

## **Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Launches ISBN Portal**

### **ISBN, Now a Click Away!**

A portal for registration and allotment of International Standard Book Number (ISBN) has been launched in New Delhi today in a function at India International Centre by the Union Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development.

Lauding the efforts made by the team of officers in the ministry, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, said that the ISBN portal has been created in a short period of time, to facilitate publishers as well as the authors to register for ISBN online. This interactive automated system would provide fast and efficient services in a stipulated time frame to the Authors and Publishers.

She added that after the feedback from the publishers, a mobile app in the regional languages would also be launched in order to reach out to more and more publishers and authors across the country. She hoped that the publishers and authors from small towns would also be benefited from this initiative. To address the problem of free download of works of authors from the internet, she assured the book writing fraternity that the issue will be discussed with the concerned ministries including DEITY which will be shared with the states.

Prof. Narendra Kohli, eminent author was the Guest of Honor on the occasion. He said that despite being an author, he was not aware about the importance of ISBN, however, in present times, it has become an important part of publishing sector. He further said that this online system is a good initiative towards providing enhanced accessibility to the publishers and authors.

Shri Amish Tripathi, well-known author was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He said that, "ISBN gives an identity to a book. If you do not have it, the bookshops will not sell it." He observed that ISBN is free in India unlike other countries like US and UK where publishers need to pay huge money for its registration. He further added that ISBN was manual and since it is now online, it will help publishers from different parts of the country to get registration done easily and will save their time also. He said that the step would ease the search the bibliographic data of the books written in the country particularly those in the regional language and it would be a signal to the world at large that our country is blessed with the rich writing.

Earlier, Smt. Aparna Sharma, Joint Secretary (BP & CR) welcomed the guests and informed that ISBN Portal is a part of Government's e-governance initiative for streamlining the process of registration and make it user friendly.

Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT, India proposed the vote of thanks. She hoped that through this user friendly system, the publishers and authors would find it easy to register for ISBN.