

Seminar on Socialism and Media by Dr. Prem Singh on Saturday, 21 April 2018



A seminar on Socialism and Media was conducted by socialist leader Dr. Prem Singh, in Delhi School of Journalism on the 21st of April, 2018. Dr. Prem Singh is the president of the Socialist Party of India. Before this, he served as the general secretary and spokesperson of the party. Dr. Singh has been involved in the socialist movement from his university days.

In this seminar, he focused on how journalists work behind the scenes to break significant stories. Emphasizing on the importance of establishing contacts with those in the power, he gave examples of successful journalists who'd started from scratch and have reached the top by doing so, while maintaining the sanctity of their job. Though Journalism is a mission rather than a profession yet in today's world, corporate interests can't be completely negated, they are bound to affect the reportage. The media has to find a middle way out to sustain this democracy and be the voice of the voiceless. He also spoke about India's stature as a socialist state and its gravity for the progress of the nation. He vociferously critiqued the neoliberal-communal catenation in Indian politics and its invasion in the media.

He shared several experiences as a politician that he has had with journalists. Speaking about the current political atmosphere and the deteriorating nature of journalism in India, Dr. Singh pressed that the job of a journalist is tougher than ever. He feels that journalists must work in the interest of the deprived masses and classes of the country and express dissent against violation of civil and human rights.

The seminar came to an end with a fusillade of piercing but poignant questions from the students. Nonetheless it was an enticing spectacle, to see him unfold his journey as a teacher and a proponent of Socialism in a time when India is boldly experimenting with capitalism. Dr. Manasvini Yogi, OSD extended vote of thanks.

Report by Alishan Jafri