

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF CENTRAL MEDIA ACCREDITATION GUIDELINES**2022****Prahlad*****INTRODUCTION**

Central Media Accreditation guidelines are the tools of the Government of India. These guidelines are helpful for the government to recognize different kinds of media persons working in India. With the help of these guidelines, the government tries to keep watch on the functions of different media in India. The government can recognize different types of media persons who fulfill the provisions given in the guidelines and can even remove the media persons that they think, is a threat to the country's security. The government shares the official information with the recognized media persons. So, it is very important to revise the guidelines to keep a check on the activity of the recognized media persons. The government can also recognize the new media persons working in different media sectors when the government thinks it will be helpful for the country and its citizens. It also helps to prevent the media persons from misusing any information for their benefit. Central Media Accreditation guidelines are released by the ministry of information and technology, the government of India. There are 2,457 media persons in this country, who are recognized by the government of India through Central Media Accreditation Guidelines. The Central Media Accreditation will be done by the Central Media Accreditation Committee.

Eligibility for Central Media Accreditation 2022 in the category of working journalist in news agencies as per the Working condition code 2020 in the news organizations:

1. The person should have a minimum of five years of experience as a full-time journalist, working in a news organization.
2. The persons who are doing a job on contract in a news organization are also eligible to apply for Central Media Accreditation if their contract is valid for a minimum of one year from the date of applying for Accreditation.
3. The media persons living in the National Capital Regions are eligible to apply and get Central Media Accreditation.

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4. The applicants must have a letter of recommendation from the head of the institution where they are working.

Necessary documents to be submitted by the applicants for Central Media Accreditation in the category of working journalists in the news agency:

1. Copy of Aadhar, Pan Card, or Passport.
2. Copy of appointment letter of the organization in which they are working.
3. Copy of salary receipt of last three months.
4. A copy of photographs taken by the applicant in the last six months.
5. Documents like electricity bills or telephone bills or Voter id cards for the residence proof

Eligibility for applying in the category of a self-employed journalist who is currently not working in any news organization:

1. The applicant must have 15 years of professional experience as a full-time journalist or cameraman in a news organization.
2. The applicant must have got a PIB award for a minimum of 5 years.

Documents require for filling the application in the category of self-employed journalists:

1. Copy of Aadhar, Pan Card, or Passport.
2. Copy of appointment letter of the organization in which they are working.
3. The copy of 20 photographs published by applicants in the last six months in print media.
4. The applicants working in electronic and digital media have to provide the links of a minimum of 20 works, done by them in the last six months.

Eligibility to apply for Accreditation in the category of Veteran Journalists:

1. Applicants must be of the age of 65 years or above.
2. Applicants must have worked as a journalist for at least 30 years.
3. Applicants must have an award for their career as a journalist.

Eligibility to apply for Accreditation in the category of technicians:

1. The applicants must be technicians and are working in a news organization as full-time workers and must be recommended by the signatory authority of his organization.

Eligibility for applying for Accreditation of print media organization:

1. In the Daily newspaper category, the organization must have circulated a minimum of 10000 copies of the newspaper, containing a minimum of 6 to 12 pages.
2. In the weekly newspaper category, the organization must circulate a minimum of 15000 copies and must have a minimum of 6 full pages for the weekly newspaper, and must have 8 pages for the fortnightly newspaper.
3. The applicant organization must have filed a statement with the Registrar of Newspapers for India, for a minimum of 3 consecutive years.
4. Newspaper organizations who circulate magazines must have circulated a minimum of 10000 copies with a minimum of 40 pages in each published magazine.

Documents required for Accreditation of print media organization:

1. Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) registration certificate.
2. Circulation certificate of the organization from RNI along with CA letter after verifying document.
3. The newspaper organization that circulated 1000 to 25000 newspapers daily must-have circulation certificate issued by RNI empaneled Chartered Accountant.

Accreditation Eligibility in Electronic news organization in Satellite news channel with Current Affairs:

1. News Channel must have permission from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under the Unlinking and downlinking guidelines for private satellite news channels.

Documents required for above Accreditation:

1. Photocopy of permission given by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the satellite news channel with current affairs.
2. Copy of renewal permission from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

3. Copy of name and logo of News Channel approved by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Eligibility for applying in the category of news agencies in the category of Print and electronic for Central Accreditation:

1. The news agencies must have a minimum of 100 subscribers and also provide subscriber lists.
2. The copy of permission by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting if they are electronic news agencies.

Documents required for Accreditation of news agencies:

1. Copy of Registration certificate of the news agency
2. Latest annual revenue certified by Charter Accountant.
3. Copy of agreement with their subscriber and also have to provide copy terms and conditions of the agreement.

The new thing added in Central accreditation guidelines 2022 are for digital editors. Now digital news publishers are also part of Central Media Accreditation.

Eligibility for applying for Accreditation in the category of digital news publishers:

1. Digital news aggregators are not eligible for Accreditation.
2. The publisher has not violated the rules and regulations of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under rule 18 of Information technology rules 2021.
3. The website of the digital news publishers must be at least one year old.
4. The applicants must provide monthly average visitors to their websites. The applicants have to provide an average of six months, certified by CAG website auditors.
5. The applicants must have worked for at least five years in a media organization and must be appointed by the digital media publisher as a full-time job,
6. The office of applicants must have their registered office in National Capital Regions.

Conditions for withdrawal of Accreditation in Category of digital editors:

1. If the website of the applicant stopped working then the Accreditation provided by the government to the publishers will be withdrawn and the same will have to be communicated to PIB within 7 days.
2. If the information provided by the applicants will be false then the applicants can be suspended for giving applications for Accreditation for at least 3 years.

Terms and conditions for change in organizations or category:

1. The person has to submit his or her accreditation card to PIB within 7 days after changing or leaving the previous organization,
2. The applicant has to apply again, with a change in the organization within 1 month after the surrender of the card. If they fail to apply then they will be treated as fresh applicants.

Documents required to apply after the change in Organization.

1. Recommendation letter by the editor of the working organization for the Accreditation.
1. Copy of Appointment letter of the present organization.
2. Reliving letter from Previous organization

NO OF ACCREDITATION FIXED IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY**1. Print Media based on the circulation of daily, weekly newspapers and magazines:**

NO. OF CIRCULATION	No. of Accreditation
10,000 - 25000	1
25,001 - 50000	2
, 50,001 - 75000	4
75,001- 1 lakh	10
Above 1 lakh	15

2. News Agencies:

Agency	No. of Subscriber	No. of Accreditation
Print Media	100 – 500	20
	Above 500	50
Electronic Media	100 -500	12 correspondents, 12 camera person, 12 technicians
	Above 500	15 correspondents, 15 camera persons, and 15 technicians



- Foreign based dailies and Periodicals – 7 Accreditation
- Foreign news agencies – 2 Accreditation

3. TV news production/ telecast organization:

Category	No of Accreditation
Satellite TV News Channel	15 correspondents, 15 camera persons and 15 technicians

4. Foreign TV / Electronic media:

Category	No of Accreditation
Radio broadcasting Organization	4 correspondents
TV news telecasting organization, news agency	8 correspondents and 8 camerapersons

Tv and radio news channel with the hourly telecast of current affairs and programs	12 correspondents and 12 camera persons
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5. Digital News Publishers:

Category	NO. of Accreditation
Websites with 10 lakhs to 50 lakhs visitors per month for the last six months	1
Websites with 50 lakhs to 1 crore visitors per month for the last six months	2
Websites with above 1 crore visitors per month for the last six months	4

Situations in which Accreditation can be canceled:

1. Uses of Accreditation for non-journalist activities
2. If the concerned person has a charge of serious offense
3. If the person's car is ceased by the concerned organization whom he is representing
4. If he or she failed to apply for renewal in a fixed period

Renewal of Accreditation card:

The card has to be renewed every year and for renewal, persons have to apply online. and have to submit the documents asked during the renewal of the card.