Neerja Chowdhury is an award-winning journalist, columnist, and political commentator. In the course of a distinguished career of over 40 years, she was political editor of the Indian Express for 10 years, and covered the terms of eight Prime Ministers and 10 Lok Sabha elections. She has won several prestigious awards for her journalism, including the first Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Women Media persons (1981), the India Today-PUCL Journalism for Human Rights Award (1983), and the Prem Bhatia Award for Best Political Reporting (2009-10). She is contributing editor, the Indian Express. Her weekly Neerja Chowdhury Column in the daily is widely followed by participants and observers of contemporary Indian politics.