

I. GENERAL REVIEW

1.1.1. Importance of people's access to information cannot be undermined in a country like India which is the largest democracy in the world. Print Media, rightly called the fourth estate, is one of the most important contributors in this respect. RNI and the Ministry of I & B, Govt. of India feels proud that till 31st March, 2014 as good as 99,660 publications (Newspapers & Other periodicals) have been registered in India witnessing a constant growth of the Print Media. This growth in the number of registered publications (Newspapers & Other periodicals) and circulation thereof disproves the common apprehension that proliferation of audio visual media and internet would significantly affect the Print Media. It has enabled the common man, who started asserting his rights to participate in the functioning of the institutions to strengthen democracy.

1.1.2. Print Media has responded to the new changes and challenges with its modern approach. It has embraced Information Technology, which resulted in better coverage with great speed and affordable price. The readership of newspapers is also growing.

1.1.3. Statistics show that people prefer their regional language publications and that is why the regional publications are venturing out to bring editions from other cities where there is sizeable population of the people knowing respective language.

1.1.4. Under the provision of the Section 19D of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, publishers of all registered publications (newspapers and periodicals) are required to submit their Annual Statements to the Registrar of Newspapers for India. These Annual Statements are the principal source of data for compilation of this Report. However, submission of Annual Statements has not yet gathered momentum. Only a handful of the publishers submit their Annual Statements every year. This year only 19.82% of the publishers have submitted their annual statements. Hence, this report cannot be construed as comprehensive. It can give only a broad overview about the general trend of the Indian Press based on the number and claimed circulation of publications.

1.1.5. During 2013-14, 5,642 new publications were registered and 49 registered publications ceased their publications. As on 31st March, 2014, there were 99,660 registered publications on record as against 94,067 at the end of March, 2013. The total circulation of publications increased from 40,50,37,930 copies per publishing day in 2012-13 to 45,05,86,212 copies per publishing day in 2013-14. The number of annual statements filed online by registered publishers in the O/o RNI for the year 2013-14 was 19,755 (this includes 256 Miscellaneous publications, separately studied in 'Chapter X') against 19,007 in 2012-13 registering an increase of 3.94 per cent.

ANALYSIS OF DAILY PUBLICATIONS

1.2.1. As per the annual statements received for 2013-14, the number of dailies being published in the country was 6,730 as against 5,767 during 2012-13. The claimed circulation of dailies increased by 17.81% from 22,43,37,652 copies to 26,42,89,811 copies per publishing day. Hindi had 3,213 dailies claiming a circulation of 12,64,77,693 copies, while 695 English & 929 Urdu dailies claimed 3,31,48,808 & 2,72,88,254 copies per publishing day respectively. (Chapter 6 Table 6.3)

1.2.2. There were 25 tri/bi-weeklies with a total claimed circulation of 8,93,218 copies per publishing day in comparison to 36 tri/bi-weeklies with a total claimed circulation of 11,87,995 copies per publishing day in 2012-13. (Chapter 6 Table 6.3)

1.2.3. 3998 daily publications provided information on their working and organization, the analysis of which can be seen in Chapter VI.

ANALYSIS OF PERIODICALS

1.3.1. The majority of Indian publications were periodicals i.e. 65.36% of the total. Circulation details were furnished by 12,744 periodicals claiming a total circulation of 18,54,03,183 copies per publishing day. Out of them, 7,033 were weeklies, 3,425 monthlies, 1855 fortnightlies, 201 quarterlies, 55 annuals and 175 were of other periodicities. (Chapter 3 Table 3.1 and Chapter 4 Table 4.2)

1.3.2. Total circulation of periodicals increased from 17,95,12,283 copies in 2012-13 to 18,54,03,183 copies per publishing day in 2013-14. Weeklies led with 11,20,05,740 copies, followed by monthlies (4,58,85,746), fortnightlies (2,27,59,091), quarterlies (18,07,667) and annuals (15,67,610). (Chapter 4 Table 4.2)

LANGUAGE-WISE ANALYSIS

1.4.1. All most publications were registered in English and 22 main languages listed in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution while some other publications were also registered in 149 other languages/dialects and in a few foreign languages. Publications were also published in more than one language which is categorized as bi-lingual and multi-lingual publications. (Appendix II)

1.4.2. As per the data received through annual statements submitted by the publishers for 2013-14, the highest number of publications were published in Hindi (11,184), followed by English (1,889), Urdu (1,443), Gujarati (1,046), Telugu (961), Bi-lingual (812) and Marathi (600). (Chapter 3 Table 3.1)

1.4.3. In terms of circulation, Hindi publications continued to lead with 22,64,75,517 copies followed by English with 6,44,05,643 copies and Urdu with 3,45,85,404 copies,

Marathi with 1,66,77,205 copies and Telugu with 1,88,58,626 copies per publishing day. (Chapter 4 Table 4.2)

1.4.4. Among dailies, Hindi led with 3,213 publications followed by 929 in Urdu. The languages that published more than 100 daily publications were English (695), Telugu (562), Marathi (280), Gujarati (292), Kannada (117), Tamil (114) and Odia (105). Circulation-wise, Hindi dailies maintained their dominance with 12,64,77,693 copies. English dailies followed with a circulation of 3,31,48,808 copies per publishing day. (Chapter 3 Table 3.1 & Chapter 4 Table 4.2)

STATE-WISE ANALYSIS

1.5.1. During 2013-14, the largest number of publications were published from Uttar Pradesh (4,827), followed by Delhi (2,343), Madhya Pradesh (2,106), Uttrakhand (1,775), Maharashtra (1,098) and Rajasthan (1,467). (Chapter 3 Table 3.2)

1.5.2. Uttar Pradesh topped in total circulation with 10,14,93,538 copies per publishing day followed by Delhi with 6,38,87,430 copies and this year Madhya Pradesh stood at third position with 3,66,19,959 copies per publishing day. (Chapter 4 Table 4.3)

1.5.3. Uttar Pradesh had the largest number of daily publications (1689), followed by Andhra Pradesh (796), Madhya Pradesh (609) and Delhi (599). Daily newspapers were published from all the States. (Chapter 3 Table 3.2)

1.5.4. Among dailies also, Uttar Pradesh with a total circulation of 5,23,59,887 copies per publishing day retained its top position and followed by Delhi with 2,70,04,241 copies, Madhya Pradesh with 2,33,38,642 copies and Maharashtra with 2,20,59,015 copies per publishing day. (Chapter 4 Table 4.3)

1.5.5. Delhi brought out publications in 16 languages followed by Maharashtra in 10 languages and Karnataka in 9 languages respectively out of 23 main languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

1.5.6. Uttar Pradesh maintained its distinction in bringing out the maximum number of publications in a single language i.e, 3,868 publications in Hindi Language. Other states with a notable number of publications in one language were Madhya Pradesh 1959, Uttrakhand 1632, Delhi 1298 and Rajasthan 1325 publications in Hindi language, Gujarat 1,009 publications in Gujarati language, Andhra Pradesh with 938 publications in Telugu and Maharashtra with 574 publications in Marathi. (It was also noticed that regional language publications were leading both in number and circulation in all major States). (Chapter 3 Table 3.3)

CIRCULATION PATTERN

1.6.1. Out of the 19,499 publications that submitted their annual statements, 811 were 'Big', 4,566 were 'Medium' and remaining 14,122 were 'Small' publications. The 'Big' publications claimed a circulation of 13,62,51,923 copies per publishing day while the

'Medium' ones claimed 19,22,04,259 copies and 'Small' ones claimed 12,21,30,030 copies per publishing day during 2013-14. (Chapter 4 Table 4.6)

1.6.2. In the 'Big' category, there were 604 dailies and tri/bi-weeklies. In the 'Medium' category, the number stood at 2,966 and in 'Small' category there were 3139 dailies and tri/bi-weeklies. Their claimed circulation accounted for 9,70,47,005 copies, 13,02,51,011 copies and 3,78,85,013 copies per publishing day respectively. (Chapter 4 Table 4.7)

CIRCULATION LEVELS

1.7.1. "*ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA*", a Bengali/Daily published from Kolkata turned to be the largest circulated single edition daily with a claimed circulation of 11,81,112 copies per publishing day followed by "*THE TIMES OF INDIA*", an English/Daily published from Mumbai with a claimed circulation of 10,26,153 copies and "*HINDUSTAN TIMES*" an English/Daily published from Delhi with a circulation of 9,75,737 copies per publishing day.

1.7.2. "*THE TIMES OF INDIA*", having 29 editions in English with a total claimed circulation of 47,42,671 copies per publishing day occupied the first position among multi-editions dailies during 2013-14. "*DAINIK BHASKAR*", having 35 editions in Hindi with a total claimed circulation of 35,49,796 copies per publishing day occupied second position among multi-editions dailies.

1.7.3. "*THE SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA*", an English/Weekly Edition from Mumbai, was the largest circulated periodical in 2013-14 with a claimed circulation of 10,21,260 copies per publishing day, while "*THE SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA*", an English/Weekly Edition from Delhi, with a circulation of 9,18,913 copies being second, and "*ASCENT*", an English/Weekly from Delhi with a claimed circulation of 7,95,820 copies per publishing day was rated as third.

OWNERSHIP

1.8.1. Out of 19,499 publications that furnished annual statements for the year 2013-14, as many as 16,737 publications were owned by Individuals followed by 1,936 by Joint Stock Companies, 323 by Societies and Associations, 257 by Trusts and 168 by Firms and Partnerships. 43 publications were brought out by the Central and State Governments; and Cooperative Societies, Educational Institutions and others owned the remaining 35 publications. (Chapter 5 Table 5.1)

1.8.2. Publications owned by Individuals had the largest share in circulation accounting for 67.27 per cent of the total circulation, followed by those owned by Joint Stock Companies with 26.98 per cent of the total circulation. 1874 common ownership units brought out 6,726 publications with news interest contents during the year. These units also brought out 43 publications which had no news interest contents. Publications, belonging to these common ownership units, claimed a total circulation of 24,03,76,744 copies per

publishing day, i.e. 53.12% of the total circulation of the Indian Press. (Chapter 5 Table 5.5, 5.8 & 5.10)

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1.9. Out of the total 12,744 periodicals, 12,364 were covered mainly News and Current Affairs. Apart from these, there were other periodicals covering various interest, such as Religion and Philosophy, Medicine and Health, Education, Finance and Economics, Literature and Culture, Children, Women, Law and Public Administration, Film, Commerce, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Science, Sports, Engineering and Technology and Industry etc. (Chapter 7 Table 7.5)

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

1.10. There were 43 Government publications, 29 belong to Central and 14 to States. “**Employment News**”, an English Weekly published from Delhi was the largest circulated Central Government publication with 3,05,229 copies per publishing day.

REGISTERED PUBLICATIONS

1.11.1. The number of registered publications has been increased to 94,660 as on 31.3.2014 out of which 19,755 filed their Annual Statements for 2013-14. During the year, 5,642 new publications were registered and 49 ceased their publication. Detailed analysis of these registered newspapers is in Chapter II.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

1.12.1. Out of total 4,990 registered publications, which did not contain public news or views and circulated free of cost or as a complimentary copy with main editions, 256 publications online filed their annual statements during 2013-14. These publications have, therefore, not been included in the general study of the Press-in-India. Chapter X is devoted exclusively to the analysis of these publications, comprising market reports and bulletins, publicity journals, fiction, school and college magazines etc.

1.12.2. Of these **256** miscellaneous publications, which furnished their circulation data, claimed a circulation of 1,05,00,710 copies per publishing day. (Chapter 10 Table 10.6)

THE PRESS IN INDIA IN 2013-14: AT A GLANCE (Data compiled as per the annual statements received)		
Periodicity	Number	Circulation
DAILY	6730	26,42,89,811
BI/TRI WEEKLY	25	8,93,218
WEEKLY	7033	11,20,05,740
FORTNIGHTLY	1855	2,27,59,091
MONTHLY	3425	4,58,85,446
QUARTERLY	201	18,07,667
ANNUAL	55	15,67,610
OTHERS	175	13,77,329
TOTAL	19499	45,05,86,212
'MISCELLANEOUS' PUBLICATIONS	256	1,05,00,710