minutes later. You are more settled. Your voice feels more natural. You are expressing, connecting, and continuing. And then, see yourself at the end. You have completed it. Maybe not perfectly, but fully. See your face, feel the moment, hear the crowd cheering and applauding for you. Feel what you feel in your body right at this moment. Yes, that is sufficient. Remain with this feeling for a few seconds, of showing up, staying present, and moving through it. And when you are ready, slowly bring your awareness back. Gently open your eyes..

Last but not the least, I'll leave you with a quick reset you can use on stage, before you even begin, is to take one slow breath in (longer than usual), exhale even slower, and pause for 2 seconds before speaking. This pause appears as confidence, but it is, in fact, regulation.

Confidence is not where you begin. Safety is.

THE ART OF LISTENING AS AN ORATOR

'To be a good anchor is to be a good speaker.' This is the general consensus around anchoring and public speaking. That good oration is the only skill necessary to become a public speaker. But there is something more important than oration that turns a good speaker into a great. That is active listening.

Listening is one of the most neglected and overlooked practices in the world. A good speaker must be an even better listener. An active listener has the ability to connect with the audience better than a person with only good speaking skills. They build better connections, influence, and make the event more memorable for the audience.

This is a quality that helps a speaker respond better to their audience. An active listener is bound to understand audience reactions and energy better than anyone else. It helps a speaker read the room better and shift their words according to the energy and cues they pick up from their audience. Without active listening, it becomes hard to form connections, and the speaker's words may fall flat. The oration becomes boring and one-sided without it.

It is the best quality to help in improving communication skills. Even if a speaker makes a mistake, they can effectively correct it if they have a grasp of their audience's reaction. Listening makes room for correction in public speaking. It also helps in avoiding any miscommunication or misunderstanding with the organisers and audience alike. For an event to go smoothly, a speaker must ensure there is no miscommunication between them and the organisers. That is only possible if they patiently and carefully listen to any information and instructions given to them.

It also helps build confidence and enables a speaker to come up with better content. When an orator actively listens to their audience or notices even the smallest reaction, then they can respond more confidently and put more thought behind their response instead of impulsive actions and responses. It makes the speaker more sure of their words and actions. This makes them appear calm, confident, and intelligent even when they are nervous or internally panicking.



BY: AWANTIKA TRIPATHI,
MEMBER,
ANCHORING POOL

Even as an audience it is important to be mentally present while the speaker is speaking. It is important to listen actively because this helps in building vocabulary and speaking skills. It gives them an idea of what public speaking is supposed to look like and how professional speakers are such amazing orators. A person can jot down interesting words or phrases used by the professionals to use in their oration and further improve their speaking skills.

So, anchors and public speakers need to be calm, patient, and carefully listen to what is being said and what is not. The art of listening is not just limited to verbal communication. But it also includes the small reactions and cues of the audience. If a person becomes a patient and careful listener, only then can they be a great and respected speaker.

A MICROPHONE DOESN'T CREATE POWER, IT AMPLIFIES RESPONSIBILITY.



BY: Dhanya kaushik,
member,
Anchoring Pool

Throughout life, we are surrounded by sayings that highlight the power of words. It is often said that a single sentence, spoken at the right moment with the right intention, can alter the course of a life. Just as easily, a careless remark can undo what took years to build. These ideas may sound familiar, yet they endure because they are undeniably true. Words are not merely sounds; they carry weight, emotion, and consequences.

If we break down how words actually revolve in real time then it's safe to say that a word spoken has three lives. Once when it is being curated in the mind of the person who thinks of them. Second when they are being fabricated out from the lips of the person and lastly how they make a home in the minds of the people who hear it. The most crucial stage is when it is spoken, as it determines both its impact on others and the image of the speaker. And this responsibility becomes even more eminent when such words are being spoken on a big platform in front of a microphone where no one would shy away from judging what you just said in the heat of the moment.

Words don't just remain a string of letters strung and spoken together when you are standing in front of an audience holding a microphone, they become a responsibility. Looking back at history, we see both blunders caused by careless speech and the transformative power of thoughtful words. Public figures often demonstrate how a single misstep can lead to controversy. Statements by Donald Trump have sparked global debates, and even influencers like Ranveer Allahbadia have faced serious consequences for their words. This surely teaches us that sometimes the impact of words spoken behind closed doors can be forgotten but when spoken into a microphone, its significance, responsibility and credibility amplifies. A fleeting mistake in such moments can leave a lasting mark.

And if words have the power to harm, they equally possess the ability to heal, inspire, and transform. History stands as a testament to how the right words, spoken at the right moment, can move entire generations. The speech of Martin Luther King Jr. did not merely echo through a microphone, it ignited hope and gave voice to a movement that reshaped society. Similarly, Nelson Mandela used his words not to fuel division, but to foster reconciliation in a nation torn apart by conflict. Such instances stand as a testament where a microphone becomes the instance of inspiration and transformation.

Much like Abhimanyu, who absorbed knowledge even in the womb, people too are deeply receptive to the words they hear. Consciously or unconsciously, they embed themselves within us resurfacing when needed. This makes it crucial to reflect on what is being conveyed through the voice of the person holding the microphone. They hold the power to guide, to mislead, or to enlighten to teach us how to enter the chakravyuh, how to exit it, or perhaps how to understand both.

And therefore, for anyone be it an anchor, a speaker, or simply someone addressing an audience it is essential to remember that a microphone does not just amplify your voice, it amplifies your responsibility. The words you choose in that moment may travel farther than you imagine and stay longer than you intend. So, just as one carefully chooses their attire for an important occasion, one must choose their words with equal thoughtfulness. Because in the end, it is not just about being heard, it is about being remembered for the right reasons.

WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR FIRST STEPS ON THE STAGE



BY: Lagan Saini,
member
Anchoring Pool

It’s something different about the way you feel when you step on the stage not only the first time in life, but every time you go on it. The moment you touch the stage, everything changes. The noises fade, and you find all eyes looking at you, and it’s you, your inner thoughts, how you process the situation, and the words you speak. A mix of nervousness, excitement, and anticipation rushes through you in a way words can barely capture, and all this blends into an overwhelming feeling that can not be explained.

The stage always finds a way to make your heartbeat loud, make you feel anxious, make your mind filled with thoughts, and make you question yourself, like, What if I fumble? Will they all judge me for the way I speak? Am I gonna sound good? What if my voice trembles?. Thoughts like these are natural, and it’s totally normal to experience these; even the greatest speakers of the world feel the same before they go on stage. It's just a matter of how they change their fear into powerful words and showcase themselves as confident individuals.

One should know that if they muster up the courage to get up on stage, they've already proven themselves better than those sitting in the audience, because it takes courage to go on the stage, and the majority of people back off from the fear of getting seen or speaking in public because people will judge them.

The stage is more than just a physical platform. It becomes a place where confidence is built, one step at a time. Every performance, whether successful or not, teaches you something valuable. It teaches you how to handle pressure, how to recover from mistakes, and most importantly, how to believe in yourself. Even if you stumble or forget a line, the experience itself becomes a lesson that stays with you for a lifetime.

What makes the stage even more interesting is that the feeling never fades, even after multiple times of anchoring, public speaking, debating, or even giving presentations. Your heart beats a little faster, and you feel that familiar rush, that same blend of fear and excitement. But with experience, you learn to conquer your fear and stay resilient.

Maybe your voice shakes a little, maybe your hands move awkwardly, maybe your mind goes blank for a second. But you begin. And that is what truly matters. The first few lines are always the hardest because they carry the weight of your fear and the pressure of being judged. Every word feels like a test, every pause feels too long. Taking your first steps on the stage is not about being perfect. It is about being brave enough to try. It is about discovering a version of yourself that you may not have known existed. That one step can open doors to confidence, self expression, and growth in ways you never imagined.

THE CALM BEHIND THE CHAOS



BY: SAUMYA DWIVEDI
MEMBER,
ANCHORING POOL

It always starts the same way. A quick breath. A small smile. And that one second where you just hope everything will fall into place. From the outside, it looks easy. Like you're just standing there, confident, saying what you have to say without thinking twice.

But it's never that simple.

Inside, there's always something going on. Your mind is already a few steps ahead, trying to remember what comes next, making sure you don't miss anything important. Sometimes you're already thinking about the next line while you're still speaking the current one. You're listening to yourself, correcting yourself, and thinking at the same time. And despite all of that, you have to look calm. Like everything is under control. Like nothing is going wrong.

Most people don't really see this side of it. Anchoring and public speaking isn't always about feeling confident. A lot of the time, it's just about showing up and doing it anyway. You don't always feel ready. You don't always feel prepared. But once you step up, the moment doesn't wait for you. If something goes slightly off, you don't get the chance to pause and fix it. You just keep going, hoping it blends in.

This happens more often than people think, especially when things change at the last minute. A name gets added, the order shifts, or something you practiced suddenly doesn't fit anymore. Sometimes the script in your hand doesn't match what's actually happening on stage. You don't really get time to process it. You just adjust in that moment and move forward, like it was always meant to happen that way. Sometimes it works out perfectly, sometimes it doesn't feel as smooth. But you don't stop.

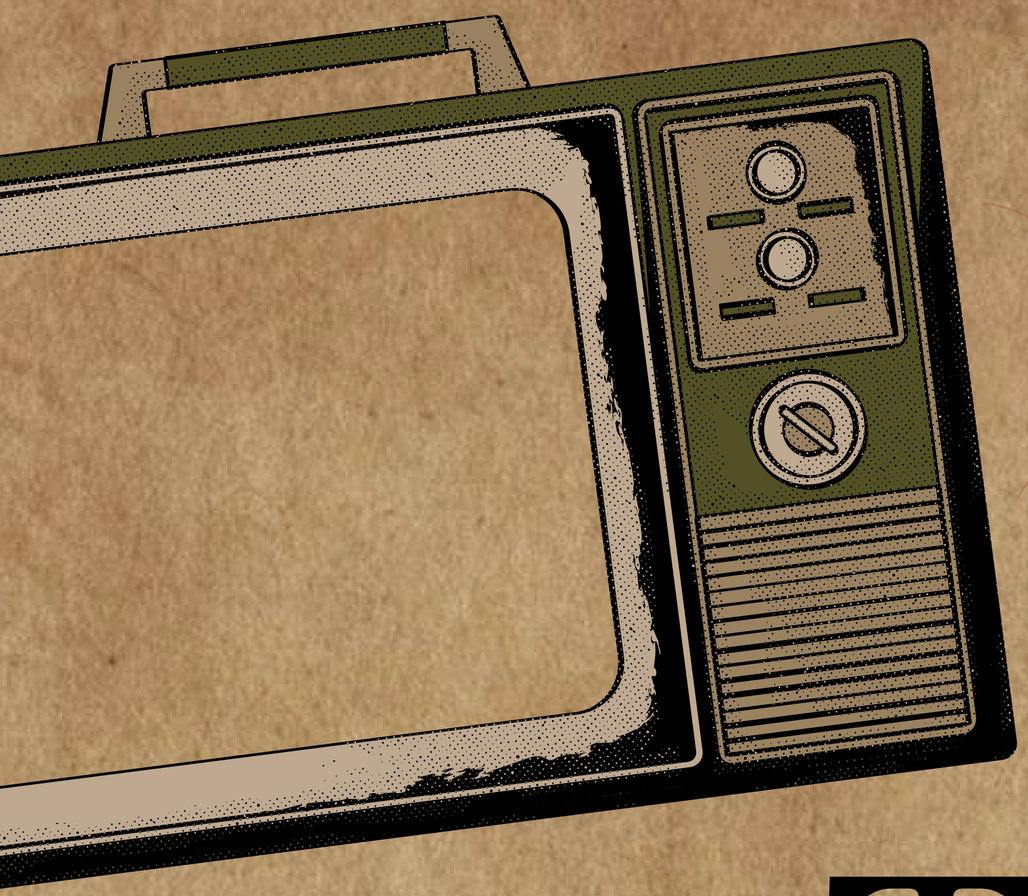
And that's the part people don't notice.

The audience only sees what works. They don't see the small changes you make while speaking. They don't see the tiny pauses where you're figuring things out in your head. They don't see that one second where your mind goes blank and you somehow manage to fill it. All they see is that you didn't break the flow. That you stayed there and carried it forward. After a point, you start understanding something important. It's not really about getting every word right. It's not about delivering everything exactly the way it was written.

It's about holding the moment together. It's about staying present, even when your thoughts are running in different directions. It's about making it feel smooth, even when it isn't.

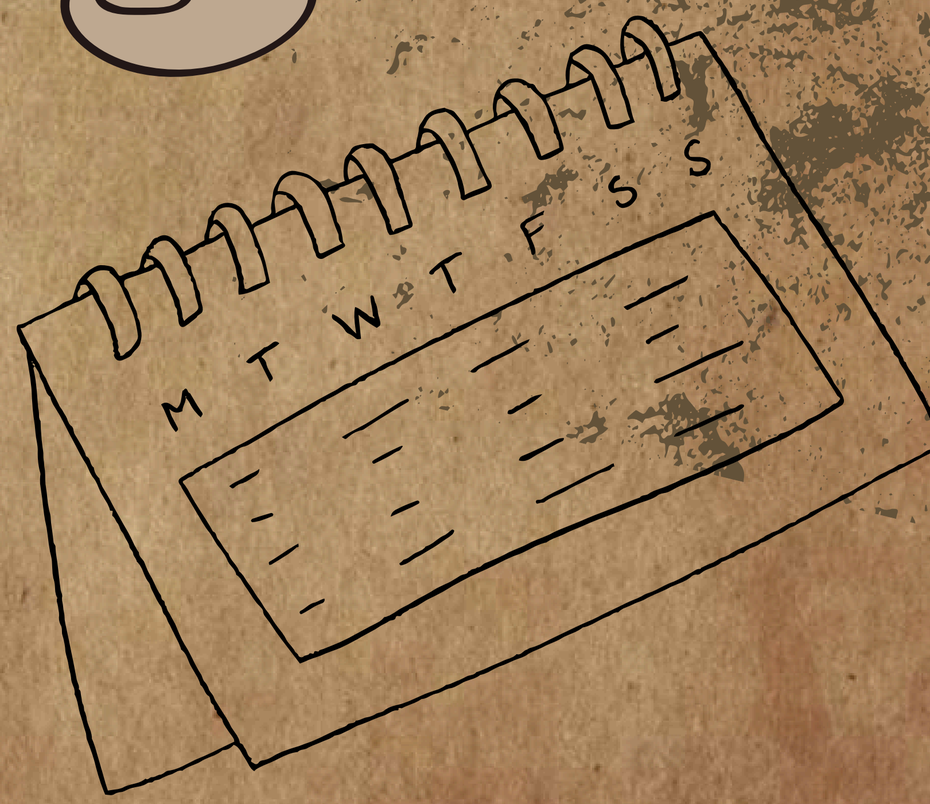
With time, something changes. You stop chasing perfection. You stop worrying about every small mistake. Instead, you start trusting yourself a little more. You realise that even if something goes wrong, you'll find a way to handle it. That confidence doesn't come from everything going perfectly. It comes from knowing that even when it doesn't, you'll still manage.

Because in the end, it's not as effortless as it looks. It never was. And maybe it was never supposed to be.

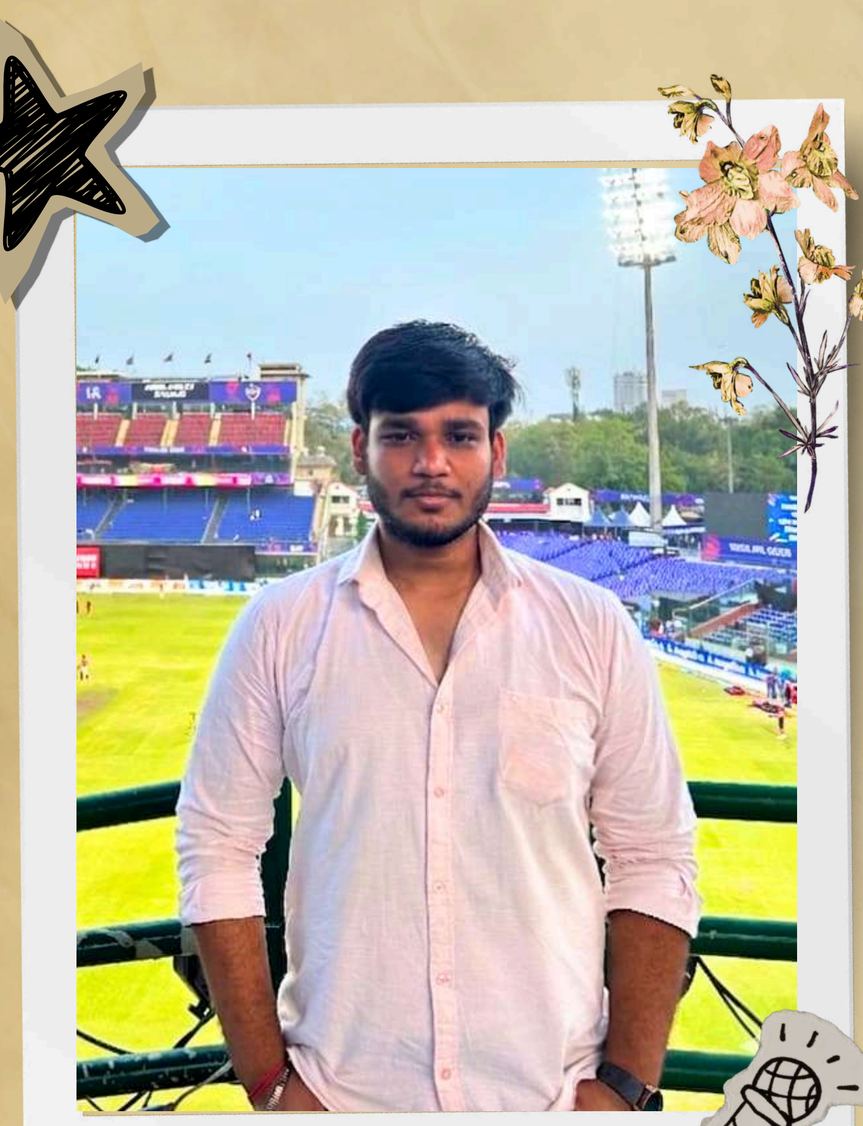


TIME ON THE STAGE

messages







RONAK KUMAR
Editorial Head

Anchoring Pool has been a very important part of my professional and personal life, too. This society showed me my true self, which I was not aware of.

A person who had no social interaction with anyone is now managing the society as the editorial head is itself a very big achievement for my persona, which is completely transformed by this society, for which I will always be very grateful.

From being nervous and tensed about whether I would be able to speak in front of others to actually performing it when the time came, I found my true value on the stage.

This Society has always taught me that no matter what happens, the show must go on... it taught me how to separate two different lives from each other while living both lives together.

It has been a lovely journey of conditioning, resilience, and relations with everyone, whether it was my seniors or my juniors currently. I definitely shared some moments that I can cherish in the future without any regrets.

I still remember the day of my online round of auditions in the society where I put my every possible effort into the next round and then performing in the second round, also for the selection, with a lot of anxiety and walking to the podium for the audition with shaking legs. But here I am now writing this message as the editorial head of the society where I am also publishing this magazine which shows how far I came in these 3 years.

The society has provided me with numerous experiences, whether as a manager of events or as the main anchor; it has always been a learning lesson for me in every event. Through this magazine, my motive is to let everyone know that if I can overcome my anxiety and fear of speaking in front of a large audience, then everyone who is reading this magazine can also do this by believing in themselves.

We always find a source of motivation from others, but somehow we forget that only we can help ourselves by having faith and belief that yes, I can do it. This motive of society always preaches itself through different ways, and this magazine is one of them. Looking at myself now while comparing myself as a newcomer in the society, I realised that it could never have been possible for me to do this without my belief.

There is always something to learn from someone and always something to teach someone, but in this process, what has changed is my intent and approach towards the situations, from being hesitant and running from the problems to facing them bravely and finding my way out. I have completely changed. I've always been grateful to each and every person in this society, whether they are my junior or my senior, for teaching me and carving a new person inside me.

Sharing my experiences with everyone with a hope that someone may find a valuable contribution from this message in their personality development journey and they own the stage. As our society's tagline says the stage is all yours, but whenever I am there, no one can make the stage theirs because THE STAGE IS ALWAYS MINE.



ISHAAN GOYAL

Logistics Head

I came to the Anchoring Pool due to a disappointing last event that I had in my school. I was very much destroyed after the teachers told me to get off the stage, and they had to finish the event. But the moment I heard of Anchoring Pool, I knew that it was a second chance for me.

The first round of auditions was quite tough because I had never had to face a camera in my life, let alone speak in one, but that was the real test of getting out of my comfort zone, which actually describes my whole college journey. The final round was an amazing feeling and gave me the confidence that I can crack any interview in my life with such a confident expression on my face. The real journey was full of ups and downs, which began with a learning curve from such amazing seniors who gave me a new outlook on stage and how it was much more than just reading your script and getting done with the event. It is more about enjoying the moment on the stage because if the anchor is not in a joyful mood, they won't be able to connect with the audience and get the same energy from them.

The words of my seniors have resonated with me for quite a long time and went on to become the principles by which I live my life, those being “ Hum ek Parivar hai” has led me in believing that you can find a family of sorts in the most unexpected places, “ Thehrav zaroori hai” told me that you often need to take a break and reflect upon your situation to do tactical thinking and last but not the least “ Pehle kaam fir aaram” taught me how to be the living enactment of worshiping your work which now has become an essential feature of my personality.

Though there were many downs for me during my journey, the team that I had found, which eventually became my family away from home, always stood beside me in those times and gave me the strength and knowledge to stand on my own against difficult times.

My final year in the society has been of ups and ups only. The seniors believed in my abilities in a time when I had suspected my own capabilities, and gave me the position of ‘Logistics Head’ and gave me a return ticket to my confident self. My comeback started with anchoring one of the most important and prestigious events of any institute i.e. Independence Day Celebration. With my peers by my side, we led the event to a great success despite difficult weather and last-minute changes.

Our team has been the most ambitious and successful in the history of this society, with accomplishing so much as to put our college on the map of Delhi University Public Speaking Circuit, from our First event as organisers to our last, we have been hugely successful.

There always exists a pair of best friends in each batch of this society, and I was fortunate enough to be one of them and get the opportunity to anchor the flagship event of Yuvaan with that person and grind our minds to dust to make the event a success. Today, as I come to the end of this journey, I believe I have gained much more from this place than I could have, from extremely talented and supportive seniors to loving and admirable juniors, and most importantly, my team, who have made each moment here special

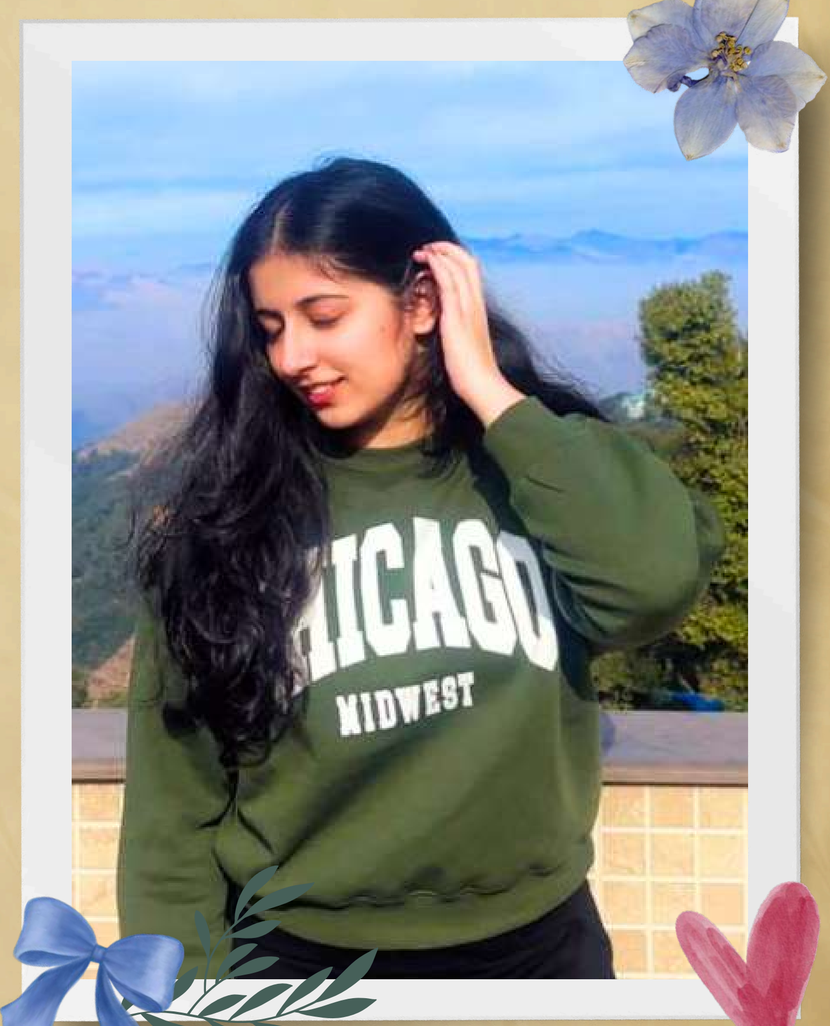


UTKARSH SRIVASTAVA
Coordinator

From the very beginning, my journey in the Anchoring Pool looked sorted from the outside. I was close to my seniors, often called the "favourite," and yes, I was loved. But I knew that being favoured came from showing up consistently. From working day and night in the social media team to anchoring stages like Freshers, Farewell, North-East Fest, the Inaugural of Yuvaan'26, and Yuva Kumbh, I made sure I was always present. Over time, people started seeing me as the strict one, the dominant one, someone who takes charge.

I never really paused to understand my fears; I just kept moving. What stayed constant was my bond with my seniors and the trust they had in me. Becoming the coordinator changed everything. It was no longer just about anchoring; it was about people. Managing a team, handling emotions, carrying responsibility, even on days I felt drained. There were moments I questioned myself, but I kept going because the team always came first.

On stage, I never thought about what could go wrong. I just did what I had to do. And off stage, I tried to be there for others in the same quiet way. It has been a roller coaster without a stop button. But through everything, I'm grateful for my seniors, for their belief in me, for my juniors and the love they gave me, for the opportunities that shaped me, and for Anchoring Pool, for becoming a part of who I am.

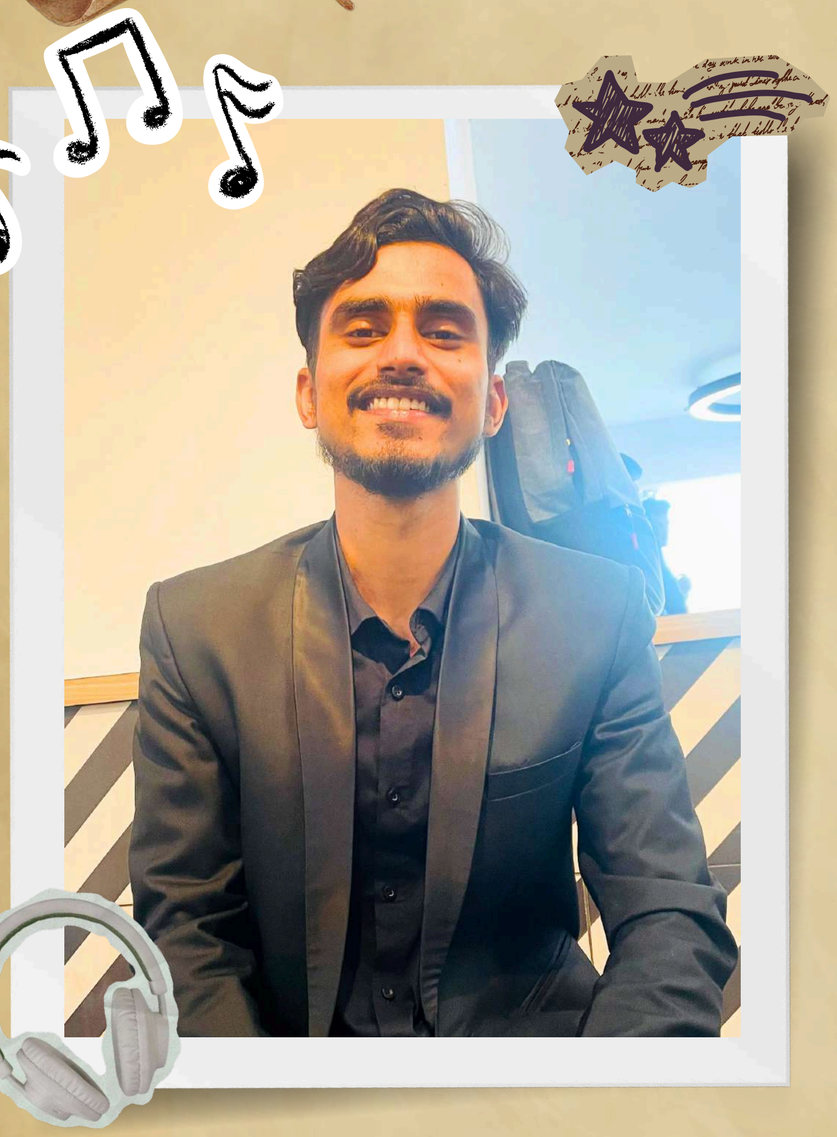


ANURADHA BHARANI
Coordinator

I still remember the first time I heard about Anchoring Pool. I just knew I wanted to be a part of it. The auditions felt exciting because the seniors seemed so effortless, so alive, that I wanted to grow into that space. When I finally joined, I liked being there, but I wasn't truly connected. I wasn't regular either, until one day I was told I might have to leave the society. That moment stayed with me. After that, I started showing up, even on days I didn't want to. And somewhere in that quiet consistency, AP stopped being just a society and started becoming something I cared about deeply.

The stage slowly changed me. From my first event to bigger responsibilities later, I didn't just learn how to anchor, I learned how to hold myself. There were moments when I had strong support, and moments when I had none, and both shaped me in their own way. Over time, I found my people, got closer to my team, and without realising, I started putting them before myself. Becoming the coordinator showed me a different side of everything. It wasn't just about the mic anymore; it was about people. Managing a team, understanding different emotions, and making sure no one feels left out, it taught me patience, empathy, and responsibility. I learned that this space only works when you're willing to adjust, to sacrifice, and to choose the team over yourself, even when no one is watching.

I leave with a full heart. Grateful that AP saw something in me, grateful for my seniors and their constant support, for my juniors who stood by me so sweetly, for my team, for the friendships I found along the way, and for my family and the universe that brought me here.



As someone who has always loved being on stage and connecting with an audience, Anchoring Pool gave me countless opportunities to do what I enjoy the most, holding the mic and expressing myself through anchoring and public speaking. It never felt like a task; it always felt like home. But this journey was never just about the stage. It shaped me in ways I did not expect. It taught me how to stay grounded, humble, and constantly open to learning, no matter how much I grow. It made me understand the value of teamwork, leadership, and learning from mistakes, both as a member and as someone leading a team.

Being a part of the Editorial and PR team in my first and second years gave me the space to explore my creative side. It pushed me to think differently, to think beyond the obvious, and to bring ideas to life. It was the phase where I started seeing myself grow.

Stepping into the role of PR Head, I carried all those ideas with me. I tried to turn every thought into action and every plan into execution. PR was never just a responsibility for me; it became something I genuinely enjoyed. It felt like the most natural version of myself, representing my society, connecting with people, and creating something meaningful, both within the college and beyond it. I made sure that the ideas I once had as a member did not remain just thoughts, but became realities during my tenure. And seeing those ideas come to life has been one of the most fulfilling parts of this journey. Looking back, it has been a journey full of growth, learning, and unforgettable moments. A journey that did not just give me experiences, but also played a decent role in shaping who I am today. For that, I will always be grateful.

AATIF KHAN
PR Head

My journey didn't begin with confidence, applause, or a strong voice. It began with hesitation. I still remember sitting in an open session of a society when a few students were invited to come up on stage and participate. I gathered the courage to go but the moment I stood there, everything changed. I couldn't even pronounce a simple sentence properly. My voice wasn't loud enough, my legs were trembling, and my words were lost somewhere between fear and self-doubt.

That moment stayed with me. And I made a quiet promise to myself: I never want to feel this way again. With that thought, I decided to audition for the Anchoring Pool. Honestly, I was someone who didn't even know how to stand comfortably at a podium. I had no idea what a proper script looked like. Confidence? That was still a distant concept for me.

But sometimes, life and maybe God have different plans.

I got selected. Not because I was the best speaker in the room, but because my seniors saw something more than my nervousness. They saw potential. They believed they could add something to my personality and that belief became the foundation of my growth. And today, if I look back, I won't say I've become everything I once imagined. But I can proudly say that I am no longer the same Abhishek who once stood on that stage, unable to speak.

Anchoring Pool didn't just teach me how to speak. It taught me how to express, how to stand, how to believe. And most importantly, it taught me that growth is not a destination it's a journey. I'm still learning. Still .....evolving. Still discovering my voice. And maybe...

.....that's the most beautiful part of it all.



ABHISHEK KUMAR MAURYA
Creative Head



SIYA DUA
Content Head

My journey with Anchoring Pool has been a collection of moments that have gradually shaped who I am today. What started as a simple curiosity to be on stage turned into an experience filled with constant learning, unlearning, and growth. From nervous beginnings to confidently anchoring a range of events, each opportunity added something new—whether it was finding my voice, understanding the audience, or learning how to truly own the stage.

If I look at myself before joining and who I am today, the difference is undeniable. I've grown into someone far more confident, more expressive, and much bolder in the way I carry myself. The stage that once felt intimidating now feels like home. More importantly, I've become someone who can walk up to people, start conversations, and express my thoughts without hesitation.

Beyond anchoring, it was the people, the teamwork, and the shared passion for speaking that made this journey truly meaningful. Looking back, it was never just about being on stage, but about everything it taught me along the way, and that is something I'll always carry forward.

In Anchoring Pool, my journey started in September 2023. This journey was as many words as it was also of the untouched silence between those words. At every step in this journey, I went on learning something; some things that were already a little learned from before, and some new.
This journey can also be called a journey of alert observation. In this journey, my meeting also happened with some such friends who will remain on the threshold of my memory lifelong. This journey went on to tell how important social consciousness, individual consciousness, and emotional attachment with people around us are in this world filled with helter-skelter/meaninglessness.
Surely, this journey was full of faith, energy, and pleasant realizations.



ANKIT
Content Head

TEAM YUGAANTAR



On behalf of the entire team, this magazine became more than just something we had to complete. Somewhere between the first ideas and the final pages, it turned into something we were genuinely a part of. There were long discussions, last-minute changes, a bit of stress, and a lot of learning along the way. Not everything went perfectly, but everyone showed up and gave their best, and that's what really made it come together. Every page carries a bit of that effort. As you read it, we hope you can feel the honesty behind it, because for us, this isn't just work, it's something we created together.



The Content team

Yugaantar ‘26 is the first annual magazine of Anchoring Pool, and we are all immensely proud of how it turned out. Yugaantar doesn't just talk about the experience of our anchors, their hard work, resilience, and persistence. But it also gives advice, tips, and tricks for those who want to own the stage and find their own voice in the sea of people.

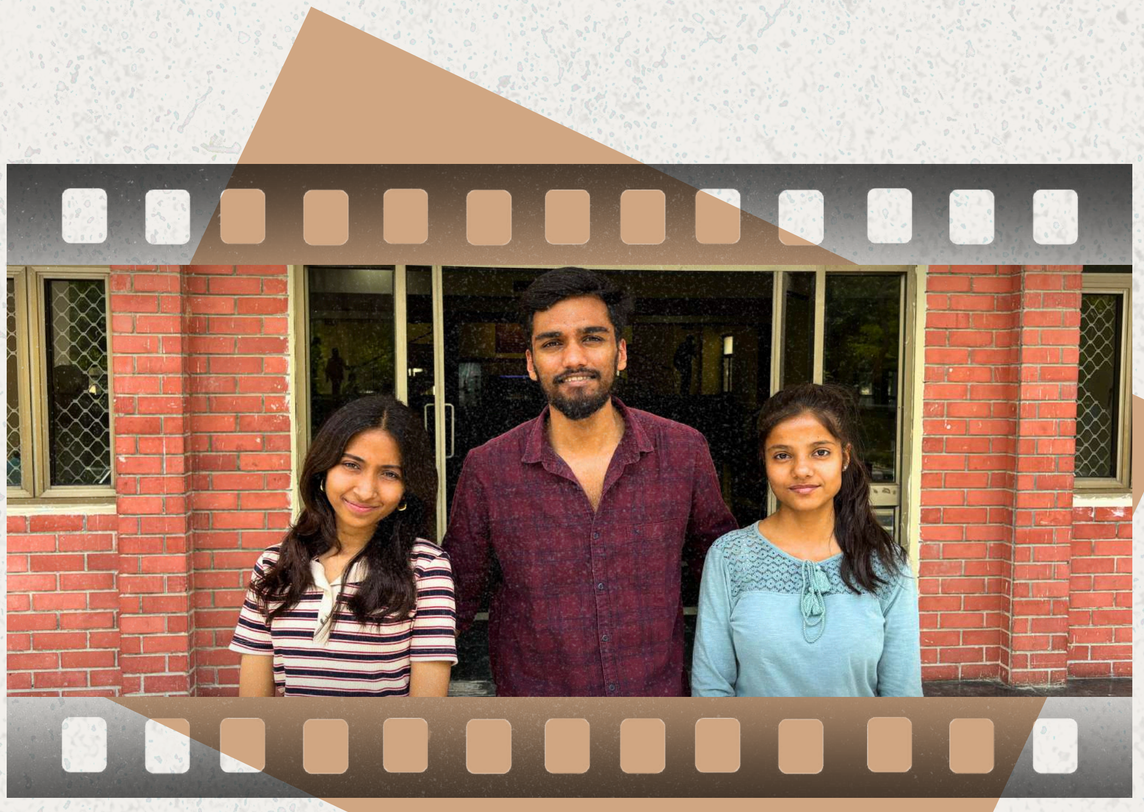
It has been a bumpy ride for all of us. The responsibility to pen down the experience, emotions, and challenges of our anchors was extremely difficult. There were times when words were not enough to explain such complex emotions. But we are so happy and proud to have conquered such a difficult task.

The content team had its ups and downs with deadlines and sometimes putting our thoughts on paper. But the result is much sweeter than any of us could have expected. It no longer matters the hurdles we faced in this journey because our destination is so worth it.

Yugaantar is not just a magazine for us; it's a piece of our creativity, dedication, efforts, and the bond we built along the way. What started as a responsibility quietly moulded into something that we were willing to do.

There were times when deadlines were not met, designs had to be reworked, and ideas were not as quick, but in all these processes, our team of three grew in many ways. We learned to respect each other's vision, listen to the ideas, and adapt, and hence, between deadlines and drafts, this magazine became more than just a project; it became a memory we will always hold close.

Yugaantar is not the ending; it's the beginning of something we crafted for new memories that are yet to be beheld on these very pages. We hope that Yugaantar resonates with you as much as it does with us and that every page tells a story of our hard work.



The Design team

Anchoring Pool

THE STAGE IS ALL YOURS

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