736. Federation of Indian Publishers

ANAND BHUSHAN                                                                   31 July 2013

PAST PRESIDENT AND

CHAIRMAN COPYRIGHT COUNCIL

The Executive Director

Australian Law Reform Commission

GPO Box 3708

Sydney NSW 2001

AUSTRALIA.

Dear Sir,

The Federation of Indian Publishers has received a document pertaining to the recommendations by the Australian Law Reform Communication (ALRC) contained in the Discussion Paper 79 regarding introduction of  ‘fair use’ in the Australian Copyright Law  and free exception for education etc. and is of the view that these are going to adversely impact book publishing and content creation.  It is a valuable contribution of the authors, writers and publishers etc. to the gross national product of any country.  Hence the interest of the authors, the writers and the publishers needs to be protected even in the digitized environment.After all, what is at the core is the “content”.  The  content is the  creation of creativity of the author, writer, illustrator, publisher and distributor collectively.  The publishing industry claims credit for 5 to 7% of the GDP and 6 to 14% of employment besides promotion of culture and civilization.   Whether the rights-holders are fairly remunerated for their production is of utmost consideration.    What needs to be ensured is that they are fairly remunerated.  Since the digital platform has several other sources of revenue, unlike book publishing where the revenues accrue only from sale of books, it is only fair that part of the digital revenues are shared with the  writers, authors and publishers when their copyrighted material is used, so that the creative industry continues to grow.

            This matter was discussed in the Executive Committee of the Federation of Indian Publishers and it was decided that the Federation endorse the submission made by the International Publishers Association (IPA) to the ALRC vide their letter dated 30 July 2013 in this regard.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(ANAND BHUSHAN)

         PAST PRESIDENT AND

CHAIRMAN COPYRIGHT COUNCIL