

## Sudhir Mishra : Strong women in my films are inspired by LSR students

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**New Delhi:** The quintessential woman in Hindi films either uses her sexual appeal to step up the corporate ladder or finds contentment in playing the conventional roles - a docile daughter, a devoted wife and a caring mother. But director Sudhir Mishra makes a conscious attempt to give female characters in his films a completely different interpretation.

Sudhir tells IBNLive why women in his films never give in to the pressure and restrictions which the society forces upon them, the appalling condition of teachers in India and a lot more.



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**New filmmakers should make films on DU:** Sudhir, who studied **Psychology (M.Phil) at DU**, says his experience in the university prepared him for both his career and for the life outside the professional domain. **"I owe a lot to DU.** From its politically-charged atmosphere to the idealism of that time and the discussions we had with our teachers, every bit made our experience at DU enriching. The new crop of filmmakers (Imtiaz Ali and many others) who have studied at Delhi University should consider the idea of making films on DU. Since I have already made *'Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi'*, a film with Delhi University as the backdrop, I would want to do it again..

**What monetary benefits did my father get?** Whether it is a public event or a chat show, how teachers continue to be grossly underpaid in India remains the much - discussed and the most debated issue. "My father was a mathematician. He retired as **Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University BHU**. But what did he get in terms of monetary benefits? It is sad to see how a lot of ordinary people in the film industry are earning more money than he ever made. Do you know South Korea is the only country where teachers are paid the highest? It is disheartening to see how unknown people in reality shows are making huge bucks than a professor would in his life. It is shameful, but true that teachers get no importance in Indian education system."

**More glamour at IP, LSR than in Bollywood:** Finding girls with flawless looks has always been a task for our filmmakers. As Sudhir Mishra recalls, back in his college days, there was more glamour in DU than it was in Bollywood. For the students of LSR and IP university would invariably look red carpet-ready. "Since we took theatre seriously, we would perform at virtually every college in DU. But staging plays at **IP College** and **Lady Shri Ram College for Women LSR** was always special. These were the colleges where we'd find exciting viewers. People often ask me why my films feature strong and powerful women. **They are influenced by these students.** Women here were open-minded, powerful, independent, sharp, bright and willing to discover life. They won't take anyone's shit and treated men badly. And I have to admit that women at IP and LSR were also **very pretty looking.** At that time I thought, there was more glamour at IP, LSR than in Bollywood."

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