



Dr Arun Shourie

Dr Arun Shourie is a journalist, author and politician. He has worked as an economist with the World Bank, a consultant to the Planning Commission of India, as the Editor of the Indian Express and The Times of India, and as a Cabinet Minister of the Government of India between 1998 and 2004.

Dr Shourie did his bachelor's in Economics (Honours) from St Stephen's College, Delhi University. He obtained his doctorate in Economics from Syracuse University in the United States and worked for the World Bank from 1967 to 1978. Simultaneously, between 1972 and 1974, he was a consultant to the Indian Planning Commission and it was around this time that he began writing articles as a journalist, criticizing economic policy. In 1975, during The Emergency imposed by then Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Dr Shourie began writing for the Indian Express in opposition to what he saw as an attack on civil liberties. He became a fellow of the Indian Council of Social Science Research in 1976. Dr Shourie was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1982 and the Padma Bhushan in 1990. In 2000, he was named as one of the International Press Institute's World Press Freedom Heroes. He has also been named International Editor of the Year Award and was awarded The Freedom to Publish Award.

Dr Shourie was elected to the Rajya Sabha from the state of Uttar Pradesh, and was a Member of Parliament for 1998–2004 and 2004–2010. He held the office of the Minister of Disinvestment, Communication and Information Technology in the Government of India under Prime Minister Vajpayee. As Disinvestment Minister, he led the sale of Maruti, VSNL, Hindustan Zinc among others. Dr Arun Shourie has written numerous books.