

FOREWORD

The Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India, known as RNI, provides service to the publishers of daily newspapers and periodicals across the country since its establishment on 1st July, 1956. As a country, we are proud that the publishing industry in India has grown from strength to strength during the last seven decades, paving the way for further growth in literacy rate.

The compilation of an Annual Report on the print media in the country is one of the statutory functions of RNI under Section 19(G) of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. The report, “**Press in India**”, which is submitted to the Central Government every year, is a detailed analysis of the print media scenario in the country. So far, RNI has brought out 64 reports of “**Press in India**” since 1957 and I am happy to present the 65th report of information. The report lays special focus on the circulation pattern of newspapers based on circulation figures in the Annual Statements submitted to RNI by the publishers.

RNI is in the process of digitizing its various services. Online filing of Annual Statements, which began in 2014, is a success with 32,938 registered publications submitting their statements for the year 2020-21. We encourage more and more publications to file the Annual Statements on time every year. I am also happy to inform that, we have the online e-filing open throughout the year with provision of payment of penalty if Annual Statements are not filed on time.

Encouraged by the successful implementation of e-filing of Annual Statements, digitization of the title application and registration process is also ongoing. Other services that are already in place include facility to view online status of title verification and registration, and list of existing and de-blocked titles; sending status update of applications through e-mail. In line with enhancing IT-enabled tools of facilitation, RNI has re-launched an online token generation system for visitors. Under the new avenue to expedite and streamline the complaint redressal system, visitors can book their slots through the facility available on the website www.rni.nic.in from anywhere in the country.

We sincerely hope this report will be of help to print media, media analysts and research scholars to get hold of reliable data on print media in the country. We expect “**Press in India**” to serve as a guide for aspiring publishers.

My sincere gratitude to Hon’ble Union Minister of Sports, Youth Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon’ble Minister of State, Shri L. Murugan, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Apurva Chandra, and other officials of the Ministry for their unstinted support and guidance. I am happy to record my appreciation to the team of RNI officials for their efforts in bringing out “**Press in India 2020-21**” on time. I also express my gratitude to my predecessors for establishing systems for smooth compilation of such a voluminous report.

(Dhirendra Ojha)

PRESS REGISTRAR

Volume - I

The source of information for this Report is Annual Statements, e-filed by publishers of registered publications (Newspapers and Periodicals), as required under Section 19(D) of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.

Out of 1,44,520 registered publications, as on 31st March 2021, 32,938 publishers filed their Annual Statements online for the year 2020-21.

For detailed information, visit www.rni.nic.in

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MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

Language-wise Analysis | Periodicals | State-wise Analysis | Circulation

Definitions of the terms and abbreviations used in this report

Newspaper	Any printed periodical work containing public news or comments on public news. (However, for study purpose the word “publication” has been used for all printed periodicals irrespective of periodicity).
Circulation	Average number of copies sold and distributed per publishing day.
Big Publication	A publication with a circulation of more than 75,000 copies per publishing day.
Medium Publication	A publication with a circulation between 25,001 and 75,000 copies per publishing day.
Small Publication	A publication with a circulation up to 25,000 copies per publishing day.
Periodicity	The time gap between two issues of a publication (daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly etc.).
Other Periodicals	Periodicities other than daily, tri/biweekly, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly and annual.
Claimed Circulation	Circulation figure claimed by a publisher in his Annual Statement filed under the Press and Registration of books Act, 1867.
Common Ownership Units	A publication establishment owning two or more newspapers of which at least one is a daily.
P.R.B. Act	Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 as amended from time to time.

Abbreviations Used in Tables

Classification of Newspapers	
News and Current Affairs	NCA
Religion and Philosophy	RAP
Literary and Culture	LAC
Commerce and Industry	CAI
Medicine and Health	MAH
Films	FIL
Social Welfare	SOW
Labour	LAB
Education	EDU
Law and Public Administration	LAP
Engineering and Technology	EAT
Agriculture and Animal Husbandry	AAH
Children	CHI
Transport and Communication	TAC
Insurance, Banking and Co-operation	IBC
Science	SCI
Finance and Economics	FAE
Women	WOM
Arts	ART
Radio and Music	RAM
Sports	SPO
Unclassified	UNC
School College Magazines	SCM
Market Reports and Bulletins	MRB
Ownership of Newspapers	
Public Limited Company	PUB
Private Limited Company	PVT
Individual	IND
Firm or Partnership	FOP
Trust	TRU
Society or Association	SOA
Organ of Political Parties	OPP
Educational Institutions	EDI

The Highlights of the Indian Press in 2020-21 (As on 31st March, 2021)

1	The Total Number of Registered Publications i) Newspaper category (Daily, Tri/Bi-weekly periodicities) ii) Periodicals category (other periodicities)	:	1,44,520
2	The number of new publications registered during 2020-21	:	1,097
3	Number of publications ceased during 2020-21	:	60
4	The largest number of publications registered in any Indian language - Hindi	:	55,349
5	The second largest number of publications registered in any language other than Hindi - English	:	19,845
6	The State with the largest number of registered publications - Uttar Pradesh	:	21,166
7	The State with the second largest number of registered publications - Maharashtra	:	19,796
8	The number of publications that submitted Annual Statements (This figure includes 214 Misc. publications)	:	32,938
9	The total claimed circulation of publications during 2020-21 i) Hindi Publications ii) English Publications iii) Marathi Publications iv) Urdu Publications	:	38,64,82,373 18,93,96,236 3,49,27,239 3,15,90,611 2,61,14,412
10	The largest number of publications that submitted Annual Statements in any Indian language - Hindi	:	16,724
11	The second largest number of publications that submitted Annual Statements in any language - Marathi	:	2,683
12	The largest circulated Daily - " Dina Chethi ", a Tamil/Daily published from Chennai.	:	8,28,854*
13	The second largest circulated Daily - " Ananda Bazar Patrika ", an Bengali/Daily published from Kolkata.	:	7,68,134*
14	The largest circulated English Daily - " Eastern Sentinel "	:	7,65,941*
15	The largest circulated Multi-edition Daily - " Dainik Bhaskar ", Hindi (59 editions)	:	38,79,975*
16	The second largest circulated Multi-edition Daily - " The Times of India ", English. (33 editions)	:	21,32,380*
17	The largest circulated Periodical in Malayalam - " Malayala Manorama ", Daily, Kotchi.	:	3,08,350*
18	Total Title Applications Received i) Titles Approved ii) Titles Deblocked	:	10,394 5,480 34
19	The Language with the largest number of Daily publications - Hindi	:	8,562

*Circulation figures are as claimed by Publishers in their Annual Statements for 2020-21.