

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA**  
**ABSTRACT**

G.A. (I&PR) Department - Rules - "The Telangana Media Accreditation Rules, 2025"  
- Orders - Issued.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (I&PR) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O.Ms.No.252**

**Date:22.12.2025.**  
**Read the following:**

1. G.O.Ms.No.239, G.A. (I&PR) Department, Dt:15.07.2016(Telangana Media Accreditation Rules, 2016).
2. G.O.Rt.No.1395, G.A (I&PR) Department, Dt:18.10.2024.
3. From the Special Commissioner, Information & Public Relations Department, Lr.No.6677/MR/2024, dated:16.12.2025.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER:**

The Special Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Department, Hyderabad in her letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above has informed that the State Government in the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> read above has constituted the Special Committee under the Chairman Media academy of Telangana for review and formulate Telangana Media Accreditation Policy/Rules/Guidelines in place of existing guidelines. The Committee has examined and reviewed the existing Accreditation Rules issued vide G.O.Ms.No.239, G.A(I&PR)Dept., dt.15.07.2016, clause by clause and submitted its report duly recommending the new Telangana Media Accreditation Rules. The recommendations of the committee were examined in the series of meetings held by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Public Relations department with the Special Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Department & the Chairman, MATS.

2. In the circumstances reported by the Special Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Department, in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, and after careful consideration, the government in supersession of the existing Rules hereby approves issues "Telangana Media Accreditation Rules 2025" as specified in the Annexure to this order.

3. The Telangana Media Accreditation Rules -2025 as appended in the annexure to this order, shall come into force from the date of issue of this order.

4. The Special Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Department, Hyderabad shall take further necessary action for implementation of the Telangana Media Accreditation Rules -2025 accordingly.

**(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)**

**K. RAMAKRISHNA RAO**  
**CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To  
The Special Commissioner,  
Information & Public Relations Department,  
Hyderabad, Telangana.  
The Chairman,  
Telangana Media Academy of Telangana,  
Hyderabad.

**Copy to:-**

The P.S to Prl. Secy to Chief Minister.  
The P.S to CPRO to Chief Minister.  
The Finance [EBS.I] Department.  
The Law Department.  
The Pay Accounts Officer, Hyderabad.  
The Accountant General, Telangana, Hyderabad,  
SC/SF.

**//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//**

*S.A. Anuraj*  
**SECTION OFFICER**

**ANNEXURE**  
**(to the G.O.Ms.No.252, GA(I&PR) Department, Dt.22.12.2025**

**"Telangana Media Accreditation Rules, 2025"**

**1. SHORT TITLE AND APPLICATION:**

- a) These rules may be called the "Telangana Media Accreditation Rules, 2025".
- b) These rules shall apply to grant of accreditation to the media representatives at the state and district level in Telangana.

**2. DEFINITIONS:** In these rules unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "State" means Telangana.
- b) "Government" means the Government of Telangana.
- c) "Department" means the Information and Public Relations Department.
- d) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner or Special Commissioner.
- e) "Collector" means the Collector of the district concerned.
- f) "DPRO" means the District Public Relations Officer / district head of the I&PR department.
- g) "Accreditation Card" means the recognition of a media representative by the government for the purpose of access to designated official information in the government.
- h) "Media Card" means a recognition given to working journalist of a particular media for welfare measures.
- i) "Committee" means the state media accreditation committee or the district media accreditation committee, constituted by the government under these rules.
- j) "Notice for Meeting" means notice given seven days in advance to the members of the accreditation committee prior to the date of meeting. In case of emergency 48 hours prior intimation to the date of the meeting.
- k) "Quorum" means a minimum of half of the total members of the accreditation committee who are attending the meeting.
- l) "Accredited Media Representative" means the media representative who has been granted accreditation in accordance with these rules to access official information.
- m) "News Media" means the newspaper or periodical or news agency or electronic news media or digital news media.
- n) "Newspaper" means a daily newspaper published on not less than five days in a week containing news of current affairs, public interest in atleast 50% space out of total print area.
- o) "Big Daily" means newspaper having a circulation of above 75,001 copies per day or as decided by the Press Registrar General of India from time to time.
- p) "Medium Daily" means newspaper having circulation between 25,001 to 75,000 copies per day or as decided by the Press Registrar General of India from time to time.



- q) "Small Daily" means the newspaper having a circulation between 2000 to 25,000 copies per day or as defined by the Press Registrar General of India from time to time.
- r) "Periodical" means 'weekly' or 'fortnightly' or 'monthly' containing news of current affairs and public interest other than caste and religion based periodicals having a circulation of atleast 2,000 copies per issue in the state.
- s) "News Agency" means an agency dealing with news of public interest and providing the same to print / electronic media.
- t) "Electronic Media" means satellite news channel / local cable news channel.
- u) "Satellite News Channel" means a news and current affairs television channel telecast through satellite in India and approved / permitted by the Ministry of I&B, Govt. of India and having atleast 50% as news content.
- v) Local Cable News Channel means a cable television network registered under Cable Television Networks (Regulations) Act, 1995 having atleast three (3) news bulletins of 30 minutes each every day.
- w) "Digital News Publisher" means a publisher of news and current affairs content as defined in clause (t) of rule 2 (1) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.
- x) "Government Media Unit" means;
- i. The news unit of Door darshan, All India Radio, Press Information Bureau, News Reel Unit and periodical of Government of India.
  - ii. The publicity cell, media relations section, photo section, publication section, video unit, news recording unit, periodical unit, PR wing and information engineering wing of the Information and Public Relations department.
  - iii. The news unit of the Telangana Film Development Corporation (TGFDC).
- y) "Working Journalist" means any journalist as defined in the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955 or as amended from time to time.
- z) "Media Representative" means the print, electronic, digital news media representative and government media representative.
- i) "Print Media Representative" means the editor, bureau chief, correspondent, principal correspondent, reporter, photographer etc., representing any newspaper, periodical, news agency.
  - ii) "Electronic News Media Representative" means the editor, output editor, input editor, bureau chief, correspondent, reporter, cameraman etc., of any electronic news media.
  - iii) "Government Media Representative" means the representative of official media units of the Government of India, Government of Telangana and Telangana Film Development Corporation.
  - iv) Digital News Media Representative" means editor, bureau chief, content head, content writer.

- v) "Authorised Signatory" means a person allowed / permitted by the management to act on behalf of the media organisation.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY, TERM AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE:

1. (a) There shall be a state media accreditation committee for the state and a district media accreditation committee for every district in the state. The SMAC will issue accreditation at state level and the district media accreditation committee will issue accreditations at district, mandal, constituency level.
  - (b) The term of the said committees is two years from the date of appointment. However the committees shall continue to function till a new committee is constituted. The committee shall meet as and when necessary.
  - (c) Eligibility criteria for members in the media accreditation committees.
    - i) minimum ten years of experience as full time working journalist to represent big daily newspaper.
    - ii) minimum five years of experience as full time working journalist to represent medium daily newspaper.
    - iii) minimum five years of experience as full time working journalist to represent small daily newspaper.
    - iv) minimum ten years of experience as full time working journalist to represent electronic media.
    - v) minimum five years of experience as full time photographer to represent photo journalist.
    - vi) minimum five years of experience as full time cameraman to represent video journalist.
    - vii) Woman journalist with minimum five years of experience as full time working journalist to represent women journalist.
  - (d) If any casual vacancy is caused in the office of the members of the committee due to removal, resignation, illness, death or any other reason before expiry of the period of two years, the vacancy shall be filled with an alternative member by obtaining nomination from the respective body or a new member may be nominated by the government in such vacancy to hold office for the remaining period both in state / district accreditation committees.
  - (e) The members of the state media accreditation committee / district media accreditation committee shall be given accreditation at state level / district level respectively.
2. The State Media Accreditation Committee (SMAC) shall consist of the following members:

a.	1. The Chairman, Media Academy of Telangana 2. The Commissioner, Information & Public Relations Dept.	Chairman Co-Chairman
b.	The representatives of State unit of Working Journalists Unions in Telangana (one each from four unions which would be nominated by Government) 1. 2. 3. 4.	4 (four)
c.	PCI Member (to be recommended by PCI).	1 (one)
d.	Members to be nominated by the Government <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The representative of big daily newspaper (one each from telugu media and urdu media)</li> <li>b) The representative of medium daily newspaper</li> <li>c) The representative of small daily newspaper</li> <li>d) The representative of electronic media</li> <li>e) The representative of photo journalists</li> <li>f) The representative of video journalists</li> <li>g) The representative of women journalists ( one each from print</li> </ol>	2  1 1 1 1



	& electronic media)	1 1 2
e.	The Managing Director of the TGSRTC or his nominee not below the rank of General Manager.	1 (one)
f.	The Chief PRO of South Central Railway or his nominee	1 (one)
g.	The Chief Information Engineer, I&PR Department	1 (one)
h.	The Director/ Joint Director (Media Relations) Information and Public Relations department.	Member - Convener

3. The District Media Accreditation Committee (DMAC) shall consist of the following members:

a.	The District Collector.	Chairman
b.	The representatives of District units of Working Journalists Unions (one each from four unions which would be proposed by the collector and approved by commissioner).  1. 2. 3. 4.	4 ( four)
c.	Members to be nominated by the Government a) The representative of big daily newspaper (one each from telugu media and urdu media) b) The representative of medium daily newspaper c) The representative of small daily newspaper d) The representative of electronic media e) The representative of photo journalists f) The representative of video journalists	2  1 1 1 1 1
d.	The Regional Manager of the TGSRTC or his nominee not below the rank of Depot Manager.	1 (one)
e.	The representative of South Central Railway	1 (one)
f.	The Dy. Executive Information Engineer, I&PR Department	1 (one)
g.	The District Public Relations Officer, I&PR Department	Member-Convener

Note:- Only working journalists are to be nominated from the media category for both SMAC and DMAC as members.

4. Selection process for unions / associations based on notification issued by the government.

The following are the eligibility criteria for inclusion of working journalist unions in SMAC / DMAC.

- Name of the organisation.
- Whether registered under the relevant laws in force for the time being for atleast six years prior to last date of the filing claims.
- If registered, Registration number.
- Thereafter conducting its business continuously shall submit documents in proof thereof.
- Audited balance sheets and annual returns of last six years prior to last date of the filing claims.

- f) Copy of the constitution or memorandum of association. It shall not restrict its membership to any particular region, race, caste, religion.
- g) Membership of the organisation district wise.
- h) Whether the organisation having membership in atleast 50 percent of the total districts of the state from the past six years.
- i) Names of the office bearers, working news organisation, mobile number, e-mail address and with full postal address.

#### **4) SCOPE AND PERIOD OF ACCREDITATION AND MEDIA CARDS:**

- a) Accreditation and media cards may be given in accordance with the rules to the media representatives at the state level and in the districts as recommended from time to time by the committee concerned.
- b) Accreditation is personal and not transferable.
- c) Accreditation shall not confer any official or any special status for media representatives.
- d) Accreditation shall be issued to a media representative to pursue the profession of journalism and not for any other purposes.
- e) An accredited media representative shall not use or print the words "Accredited to the Government of Telangana" on visiting cards, letter heads or on any other form or on any other literature.
- f) The period of accreditation for the media representatives at the state headquarters and at district shall be for two years.
- g) Due to administrative or legal or unforeseen circumstances the validity period of accreditation cards may be extended by the Commissioner, Information & Public Relations Department.
- h) The replacement of accreditation cards are not permitted during the first six months period from the date of issue and last six months before the expiry of the validity period of accreditation. Exceptional cases like transfer or death, exemption may be given. The approval of the replacement cards shall be given by the CIPR at state level, Collector at district level with due verification of genuinity. The date of issue shall be mentioned in the accreditation cards in case of lost / replacement of cards.
- i) In case of loss, the matter may be reported immediately to the nearest police station and after that an application for duplicate card may be submitted to the commissioner of I&PR department / collector for processing with the copy of the FIR from the police station concerned.
- j) A sum of Rs.250/- should be remitted by the media person for issuance of duplicate / replacement card.
- k) The officers of any department / the members of committee authorised by the commissioner / collector shall be permitted to make surprise and random checks to verify the circulation and other required details of the newspapers / periodicals / news agency / electronic news media / digital news media.
- l) The accreditation cards issued to the desk journalists are named as media cards. The media cards are meant for all the welfare measures whereas the accreditation cards are meant for the reporters to have access to the government information along with the welfare measures. The media cards should be given to journalists working at desk of media organizations with the same terms and conditions of the eligibility as prescribed for accreditation cards.

#### **5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR DAILY NEWSPAPERS:**

The following factors are to be taken into consideration for issue of accreditation in respect daily newspapers:

- a) A daily newspaper having PRGI Certification and a minimum circulation of 2,000 copies is eligible for accreditation to its representatives.



- b) The contents of the newspapers shall include news emanating from the government and its departments on social, political, economic developments and other matters of public interest / public importance. The newspaper should contain 50% news out of the total print area, such as articles, reports, editorial, current affairs.
- c) A daily newspaper shall be published not less than five (5) days in a week.
- d) A daily newspaper is entitled for one accreditation to its editor or to the correspondent recommended by the editor from the date of its commencement initially at publication centre only. The additional accreditations shall be considered only after empanelment with I&PR Department.
- e) No daily newspaper shall be extended accreditation facility without Press Registrar General of India registration number.
- f)

Sl. No	Circulation	Document to be produced
1	Above 2.50 lakhs	latest Audit Bureau of Circulation certificate
2	25,001 upto 2.50 lakhs	ABC Certificate or PRGI / RNI Certificate with last three years annual statement
3	Below 25000	Chartered Accountant Certificate (with UDIN)

In case of non submission of ABC / PRGI / RNI certificate and only if CA certificate is submitted, then it shall be treated as daily newspaper below 25,000 circulation until submission of ABC / PRGI certificate, as circulation above 25,000 category mandates ABC / PRGI certificate.

- g) The eligibility criteria for accreditation to the news dailies is detailed in the schedule A.
- h) The management of newspapers shall supply one daily newspaper mandatorily each to the office of the Commissioner, Joint director (Publicity cell) at state level, to the District collector and DPRO of the district concerned at district level and shall obtain acknowledgment on atleast not less than 25 days of every month for issue of accreditation.

#### **6) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PERIODICALS:**

The following factors are to be taken into consideration in respect of periodicals (weekly / fortnightly / monthly).

- a) The minimum standing of the periodical shall be 18 months for issue of accreditations.
- b) A periodical having a minimum circulation of 2,000 copies having empanelment with I&PR Department is eligible for issue of accreditation to its editor or its representatives at the state level.
- c) A periodical having a minimum circulation of 2,000 copies is eligible for issue of accreditation to its editor or its representatives at the district level at publishing centre only.
- d) No periodical shall be extended accreditation facility without valid Press Registrar General of India registration.
- e) Periodical shall submit certificate from PRGI or Chartered Accountant (with UDIN) in support of the circulation claimed.
- f) The contents of the periodicals shall include news emanating from the government and its departments and 50% of articles should be on current, social, political, economic and other matters of public interest.
- g) The eligibility criteria for accreditation to the periodicals is detailed in the schedule C.

- h) The management of periodicals shall supply one copy of their periodical each to the office of the Commissioner, Joint director (Publicity cell) at state level, to the District collector and DPRO of the district concerned at district level depending upon its place of publication and shall obtain acknowledgment on atleast not less than 45 (forty five) issues for weekly, fortnightly not less than 22 (twenty two) issues, monthly not less than 11 (eleven) issues in a year.

#### **7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NEWS AGENCIES:**

The following factors are to be taken into consideration for issue of accreditation in respect of news agencies at state level.

- a) The news agency shall be registered under Shops and Establishments Act, Companies Act, Societies Act at the time of commencement and its standing should be more than five years at state level.
- b) The news agency should have a minimum staff of 5 (five) including two correspondents and one photographer.
- c) The minimum gross annual income of the news agency should be more than Rs. 10.00 lakhs from journalistic activities.
- d) The news agency should have minimum ten paying subscribers from among empanelled newspapers.
- e) The news agency shall submit the annual income certificate issued by the Chartered Accountant (with UDIN) with application for issue of accreditations.
- f) The nature of service of news agency shall be responsible, impartial and non-communal in nature.
- g) The entitlement for news agencies attached to a single newspaper are already included in the entitlement of newspaper and no additional accreditation shall be issued.
- h) The entitlement for accreditation for news agencies at state level is detailed in schedule D.

#### **8. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ELECTRONIC NEWS MEDIA:**

- a) The electronic news media having a minimum standing of one year is eligible for accreditation.
- b) Only satellite channels with 50% news content and local cable news channels having telecast of minimum three (3) news bulletins of 30 minutes each day are eligible for accreditation.
- c) The satellite news channels must be approved / permitted by Ministry of I&B, Govt. of India.
- d) The local cable news channels must be registered under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995.
- e) The cable channels are given accreditations at headquarters only where they are functioning, having their own studio with newsroom, bureau, editing systems and staff.
- f) The engineering wing of I&PR department shall procure regularity certificate with regard to news telecast of cable channels atleast in every quarter from the concerned managements.
- g) The nature of telecast shall be responsible, impartial, non-communal and shall uphold the social and cultural fabric of this country.
- i) The entitlement for accreditation for Satellite / Local Cable News Channels at state and district level is detailed in schedule B.

#### **9. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR DIGITAL NEWS MEDIA:**

- a) The news publishers shall furnish requisite information to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under Rule 18 of the Information Technology



(Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code), Rule 2021, and has not violated the rules.

- b) The website must be atleast one-year old and must be continuously in operation under the same name (website address) for minimum of one year. The period shall be calculated backwards from the date on which the applicant applies for accreditation on behalf of that particular website. This shall be certified by their domain registration. The domain name of the site should also be registered for atleast next two years from the date of application.
- c) "Domain Registration" refers to the process of registering a domain name which identifies one or more IP addresses with a name that is easier to remember and used in URLs to identify particular web pages and the person or business that registers domain name is called the domain name registrant.
- d) "Unique Visitors" refers to the number of distinct individuals requesting pages from a website during a given period, regardless of how often they visit.
- e) To be eligible for one accreditation, a minimum of 5 lakhs unique visitors per month for the last 6 months is required.
- f) The applicants must report their website's average monthly unique visitor count of last six months duly certified by the website's CAG- approved/ empanelled auditors.
- g) The journalists should have a minimum of five years' experience of working in media organisations and should be appointed by the digital news publisher for full time news content creation.
- h) The website should have a registered office in Telangana and correspondents should be based in Hyderabad. The editor of the news portal should be an Indian national.
- i) In case the information submitted by the applicant / organisation is found to be false / incorrect in any manner, the applicant can be suspended and or debarred from applying for accreditation for the next three years.
- j) News Aggregators of digital news media will not be considered for accreditation cards.
- k) The entitlement for accreditation is limited to maximum of only ten cards in Digital News Media category at state level and the selection is at the discretion of the government.

## **10. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:**

The representatives of newspapers, periodicals, satellite news or local cable news channels, digital news media, news agencies such as editors, bureau chiefs, correspondents, reporters, photographers, cameraman, correspondent-cum-photographers, correspondents-cum-cameraman etc., shall fulfil the following conditions for issue of accreditation.

- a) His / Her principle avocation shall be profession of journalism.
- b) The state media accreditation committee shall issue accreditations at state level to the media representatives who fulfil the norms prescribed in these rules.
- c) The district media accreditation committee shall give accreditation at the district/ constituency / mandal level to the media representatives who fulfil the norms stipulated in these rules.
- d) The media representatives residence shall be within the state / national capital delhi for issue of accreditation at state level.
- e) The media representatives residence shall be within the district for which accreditation is sought for issue of accreditation at district / constituency / mandal level.
- f) Accreditations at state level / district level / constituency level / mandal level shall be given only on the basis of authorization given by the editor / bureau chief / authorised signatory of the concerned media organization.
- g) He/ she shall not be an employee of any other organization including government department, quasi government, public sector undertakings and local bodies, nominated posts or any other office of profit in the government.

- h) The correspondents at state and district level must be having qualification of a degree in any subject from a recognised university or five years professional experience with two years consecutive accreditation cards.
- i) The correspondents at constituency and mandal level must be intermediate passed.
- j) The photographers at state level must be having qualification of intermediate passed or three years professional experience including two years consecutive accreditation cards. For fresh applicants qualification must have intermediate passed. At district level the photographer must have qualification of SSC or two years consecutive accreditation cards and for fresh applicants must have qualification of SSC passed along with two years professional experience.
- k) The cameraman at state level must be having qualification of SSC passed or three years professional experience including two years consecutive accreditation cards. For fresh applicants qualification must have SSC passed. At district level the cameraman must have qualification of SSC or two years consecutive accreditation cards and for fresh applicants must have qualification of SSC passed along with two years professional experience.
- l) He / she shall have spent not less than five, three and two consecutive years in the profession of journalism for accreditation at state level, district level, constituency level and mandal level respectively.

#### **11. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FREELANCE CORRESPONDENT / PHOTOGRAPHER / CARTOONIST:**

(a) A freelance correspondent / photographer / cartoonist who has experience of a minimum 15 years of professional experience as full time working journalist / photographer in news organisation(s).

(b) Must have held accreditation card for atleast 5 years.

**(c) Freelance correspondents / photographers / cartoonists shall submit atleast 20 clippings / photos / cartoon clippings published in big / medium dailies in past six months of they ear preceding to the date of application along with acertificate to the effect of submission by him / her from the respective organizations.**

Documents to be submitted:

- i) Copy of appointment and relieving letter(s) of previous organisation(s)
- ii) 20 clippings / photographs / cartoons with by- line published in big / medium newspapers in past six months. Clippings from in-house journals will not be accepted.
- (d) The veteran journalists, who have put in not less than 30 years in the field of journalism, and have attained more than 58 years of age are eligible for accreditation as veteran journalist.
- e) Retired officers of the I & PR department in the rank of Public Relations Officer or above closely associated with media during their tenure of service are eligible for issue of accreditation on application.

#### **12. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR GOVERNMENT MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:**

- a) He / She shall be working in the media units of Government of India or State Government or TGFDC.
- b) The following categories may be considered for issue of accreditations to their media units namely:-

##### **1. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA:**

- a. The news editors / correspondents / cameramen of news unit of doordarshan.
- b. The news editors / correspondents of news unit of All India Radio.
- c. The representatives of the Press Information Bureau.
- d. The news reel officer of films division.
- e. The representatives of the periodicals of the Government of India.

##### **2. STATE GOVERNMENT – I&PR DEPARTMENT:**

- a. The officers and staff of PR wing of the level of Publicity Assistant and above.



- b. The officers of Information Engineering wing from the level of Information Technician and above.
- c. Photographers / assistant photographers.
- d. Video cameraman / assistant video cameraman.
- e. The operators working in the news recording unit.
- f. The representatives of the state government periodicals.

### **3. TELANGANA FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:**

- a. The representatives of the level of assistant manager and above.
- b. The video cameraman / assistant video cameraman.

### **13. PROCEDURE FOR ACCREDITATION:**

a) The editor / bureau chief / head of the govt., media unit / freelance journalist shall apply to the commissioner for issue of accreditation for the media representatives at state level and to the district collector for media representatives in the district in the prescribed online proforma.

b) All the applications for accreditation shall be placed before the respective committee and accreditation will be granted on the recommendations of the committee by the chairman/co-chairman at state level and district collector in the districts.

c) If the committee decides not to grant accreditation to an applicant/organisation the fact of such decision shall be recorded in the minutes.

d) The commissioner, at state level and the collector in the district may issue temporary accreditation, in special cases, to the media representatives for maximum period of three months in a year to facilitate them to cover specific events.

### **14. WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION:**

The committee / commissioner / collector may suspend, withdraw the accreditation issued to any media representative under the following circumstances:

- a) If an accredited representative has been charged with a serious cognizable offence, engaged in non-journalistic activities or conducts himself / herself in an unprofessional or undignified manner or uses his professional offices for unprofessional or unethical purposes.
- b) If an accredited representative is found to have given false information fully about himself / herself or about his/her organisation and if the committee, after given reasonable opportunity is satisfied that the charges are true.
- c) If the government / commissioner gives permission to prosecute the accredited representative for defamation.
- d) When an accredited media representative ceases to represent the media organisation on whose behalf he / she is accredited or when the newspaper / periodical / news agency / electronic news media / digital news media ceases to function, the fact shall be brought to the notice of the commissioner / collector in writing within 15 (fifteen) days by both the representative and the editor / bureau chief and the accreditation card shall be returned to the commissioner or the collector. If the representative fails to surrender the accreditation card within three months from the date on which he / she ceases to represent the organisation, he / she shall not be extended the accreditation facility for a period of two years, even if he / she represents any other organisation subsequently. If any accredited media representative ceases to represent the media organisation and fails to surrender the card, the organisation should be made accountable and the media organisation shall not be issued another card applied in place of the un-surrendered card. Except closure for a short period for reasons beyond control (such as industrial disputes, public health emergencies or natural calamities).
- e) If the editor or bureau chief or head of the media unit or private electronic media and digital news media wants cancellation of accreditation to their representatives.
- f) If the newspaper / periodical / news agency do not give accurate and authentic circulation figures, gross annual income and other data as prescribed in these rules.

- g) If the website (digital news media) stops functioning, the accreditation granted to it shall be withdrawn. The same should be communicated to I&PR within seven days by the applicant as well as by the organisation owning the website.
- h) Violates any of the terms and conditions of the accreditation under these guidelines
- i) Does not fulfill any of the conditions on which the accreditation was granted.
- j) If the media representative does not bring to the notice of the commissioner, I&PR department in writing within seven (7) days that he/she ceases to represent the news media organization on whose behalf he/she has been accredited.

#### **15. APPEAL:**

The aggrieved applicant or organization shall be entitled to make an appeal for reconsideration to the commissioner for district level accreditation and to the secretary, Information and Public Relations for state level accreditation. If the applicant is not satisfied with the reply of the secretary for state level accreditation cards and commissioner for district level accreditation cards, then only the aggrieved applicant shall approach other platforms for grievance redressal.

#### **16. REVIEW:**

a. There shall be a review of the accreditations by the SMAC and DMAC if necessary.

b. For purposes of such a review, information regarding circulation, gross revenue, continuous telecast of news bulletins of electronic media, eligibility criteria as prescribed in these rules and other information etc. required for review are to be furnished by the organisation.

c. The commissioner / district collector may communicate the decision of state media accreditation committee / district media accreditation committee as the case may be to the concerned organisation whenever necessary.

d. The SMAC / DMAC reserves to itself the right to recommend or reject grant of accreditation. In all accreditation cases, decision of the Government shall be final.

**17.** Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, government shall be free to take any action warranted by circumstances in the matters relating to accreditation and the decision of the government shall be final.

**K. RAMAKRISHNA RAO**  
**CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**



**SCHEDULE – A**  
**ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED NEWS DAILIES**

Sl. No.	Newspaper Circulation	State Level		District Level			Mandal Level
		General	Delhi/NCR	Hyderabad District	Publishing Centre	District Headquarter (Excl. Hyderabad)	
1	Above 2.50 Lakhs	12 C+ 12 MC+ 2 Ph	1 C+ 1 Ph	6 C+ 6 MC+ 2 Ph	4 MC	2 C + 1 Ph	1 Card per Mandal
2	75,001 to 2.50 Lakhs	8 C+ 8 MC+ 1 Ph	1 C+ 1 Ph	4 C+ 4 MC+ 1 Ph	4 MC	2 C + 1 Ph	1 Card per Mandal CA (with UDIN) certificate for circulation (minimum 150 for mandal) duly verified by Chairman, DMAC.
3	25,001 to 75,000	6 C+ 6 MC+ 1 Ph	NIL	NIL	1 MC	1 C + 1 Ph (Including Hyderabad district)	1 card per district
4	15,001 to 25,000	1 C+ 1 Ph	NIL	NIL	1 MC	1 C (Including Hyderabad district)	1 Card per district for the mandal with highest circulation CA (with UDIN) certificate for circulation (minimum 100 for mandal) duly verified by Chairman, DMAC.
5	2000 to 15,000	1 C	NIL	NIL	1 MC	NIL	NIL

**SCHEDULE – B**  
**ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED SATELLITE / LOCAL CABLE NEWS CHANNELS / DIGITAL NEWS MEDIA**

Sl. No.	Category	State Level		District Level	Constituency Level
		General	Delhi/NCR		
1	Satellite Channels headquarter at Hyderabad	8 C+ 8 MC + 8 Cameraman	1 C+ 1 Cameraman	1 C+ 1 Cameraman	1 Correspondent cum Cameraman
2	National Channels	2 C + 2 Cameraman	Nil	Nil	Nil
3	Local Cable Channels at Studio / News room	Nil	Nil	1 C + 1 Cameraman	Nil
4	Digital News Media	1 C (only 10 cards allotted in this category)	Nil	Nil	Nil

**NOTE:** The satellite channels are categorized into two based on the TRP /BARC ratings and only the top 10 channels shall get eligibility for accreditation cards at constituency level.



**SCHEDULE – C**  
**ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED PERIODICALS**

<b>MONTHLY / FORTNIGHTLY / WEEKLY</b>	
<b>State Level</b>	<b>District Level (only at Publishing Centre)</b>
1 C	1 MC

**SCHEDULE – D**  
**ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED NEWS AGENCIES**

Sl. No.	Category	State Level
1	Whose annual income is more than Rs. 50.00 lakhs	4 C + 4 MC
2	Whose annual income is from Rs.10.00 lakhs to Rs. 50.00 lakhs	2 C + 2 MC

**K. RAMAKRISHNA RAO**  
**CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**