

FRIDAY

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

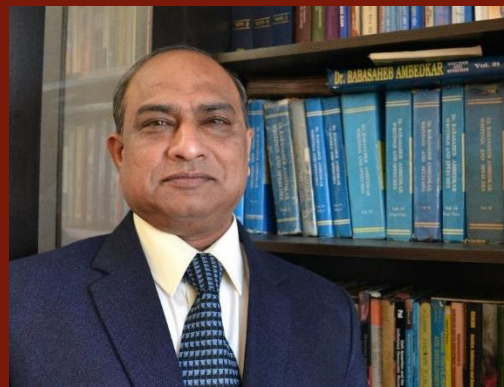
Conversations on society since 1960

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
<http://sociology.du.ac.in/sociological-research-colloquium/>

FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH 2023 AT 3:00 PM

SRINIVAS SEMINAR ROOM, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**VIVEK
KUMAR**



HOW EGALITARIAN IS INDIAN SOCIOLOGY?

Abstract:

Taking its cue from global attempts at decolonizing the discipline, this talk asks if Indian Sociology has gone beyond documenting Western domination to record the domination of males from the so-called twice-born castes? It goes on to analyze four levels of domination in Indian Sociology – first, at the level of institutions like universities; second, in the sphere of knowledge production; third, through employing the book view or the field view; and fourth in the teaching of Sociology in classrooms. It also analyzes the four-fold impact of such domination that has: a) produced a meta-narrative of the Hindu social order; b) employed erroneous concepts; c) led to cognitive black-out and reductionism of excluded categories; and d) last but not least, made Indian Sociology unidimensional and devoid of any emancipatory agenda for its students. Overall, this talk interrogates egalitarianism in Indian Sociology in terms of ontology, epistemology, pedagogy and methodology.

The Speaker:

Vivek Kumar is currently chairperson of the Centre for the Study of Social Systems at JNU, where he also holds the Dr. Ambedkar Chair, and coordinates the Global Studies Programme. He was a Visiting Professor at Columbia University, and has participated in the famous “Durban series” of World Conferences on Racism and Xenophobia. He is the author of many books, including *Caste and Democracy in India* (2014), *India’s Roaring Revolution* (2006), and *Globalization and Voices From the Margins* (2009). His seminal article “How egalitarian is Indian sociology?” (2016) received considerable national and international acclaim.