President’s Welcome Address

58th Annual General Meeting
8th December 2012

THE FEDERATION OF PUBLISHERS’ AND BOOKSELLERS’ ASSOCIATIONS IN INDIA
84, SECOND FLOOR, DARYAGANJ, NEW DELHI – 110 002
Phone: 23272845; Telefax: 23281227
e-mail: fpbai_india@yahoo.com; fpbaindia@gmail.com
Website: http://www.fpbai.org
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President’s
Welcome Address

58th Annual General Meeting
8th December 2012
OFFICE BEARERS: 2011 - 2012

President
Kailash Balani

Immediate Past President
S.C. SETHI

Vice-Presidents
Baldev Verma
New Delhi

Balram Sadhwani
Bangalore

Dr. Himansu Bandyopadhyay
Kolkata

A.K. Pandey
Mumbai

Hony. Secretary
J.L. Kumar

Hony. Joint Secretary
Vikas Chowdhary

Hony. Treasurer
Prashant Jain
PRESIDENT’S WELCOME ADDRESS

Distinguished guest and friends,

With great pleasure I welcome you to this 58th Annual General Meeting of The Federation of Publishers’ and Booksellers’ Associations in India. I am very thankful to our guests and members who have been kind enough to spare their valuable time to be here with us this evening.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

During the period under report, 5 meetings of our Executive Committee have been held. Out of these, 4 meetings were held in New Delhi. Our Mumbai based State-Affiliated Association, Bombay Booksellers & Publishers Association, Mumbai, had informed us that on completion of their 50 glorious years, they were celebrating Golden Jubilee Celebrations on 28th April 2012. They requested the Federation to hold its next Executive Committee meeting and also a Seminar at Mumbai on 28th April. Keeping in view our known policy to hold some of our Executive Committee meetings in different regions of the country so as to seek personal involvement of the State Association and local members, we had held our 2nd Executive Committee meeting and a Seminar on ‘Publishing, E-Publishing and Piracy of Books’ at Mumbai on 28th April. During the meeting held in Mumbai, The Bombay Booksellers & Publishers Association raised the problems of Weight & Measurement, Toll Tax, Discount from Libraries, and Expiry date of books. They also mentioned that the local members were being harassed for non-implementation of the Rules relating to Weight & Measurement and Toll Tax. In this regard position was explained/suggestions made for taking appropriate action to avoid such problems. Assurance was also given that the Federation would extend necessary help to them as may be required.

NATIONAL BOOK PROMOTION POLICY

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, had convened a meeting on NBPP on 5th January at New Delhi to discuss and finalise the policy. I had attended this meeting which was chaired by Shri Kapil Sibal, the then Hon’ble Union Minister, HRD. During the meeting, I had stressed on the following issues:

1. Tenders for purchase of books/journals should be done away with.
2. Books should not be included in GST, when introduced.
3. Set up modern libraries keeping in mind visually impaired and physically handicapped patrons.
4. Set up National Institute of Publishing.
5. Settlement of Bills/Challans on time.
6. Subsidies on exports to be re-introduced.
7. Objected to allowing 100% FDI.

MEETING OF COPYRIGHT ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEAC)

Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, had organized 2nd meeting of the Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council (CEAC) on 30th January 2012 in the Committee Room, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi. This meeting was held under the chairpersonship of Mrs. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary (Higher Education), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Mr. Kailash Balani, President-FPBAI, had attended the meeting. There were 34 participants in this meeting.

Welcoming the participants, Smt. Veena Ish, Joint Secretary (Copyrights) and Vice Chairperson, CEAC, emphasized the importance of plugging the loopholes in the copyright enforcement.

The Chairperson, Mrs. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary (HE) said that strict enforcement of the copyright in the country. She suggested that there should be a coordinated effort involving various stakeholders to achieve desired results in enforcement of copyrights in India. Highlighting the importance of sharing best practices in enforcement, she suggested that the contribution of Ministry of HRD would be a key factor in this regard. Further details of this meeting have already been published in the last issue of our Newsletter.

SEMINARS

Seminar on ‘Publishing; E-Publishing’ and ‘Piracy of Books’ at Mumbai

Bombay Booksellers’ and Publishers’ Association, Mumbai, our State-Affiliated Association at Mumbai, on completion of their 50 years glorious
years, had celebrated Golden Jubilee Celebrations on 28th April 2012 at Mumbai. They had invited our Federation to hold a seminar at Mumbai on 28 April 2012.

The participants in the Seminar on ‘Publishing’ were addressed by stalwarts of the Indian Book Industry. Dr. Malini Sood, a freelance editor, writer and researcher; Mr. Prabuddha Sircar, who has, since 1974, worked with many multinational publishers; and Mr. S.C. Sethi, Chairman-Seminar Committee, FPBAI.

Participants in the Seminar on ‘E-publishing’ were addressed by me.

Seminar on ‘Piracy of Books’ was addressed by Mr. Manas Saikia (Cambridge University Press India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, and Chairman – Anti-Piracy & Copyright Committee-FPBAI). Mr. Saikia was accompanied by Mr. Bharatvir Singh (Saikrishna Associates, New Delhi). Mr. Bharatvir Singh is also an advocate, and specializes in Anti-Piracy.

I am thankful to Mr. T.M. Satish, President, and Office Bearers of BBPA who were so helpful in organizing our 2nd Executive Committee meeting, and Seminar on ‘Publishing, E-Publishing’ and ‘Piracy of Books’ at Mumbai on 28th April 2012.

**Seminar on ‘Publishing and Piracy of Books’ at Srinagar (J&K)**

The Federation is considering holding of a Seminar on ‘Publishing and Piracy of Books’ at University of Kashmir, J&K for its students to enable them to derive benefits from this Seminar and brighten their career prospects. We are in the process of finalizing the date, in consultation with senior officials of University of Kashmir.

**CONFERENCE HELD BY FICCI ON ‘PUBLICON 2012’**

Publishing has traditionally been associated with printed books. The emergence of e-books has added a new dimension to the business of publishing. Digital publishing is now at the heart of almost all activities the world over. To focus on the emerging technologies for publishing, and offer a valuable insight to the potential, growth and future of publishing in India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), New Delhi, had organized a two-day Conference ‘PubliCon 2012: Digital Publishing’ on September 3-4, 2012 at FICCI, Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi. The Conference provided a platform to industry experts for discussions and debate concerning trade issues, network and explore business possibilities. The theme of the Conference was ‘Digital Publishing’.
Mr. Kailash Balani, President, FPBAI was invited to chair session on “Managing Distribution in Digital Age” which was very well attended and appreciated by the participants.

The National Book Trust, India, was the Programme Partner of the Publicon 2012. Ms. Farida M Naik, Joint Director, NBT, India, in her special address, said “Technological developments, in the field of publishing, provide opportunities for growth as well as new challenges. Such Conferences serve as a forum to discuss the issues pertinent to the future of the Indian Publishing Industry.”

**OUR REPRESENTATIONS**

**Use of polythene**

Recently there was a report in a leading National Newspaper that the Delhi Government has decided to impose blanket ban on manufacture, sale, storage and use of plastic bags. Although we welcome this decision of the Government, yet we feel that the ban on use of polythene should not be made applicable to books. Hence we had sent a representation to Chief Minister of Delhi.

**Service Tax on Digital e-books/e-journals**

The issue of Service Tax on Digital e-books and subscriptions of online e-journals has been engaging our attention for quite some time. To seek clarifications from Central Government, we had sent a representation to Ministry of Finance (Central Board of Excise and Customs). We have sent reminders also, but so far no response has been received.

**Review of Master Plan for Delhi 2021**

Delhi Development Authority has issued a notice on ‘Review of Master Plan for Delhi 2021’. We had sent a representation to Director (Plg.) DDA, New Delhi, intimating them that more than 80% of the area of Darya Ganj/Ansari Road is being used as Commercial. Hence, this area should be continued to be treated as Commercial.

**Floating of tenders for ‘Purchase of Books’**

Subsequent to the complaints received from our members located in Madhya Pradesh that Universities and Colleges in different regions of Madhya
Pradesh are floating tenders for ‘purchase of books’, which is contrary to the General Financial Rules, we had sent a representation to Hon’ble Minister of Higher Education, Technical Education & Culture, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

**Harassment under Legal Metrology Act (Package Commodities) Rules 2011.**

We had received from our members across India that they are being challaned/raided/fined by the officials of the Department of Weights and Measures of respective State Governments under the Legal Metrology Act (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011, we had sent a representation to Hon’ble Union Minister of Corporate Affairs; Hon’ble Union Minister of HRD Hon’ble Minister of State, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG); Hon’ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Administration; and Secretaries of these Ministries, at New Delhi.

**FDI**

The issue of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has now been addressed by Union Government. The decision is very much in the interest of entire Indian Book Industry. A newspaper clipping, which appeared on 21.9.2012 in Economic Times, Delhi edition, indicating the notification issued by the Union Government, was circulated to our members on 24 September 2012. The clipping, along with letters of thanks, has also been published in the last issue of our Newsletter for kind information of our members:

**Concern in view of AICTE Handbook 2012-2013**

Having received complaints from our members that only few e-resources have been mandated for purchase by AICTE Institutions, we had sent a representation to The Chairman, All India Council of Technical Education, New Delhi.

**GOC VISITS SRINAGAR**

A decision was taken in one of the Executive Committee meeting, that a team of Good Offices Committee would visit various Universities, Institutions and Libraries located in different states of India to interact with the top executives of these establishments to convince them not to float
tenders for purchase of books, in view of the Government of India’s decision, and also to inform them about the functioning of GOC. Shri S.C. Sethi, Chairman-GOC, had lead a delegation consisting of Hony. Secretary-GOC, and President-FPBAI, to Srinagar (J&K) and met Mr. Palat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor; Mr. Reyaz Rufai, Chief Librarian, Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir; Mr. Arun Kumar Sharma, Director of Libraries; Prof Nalini Kohli, Director-Higher Education; Dy. Director-Higher Education, Ministry of J&K. The delegation was accorded a welcome by all these senior officials. Mr. Palat Ahmad, Mr. Reyaz Rufai, Mr. Arun Kumar Sharma expressed their willingness to extend their full support to us in organizing a seminar on ‘Publishing and Piracy of Books’ at the University of Kashmir, for its students, to enable them to drive benefits from this Seminar and brighten their career prospects. Mr. Reyaz Rufai, Chief Librarian, informed us that they are buying good books on GOC terms without floating any tender, and their library was very well equipped with good books and journals. Mr. Arun Kumar Sharma was requested to ask the suppliers to submit the Membership Certificate issued by FPBAI, and he readily accepted our request. The delegation also extended him an invitation to attend the 58th AGM of FPBAI, which he accepted. We requested Prof. Nalini Kohli to issue a letter to all the colleges in J&K not to issue tenders for purchase of books and journals, and buy good books and journals from bonafide members of this Federation on the terms and conditions issued by GOC. She assured us that she will take necessary action in this regard. This is a big success for GOC.

AMENDMENT TO ‘MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION’ OF FPBAI

The present booklet containing ‘Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association’ of FPBAI was published approximately 15 years back. Since then many changes have taken place in Indian Book Industry. It is therefore proposed that this booklet should be amended suitably. For the time being Clause 31 needs to be reviewed.

Clause 31 reads as: “The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

(a) To receive the report of the work of the Federation since the previous Annual General Meeting.

(b) To receive and adopt the accounts.
(c) To elect the office bearers and the other members of the Executive Committee in place of those retiring.

(d) All such other matters as may be resolved upon by the Executive Committee and of which due notice has been given.”

**Proposed Amendment to above sub-clause (c):**

(c) **Under normal circumstances, election for the Office Bearers is held every year. However, if the members of the Executive Committee feel that election should be held once in two years, they are empowered to decide accordingly.**

**Justification for this amendment**

Presently elections for Office Bearers are held every year. By the time the elected Office Bearers are able to pick up the threads, and understand the working of the Federation, next elections are announced. Thus the team gets a working period of only 8-9 months, which is not sufficient time for them to put in their meaningful contribution for the Federation’s functioning. Hence, this is need of the hour to amend this clause suitably, mentioning that elections for Office Bearers should be held once in two years instead of every year. Annual General Meeting will be held every year, as usual.

**HARASSMENT BY OFFICIALS OF MCD ON ‘TRADE LICENSE’**

Some of our members operating from Darya Ganj/Ansari Road Area had complained that MCD is harassing them on the issue of ‘Trade License’. The Federation had sent a representation to Chief Minister of Delhi. We had also organized a joint meeting of FPBAI, FIP, FEPI, and DSBPA to take a collective decision and take appropriate action jointly to address the above issue. A resolution was passed in this joint meeting that an advocate would be hired and a writ petition filed in High Court of Delhi, and expenses incurred on this would be shared jointly. Accordingly a ‘writ petition’ was filed. On the first date of hearing i.e. 17th April 2012, our legal consultant had explained to the Court about the harassment being caused to our
members due to challaning by MCD. Counsel for MCD stated in the Court that he may be given some time to inform as to whether the MCD Act has been amended to include books for the purpose of issuance of municipal licenses for storage of books. The Judge passed a verbal ‘Stay Order’ and the case was adjourned to 7.8.2012.

On 7.8.2012 due to change in roster in Delhi High Court, the matter is now being heard by a new Judge. The new Judge wanted some more time to understand the case. The next date was fixed as 20.11.2012. However, we have been informed that MCD is still issuing challans. We have strongly taken up the matter with our legal consultant. A separate application has been filed in Delhi High Court to show the conduct of MCD inspite of the oral ‘stay order’ issued by the Judge. We hope that the Court would do justice in the case.

CLARIFICATION REGARDING ‘SUPPLY OF BOOKS’

Consequent upon receiving a query from one of our member based at Bangalore that few libraries are insisting that membership of Good Offices Committee is necessary for supply of books.

We wish to inform our members as well as the Libraries across India that The Good Offices Committee is a voluntary organization formed to establish uniform terms of book supplies to libraries, and to ensure a fair working margin to booksellers and an efficient service to the libraries. The Good Offices Committee (GOC), which is in existence for more than 35 years, has been functioning under the aegis of The Federation of Publishers’ and Booksellers’ Associations in India (FPBAI). Hence, it is clarified that membership of GOC is necessary if the firm desires to supply journals as an Approved Subscription Agent, and membership of FPBAI is sufficient for the purpose of supply of books to any Government establishment, including Universities, Educational Institutions and Libraries situated across India.

QUESTIONABLE ACTIVITIES OF ONLINE BOOKSTORES

Our members are well aware that the Book and Publishing Trade have worked together, tirelessly and selflessly since independence in providing availability and access of knowledge to the huge population of this country. Many online portals have entered this industry whose motive is not to make profits out of the sales of the books, but through alternative models of online advertisements. Though we welcome healthy competition and
improved services at a competitive price to the consumers, but we see that online bookstores are vying with each other to give unexplainable discounts. They buy books at lesser discounts and sell at higher discounts. This situation is causing worry for the booksellers as also publishers.

The Federation, which has always taken initiatives in maintaining its legacy to look after the business interests of our members, had recently organized a meeting of Publishers and Booksellers at the office of FPBAI. In this meeting, each member was invited to give his opinion. After discussing the issue at length, it was unanimously decided that one of our members should volunteer to act as a Chairman of a Committee, like other Sub-Committees of FPBAI, to look into this situation, and then give its recommendations to the Federation for further necessary action.

**BOOK FAIRS**

**21st New Delhi World Book Fair**

The New Delhi World Book Fair, a biennial event till its 20th edition, has been now converted as an Annual Event. This was formally announced by Shri Kapil Sibal, the then Hon’ble Minister for HRD, Government of India, at the inauguration of the last (20th) New Delhi World Book Fair. This announcement had brought cheers to the hearts of booklovers as the holding of NDWBF on annual basis is expected to enhance its brand image globally and publishers and booksellers from all over the world are likely to mark their presence in the 21st New Delhi World Book Fair which is scheduled to be held from 4 to 10 February 2013.

**NATIONAL BOOK FAIRS 2012**

Our Lucknow based State Affiliated Association, Knowledge Tree Foundation, in collaboration with this Federation, have organizing National Book Fairs in Uttar Pradesh, i) at Kanpur from 14 to 23 September; ii) at Lucknow, from 5 to 14 October; iii) at Allahabad from 23 November to 2 December; and is organizing a book fair at Varanasi from 14 to 23 December 2012. Detailed information about these book fairs has already been given in our Newsletter.

**Bangalore Book Festival 2012**

The Bangalore Booksellers and Publishers Association (BBPA) have informed us that they are organizing Bangalore Book Festival 2012 from 14
to 23 December 2012. They have announced special charges per stall for FPBAI/BBPA members. A circular for this has book festival has already been sent to the members. Members should support this festival by participating in large numbers.

**14th North-East Book Fair 2012**

All Assam Publishers & Book Sellers Association, Assam-state based Association affiliated to FPBAI, have informed us that they are organizing 14th North-East Book Fair 2012 from 30th December 2012 to 10th January 2013 at Assam Engineering Institute Playground, Chandmari, Guwahati. They have been organizing such book fairs since 1998. Details of this book fair have been circulated to all the members to enable them to participate in this fair.

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO FPBAI MEMBERS**

In keeping with our tradition in the recent past to honour some of our leading and distinguished members as token of our appreciation for the commendable work done by them for the Indian Book Industry, awards will also be presented to the following members at the 58th Annual General Meeting:-
Our last issue had carried an ‘interview’ with Shri Sunil Sachdev, Managing Director, Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, and ‘Success Story’ of Shri Vinod Vasishtha, of Viva Books Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. Interviews are published with an aim to encourage our senior members to describe their hard work, honesty, commitment, farsightedness and their views about the present status of the Indian Book Industry. We publish Success Story of our senior members who by dint of their hard work have carved a prominent place for themselves in the Indian Book Industry. The other objective behind publishing the Success Story is to enable our younger generation to emulate and follow the principles of these stalwarts so that the youngsters are able to embrace the field of Book-Publishing with enthusiasm and dedication, and take up this noble profession as their career. We are very well aware that Indian Book Industry has lot of gems who have toiled enough to gain the present status. We request these gems to kindly send us their Success Story for publication in the forthcoming issues of our Newsletter. FPBAI Newsletter, because of the various salient features, has always received rich appreciation from our readers.

Our last issue was printed in 2500 copies, and was sent to Hon’ble President, Prime Minister of India; Chief Minister of Delhi; concerned Union Ministers, senior officers of the Union & State Government; Vice Chancellors/Registrar of renowned national universities, Directors of important Educational Institutions, Libraries in India; NBT, FICCI, CAPEXIL, CII, AICTE; Renowned National & International banks in India; National Insurance Companies in India; High Commissions/Embassies in India; and International organizations in India. There are two major benefits of advertising in FPBAI Newsletter: one, the advertisement receives attention of large number of persons connected with the Indian Book Industry, viz. Vice Chancellors/ Registrars of renowned Universities; Directors of important Educational Institutions; Librarians, etc. etc. Hence, the advertisement is poised to eventually energize the business interest of our members. The 2nd major benefit: if one page is sent to the above addresses, the total cost including stationery, printing and postage would be Rs. 30,000/-, whereas one full page advt. in FPBAI Newsletter, a flagship periodical from FPBAI, the cost would be Rs.10,000/- only. Thus there is saving of Rs.10,000/- in terms of money. Hence, advertisement in FPBAI Newsletter is always in the interest of advertiser. It is, therefore, always a paying proposition to advertise in FPBAI Newsletter.
GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE

GOC has issued a fresh ‘Appeal’, which has been published in the last issue of FPBAI Newsletter. This appeal is addressed to Vice Chancellor/Registrars of Universities; Directors of Institutes, and Librarians in India, highlighting the interest of Universities, Institutions and Libraries in India for equipping their libraries with quality-wise good books. The Appeal also conveys the decision of the Union Government that books, publications, periodicals etc. of a library will not be treated as an item of ‘Store’, and books may be purchased from the reputed and standard booksellers on the prevalent terms and conditions. Tenders need not be called for this purpose. I am happy to inform that the appeal has received appreciable response. Many of the Universities, Institutes and Libraries now insist on purchase of quality-wise good books, rather on discount. This is big achievement for GOC.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF FPBAI

The Audited Accounts of the FPBAI for the financial year ending 31st March 2012 indicate that the financial position of the Federation is quite sound. The main features of the Accounts are highlighted as follows:

1. The ‘Reserves and Surplus’ discloses an amount of Rs.82,16,238 during the year as compared to Rs.71,09,852 during the previous year, (an appreciable increase of Rs.11,06,386.00).

2. ‘Cash and Cash equivalents’ indicates an amount of Rs.76,42,756 for this year compared to Rs.64,79,898 in the last year (increase of Rs.11,62,858).

3. ‘Revenue from Operations’ shows an amount of Rs.23,43,700 in this financial year as against Rs.21,79,635 for the last year, thus registering a total increase of Rs.1,64,065, which is an appreciable amount. Under this head, receipts in respect of ‘Subscription from Members’ indicates an amount of Rs.19,29,500 for this year as compared to Rs.14,66,903, (increase of Rs.4,62,597). Receipts in respect of GOC indicates an amount of Rs.1,76,000 in this year as compared to Rs.1,40,000 for the last year, (increase of Rs.36,000).

4. ‘Other Income’ shows the interest accrued on Bank Deposits as Rs.5,51,445 in the year under report as against Rs.2,73,020 for the last year, (an increase of Rs. 2,78,425).
5. ‘Operation and other expenses’, which contains expenditure, shows an amount of Rs.12,46,588 in this year as compared to Rs.11,07,560 during the last year, (a marginal increase of Rs.1,39,028).

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Now I wish to place on records my personal thanks for the obligation that I have received during the course of tenure as President of FPBAI during the year. I am very fortunate for having received continuous support and valuable guidance from all our members, particularly from members of our Executive Committee with whom I have had regular interaction. I would like to convey my grateful thanks to Mr. Sunil Sachdev, Mr. S.C. Sethi, Mr. Sukumar Das, Mr. Bhupinder Chowdhri, Mr. A.S. Chowdhry, Mr. M.G. Arora, Dr. Manish Arora, Mr. Raj D. Mirchandani, Mr. Manas Saikia, Mr. Vinod Vasishtha, Ms. Kalpana Shukla, and several other senior members for their guidance and advice.

I express my sincere thanks for the cooperation and help received from my colleagues – Vice Presidents Mr. Baldev Verma; Mr. Balram Sahdwan; Dr. Himansu Bandyopadhyay; Mr. A.K. Pandey; Hony. Secretary Mr. J.L. Kumar; Hony. Treasurer Mr. Prashant Jain; and Jt. Secretary, Mr. Vikas Chaowdhary.

I owe my thanks to State-Associations affiliated to FPBAI for the active support extended by them, notably Delhi State Booksellers & Publishers Association; The Bombay Booksellers & Publishers Association; The Bangalore Booksellers and Publishers Association, Bangalore; Booksellers’ & Publishers’ Association of South India, Chennai; Knowledge Tree Foundation, Lucknow; Publishers’ & Booksellers’ Association of Bengal, Kolkata; Publishers & Booksellers Guild, Kolkata; Lanka Booksellers Welfare Society, Varanasi; and Rajasthan Publishers & Booksellers Association, Jaipur.

I am happy to place on records my sincere thanks to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, specially Smt. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary-Higher Education; Shri Amit Khare, Jt. Secretary (BP&CR); Shri G.R. Raghavender, Director; and Dr. Suresh Chand, Special Officer (BP&CR), for the valuable support extended by them to us for carrying out our activities.
I am also grateful to National Book Trust, India, particularly Prof. Bipan Chandra, its former Chairman; Shri A Sethumadhavan, the present Chairman; Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director for associating us in their decision-making process in various issues pertaining to the Indian Book Industry, and lending their support to the activities/programmes undertaken by us.

I also express my thanks to Shri Ramesh K Mittal, Chairman-CAPEXIL, Shri S.K. Ghai (Sterling Book House, Noida; and Shri Sukumar Das (New Central Book Agency Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi) for having shared our concerns and lending us their valuable support in various matters.

I convey my thanks to the hardworking and devoted staff in the Federation Office for their ungrudging assistance and cooperation in the performance of my duties.

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<td>2007-08</td>
<td>J.L. Kumar</td>
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<td>S.C. Sethi</td>
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