

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Funds to access content will boost research in India – FICCI**

**NEW DELHI, 15 January 2016:** Speaking at the FICCI Seminar on 'The Role of Publishing in Enhancing Research in India', **Dr. Jagdish Chander, Scientist – G, DST, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India** highlighted that every third pill consumed across the world is made in India and that Indian Publishers can play an important role in knowledge sharing through publication of the research done by Indian scientists and academia.

Emphasising on the role of publishing in India's global research output, **Mr. M. L. Srivastava, Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Govt. of India** urged Indian publishers to consider publishing stand-alone research articles and journals, in order to promote information discovery.

In his opening remarks, **Mr. Rohit Kumar, Co- Chair, FICCI Publishing Committee, and Advisor, RELX Group** informed that the quantum of research publications of China is of way ahead that of India. He added, that between 2004 and 2013, while India's scholarly publications grew between 100,000 and 150,000 that of China grew from 100,000 to 400,000.

However, China is not ahead of India in Filed-weighted citation impact (FWCI) parameter, a fact presented by **Dr. Lalit Singh, Director, Content & Product Strategy, Elsevier**. He added, Indian publishers can play a bigger role in addition to dissemination of research output. Publishers has access to advanced software, which can identify plagiarism, prevent fraud and improve the quality of Indian research output.

During the discussion on challenges and research funding and effect on research output, **Mr. Vikas Gupta, Managing Director, Wiley India** pointed out that if India aims to be part of the top 5 countries, then there is a need to increase government funding to research institutions for access to content.

**Dr. Ramesh C. Gaur, University Librarian, JNU** added that research funding, through limited, should be properly utilized. He further pointed out that though the number Indian publication have increased over the years, the citation count have decreased dramatically. Comparing India and China, he said that two decades back both the countries started from the same position, but today Chinese publication citations are at par with the number of citation of US published research, while we have made little progress in this sphere. He emphasised that there is a need to focus on quality research to meet international standards.

**Dr. Prabhat Ranjan, Executive Director, Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), Govt. of India** emphasized on outcome driven research rather than targeting more publication of research papers.

Sharing his perspective on funding by private sector, **Mr. Kailash Balani, Managing Director, Balani Infotech** said that if we have good academic standards, then private sector (including publishers) would be happy to fund research projects of reputed institutions.

Publishers at the programme pointed out that there is a need to increase funding of quality research, which will increase the publishing worth of Indian authors. They highlighted that access to content is a fundamental requirement for furthering research in India.

\*\*\*