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Press Release

JMI's Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education organizes Colloquium Talk on "Privatisation, Teaching and Teacher Education"

New Delhi, October 23, 2026

The Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education (IASE), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), organised a Colloquium Talk on "Privatisation, Teaching and Teacher Education" on 22 October 2026 at the Multimedia Lab, Salamatullah Building. The talk was delivered by Dr. Manish Jain, Associate Professor, School of Education Studies, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD). Faculty members, research scholars and students gathered here to listen to the talk and take part in the discussion.

The key objective of the colloquium was to examine how privatisation is shaping school education, the work of teachers and teacher education in India. The talk particularly emphasised the need to understand privatisation as a discourse, as a set of policies and as a new form of philanthropy, and not only as the growth of private schools.

Dr Manish Jain began his talk with four questions: what is privatisation, how is it influencing teaching and teachers, what are the extent and effects of privatisation in teacher education and how are some of the new initiatives reshaping the idea of teacher and teacher education. He explained that privatisation is not the same as the private, and that 'state' and 'non-state' are often treated as uniform and as synonymous with 'public' and 'private'. He then discussed how public and private are understood differently in economics, political theory and feminist theory and why modernisation and liberalisation must also be examined. He then discussed privatisation at four levels– as a discourse, as a set of policies, in relation to new philanthropy and the role of technology as a solution.

He pointed how private is no longer outside, but the part of the society. And the regulations of the private to maintain are seen as more effective and efficient. He also shared about varying status of teacher– agent of the state, employee of the state accountable to the people and edupreneurs. He critically examined teaching as a labour, teachers as labourers or service providers and students as consumers. Thus, in today's privatised education the key words are efficiency, customer satisfaction, and feedback as against democracy, equality and freedom.

He concluded his talk by raising questions on teaching as gendered labour, constant surveillance and data submission and the use of teacher professionalism as a political device that appears to empower teachers but de-skills them.

The talk was followed by an interactive session in which participants raised questions and Dr Jain responded to them. The session ended with a vote of thanks.

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Lecture by Dr. Manish Jain



Interaction during the session



Felicitation of the guest

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