

FOREWORD

The Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) in its 62nd year of establishment continues its steadfast journey of rendering valuable services to publishers in the country.

The compilation of an Annual Report on the print media in the country is one of the most important statutory functions of RNI under Section 19(G) of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. The report, submitted to Government of India under the title 'Press in India', is an analysis of the publications scenario in India. Since the establishment of the office on 1st July 1956, RNI has brought out 60 reports in 'Press in India' series and RNI is proud to present this 61st report of the prestigious series.

Marching towards realizing Digital India dream, RNI is advancing towards digitalizing its various services to the publishers. Online filing of Annual Statements, started in 2014, is a positive step in this direction with 31,028 registered publications including 1,472 Miscellaneous publications filing their statements for the year 2016-2017.

Encouraged by the successful implementation of e-filing of Annual Statements, digitalization of title application and registration processes are also in the offing. The other services that are already in place include facility to view online the status of title verification and registration, and list of existing and de-blocked titles, sending status update of applications through SMS and e-mail, online download of Certificate of Registration and an effective Public Query Response Cell to help publishers, especially in far-flung places to redress their grievance quickly. As part of the modernization plan, the official website of RNI is being given a facelift in design. I urge all the publishers and other stakeholders to optimize the use of our website and help us to provide services in a speedy and accurate manner. Constructive suggestions from publishers are welcome.

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

I am pleased to record my appreciation to the team of officials for their sincere efforts in bringing out 'Press in India 2016-17' and my gratitude to Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting and Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge) and Shri N.K. Sinha, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting along with other officials of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for their valuable guidance and unstinted support.

(K. GANESAN)
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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 1,14,820 registered publications, as on 31st March 2017, only 31,028 publishers filed their Annual Statements online for the year 2016-17.

For detailed information may logon to <http://www.rni.nic.in>

