

PENGUIN INDIA APPOINTS NEW CEO AND PRESIDENT

Delhi/London/New York, Wednesday 1st August 2007... Penguin today announces that Mike Bryan is to become CEO and President of Penguin India from 1st September. He replaces Thomas Abraham who will leave to join the Hachette Group.

Mike Bryan has been with Penguin for 27 years, most recently as International Sales and Marketing Director for Penguin in the UK and US. Under his tenure Penguin's international markets have delivered impressive sales growth. In addition to leading a large international sales team, Mike Bryan has also managed a portfolio of significant international agency relationships including Bloomsbury, Faber & Faber and A&C Black, all of which are also Penguin India agencies. Most recently, his team managed the sales of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* in the majority of export markets.

Penguin Chairman and Chief Executive John Makinson commented: "Mike is one of Penguin's most talented and experienced senior executives. His international experience and Penguin pedigree will bring a real understanding of the opportunities for Penguin in India as well as strengthen our Indian connections with Penguin in the rest of the world. Running Penguin India is one of the most important jobs in the company and I am delighted that Mike will be taking the helm."

Mike Bryan commented: "I am really excited to be joining the Penguin India team and look forward to working with such an outstanding group of colleagues. Penguin India is the envy of all trade publishers with one of the most dynamic publishing lists in the world. India is going through an exciting and rapid expansion and it is going to be a real privilege to be part of it."

Penguin Books India is the largest English language trade publisher in the subcontinent. Headquartered in New Delhi, the company's commercial activity includes the publishing of its own books in the English language and the distribution of books from overseas publishers including the Penguin Group, Bloomsbury, Faber & Faber, A & C Black, Time Warner Books Group UK, and BBC (adult) Books.

Penguin India began publishing in 1987 with seven titles. Today, the company publishes over 200 titles every year and has an active backlist of over 750 titles. Penguin publishes nearly all of India's top bestselling authors, including Kiran Desai, Vikram Chandra, William Dalrymple, Vikram Seth, Arundhati Roy, Shobhaa De, and Mani Bhaumik with Amitav Ghosh the latest world-class new writer to join the list. In February this year Penguin made history by making a clean sweep of the Crossword Awards, India's biggest book awards by winning in all major categories in English. The best book in the fiction category went to *Sacred Games* by Vikram Chandra, non fiction went to *Two Lives* by Vikram Seth, and the popular award went to *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai. Penguin India was the first international publisher in India to develop a sustained publishing programme in a language other than English in 2005.

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For more information: *[insert local contact info]*

Notes to Editors:

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