GENERAL SEMINAR

Prof. Tansen Sen
Director of Centre for Global Asia at New York University-Shanghai

will give a talk titled:

“The Construction of India–China Brotherhood Rhetoric in the 1950s: The Role of the Indian Tabloid *Blitz*”

Abstract

R. K. Karanjia, the editor of the weekly magazine Blitz, was one of the leading advocates of India-China friendship during the 1950s. As the president of the India–China Friendship Association’s Bombay branch, he was intimately involved in the exchange of “goodwill” delegations between India and China, the cultural activities on China organized in Bombay, and the promotion of the idea of India-China friendship through his writings. Under Karanjia, Blitz, touted as “Asia’s Foremost Newsmagazine,” emerged as the key media outlet for news on China and India–China interactions. This presentation analyzes the news items, opinion pieces, and advertisements on China and India-China interactions published in the Blitz between 1950 and 1957 to explore the role of the weekly in developing public perception of a brotherly and cordial relationship between the two countries. It will also survey the Chinese translations of some of these articles in Guangming Ribao to assess the possible wider impact of the magazine. It will argue that Blitz, more than any other Indian media outlet, was instrumental in creating a positive image of the People’s Republic of China among the Indian public and convincing them of a seemingly indissoluble friendship and brotherhood between Indians and Chinese.

Date: Friday, 28 February, 2020; Time: 3 – 5 pm

Venue: CSSSC Seminar Room 2, Patuli Campus

Maidul Islam
(Convener, Seminar Committee)
All are welcome to attend.