

## Keynote

***Power, Press and Politics*** is a shocking revelation about the challenges, threats and manipulations faced by the Indian media professionals from political powerhouses. It's a ground breaking, insider account from one of the most respected senior journalists of India who has worked with prominent media barons like K.K. Birla , Ashok Jain , Shobhana Bharati & Samir Jain, Senior Editors Manohar Shyam Josahi , Rajendra Mathur , Vinod Mehta and with Editors Guild , also interacted closely with political stalwarts like Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, P.V.Narsimha Rao, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Narendra Modi

## About The Book

*How did 'godman' Chandraswami get exposed by this journalist, despite this tantric guru being so close to prominent political leaders and media barons?*

*How did this editor go about collecting documentary evidences against Lalu Prasad Yadav in connection with the 'Fodder Scam' that eventually got him behind bars and the chilling account of how his supporters attacked the printing unit of Times Group in Patna in vengeance.*

*How editors and investigative correspondents exposed murky arms deals like Bofors , Eurofighter and Naval war room case.*

*How did this editor lay his hands on the controversial personal diary of Govindacharya, senior R.S.S. & BJP leader where Atal Bihari Vajpayee was referred as 'Mukhota' ( Mask) of the Party and how he went ahead and published it in a national daily despite Atalji being the Prime Minister of India.*

*How senior editors like him, Vinod Mehta , Kuldip Nayar , B.G. Verghese , Rajendra Mathur and Manohar Shyam Joshi were forced to resign from media houses due to political and Corporate pressure .*

*Is 'Paid News', the new normal in Indian media? How this started way back in 1980s with a few hundred rupees to now running into hundreds of millions of rupees and corrupting everyone, from small reporters to the big media houses.*

***Power, Press and Politics*** gives a detailed account of the sordid aspects of the media world and Mehta brings to life each of the issues, since he has been right in the eye of these storms. Mehta also throws light on the delicate balance between media and judiciary, both of which are crucial to the health of our democracy, with the help of some important cases and judgements.

It's interesting to note how Mehta maintained great relations with Prime Ministers, Presidents & other powerful people in India and also received multiple awards on one hand, and on the other hand published their misdeeds and, in the process, exposed some of the biggest names in India. It just proves that an unbiased and honest journalist with the objective of doing good to the nation and society can also survive. But yes, such bold journalism does come at a price.

## About The Author

Alok Mehta is one of the most acclaimed political and social journalists in India with an experience of more than 50 years across print and digital media. He has led various publications in leading media conglomerates like Times Group, Hindustan Times & Outlook as the Chief Editor. He is known for his unwavering stand for what is right, and this had led him to uncover some of the biggest stories in India. His deep insights also make him a sought after TV commentator in India. He has written over 20 books published in Hindi and English on journalism, social issues, and on political personalities. He's has spent

a considerable part of his early career in Germany and has travelled to over 40 countries in pursuit of understanding political & social landscapes of these countries.

He has been a flag bearer of journalism in India and has been an active member of multiple bodies of the fraternity, the most notable one being the President & Secretary General of Editors Guild of India, a key position that he held for six years. He has received several awards for his contribution to journalism in India, including 'The Padma Shree Award', one of the highest honours awarded by The Government of India.

## **USP**

***Power, Press and Politics*** is a first of its kind detailed inside account of the political, economic and legal pressures that challenge the Indian media. This book opens up some of the biggest controversial stories of India right from 1970 all the way to 2020, and how close associates of Prime Ministers, Chief Ministers, mafias, corporate barons, arm dealers and religious gurus were exposed. It talks about how Mehta and his team went about investigating each of the cases, collecting documentary evidences and finally publishing the facts against all odds.

This book at the end does leave the reader thinking about how our media that's meant to be the mirror of the nation is getting tainted and in such a situation, how do we go about upholding the conscience of the nation.