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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT—ACCREDITATION RULES FOR ACCREDITATION OF
MEDIA PERSON REPRESENTING NEWS PAPER, NEWS AGENCIES, VISUAL, AUDIO AND
OTHER ELECTRONIC MEDIA—MODIFIED—ORDERS ISSUED

INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (C) DEPARTMENT

G. O. (P) No. 08/13/I&PR.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 11th October, 2013.

Read:— 1. G. O. (P) No. 9/2000/PR dated 8-12-2000.

2. Minutes of the meeting of the State Press Accreditation Committee held on 1-4-2013.

ORDER

As per the reference first above rules for granting accreditation to Media persons representing Newspaper, News Agencies, visual, audio and other electronic media has been issued.

A Committee has been constituted for making the recommendations for granting accreditation to media persons representing electronic media also in the State. The Committee has submitted detailed report to Government. The State Press Accreditation Committee discussed the proposal and forwarded recommendation to Government. Government have examined recommendations.

Government are pleased to order the change of name of the “State Press Accreditation Committee” into State Media Accreditation Committee.

Government are also pleased to approve the modified rules as detailed in Annexure for granting Accreditation to persons representing daily Newspaper, News Agencies, Visual, Audio and other electronic media institutions transmitting information.

By order of the Governor,

P. S. RAJESH,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To

All Regional Deputy Directors.

All District Information Officers.

Deputy Director (MR)/Information Officer, Press Release.

Stock file/Office copy.

RULES FOR ACCREDITATION TO MEDIA PERSONS REPRESENTING PRINT, VISUAL,
AUDIO AND OTHER ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Rules for accreditation of Media Persons

1. (a) These rules apply to the accreditation of the persons working in connection with the Indian Press, Audio and Video electronic media such as daily newspapers, news agencies, broadcasting and telecasting institutions transmitting information in the State and other levels within the State of Kerala, irrespective of its territory of origin but working within the territorial limits of Kerala.
- (b) Media persons of Press and electronic media working in other States of India, but having headquarters in Kerala.
- (c) Amended rules will apply for new applicants only.
- (d) Every application for press and Journalist accreditation should be filed in the concerned District Information Office with copies of relevant documents.

2. Application form in Annexure-I for accreditation in the prescribed form shall be submitted by the media persons with due recommendation of the Managing Director/Managing Editor/Chief Editor/Editor of newspapers or in the case of news agency, by the General Manager and in the case of electronic media by the Managing Director/Chief Executive/Chief of news of the Institution along with relevant documents to the District Information Officer or the official designated by the Director, Information & Public Relations Department. District Information Officer or the designated officer should send the application after scrutiny and with proper recommendations to the Director, I & PR. Director shall place the application before the sub-committee of the State Media Accreditation Committee. The sub-committee shall scrutinize the application and shall place before the main committee for approval of its recommendation. The decision of the State Accreditation Committee shall be final and authoritative.

Relevant documents to be furnished for accreditation:

1. Application form in Annexure-I.
 2. Appointment Letter/Promotion Order.
 3. Confirmation letter.
 4. Proof of age.
 5. Attested copies of Educational Qualification.
 6. Salary slip.
 7. PF details.
 8. Two photographs.
- 2 (1) Media Institutions under B, and A categories, should produce additional documents which enlisted in Annexure II along with application for Accreditation.
 - 2 (2) The officer concerned shall issue certificate regarding circulation only on the conditions of compliance of the norms specified in Annexure II.
 - 2 (3) Inspecting officers shall submit a copy of inspection report to the accreditation sub-committee through press release section for approval.

- 2 (4) The Accreditation sub-committee if it deems to be necessary, can recommend for reinspection.

- 3 (1) *The Reporters should fulfill the following conditions for Press accreditation.*

- (a) He/She should have completed at least 21 years of age at the time of submitting application.
- (b) He/She should be a Graduate from a recognized University.
- (c) He/She should be a regular confirmed employee of the media institution listed in I & PR media list and should have at least two years experience as a media person.

- 3 (2) *For Journalist accreditation, media persons should fulfill the following conditions:*

Journalist Accreditation will be issued to the media persons working on the editorial/desk of media houses. Media persons applying for the journalist accreditation should have five years working experience. All the other rules of press accreditation are applicable to the journalist accreditation also. The media persons working in the metro cities outside Kerala mentioned in clause 6 shall also be given journalist accreditation. Proof readers are also eligible for journalist accreditation.

- 3 (3) *Press Photographer Cameraman should fulfill following conditions for Press Accreditation:*

- (a) He/She should have completed at least 21 years of age at the time of submitting application. He/She should have passed plus two.
- (b) He/She should have worked as a photographer/videographer for not less than two years in one or more media institutions listed in I & PR media list.

- 4 (1) *In the case of news agencies, the following conditions are to be ensured :*

- (a) Continuous functioning for a period of not less than 5 years.
- (b) Serving at least ten news papers or at least 5 channels for visual media.
- (c) Regularity in service and supply.

5 (a) Accreditation will normally be limited to dailies which have been continuously in existence for a period of two years with a minimum certified circulation of 3,000 copies in the case of dailies published from within the State and 50,000 copies in the case of English daily newspapers published from outside the State.

(b) Electronic media accreditation will be limited to electronic media institutions which have been continuously broadcasting/telecasting news for a period of at least one year and properly registered to the authority concerned.

6. The following shall be the allotment of accreditation to the media and can be amended by the State Accreditation Committee as and when necessary.

Print Media

<i>Place</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Reporter</i>	<i>Photographer</i>
Thiruvananthapuram	D&E	10	4
	C	7	2
	B	2	1
Kochi/Kozhikode	D&E	8	3
	C	4	2
	B	2	1
Other Production Centres	D&E	4	2
	C	3	2
Other Districts	D&E	4	1
	C	3	1
	B	2	1
Delhi	D&E	6	3
	C	3	2
Mumbai	D&E	3	2
	C	2	1
Bangalore	D&E	3	2
	C	2	1
Chennai	D&E	3	2
	C	2	1

Visual Media

<i>Place</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Reporter</i>	<i>Cameraman</i>
Thiruvananthapuram	News Channels	6	6
	National Channels	3	3
Kochi/Kozhikode	News Channels	5	5
	National Channels	2	2
Other Districts	News Channels	2	2
	National Channels	1	1
Delhi	News Channels	4	4
	National Channels	1	1
Mumbai	News Channels	2	2
	National Channels	1	1
Bangalore	News Channels	2	2
	National Channels service	1	1
Chennai	News Channels	2	2
	National Channels	1	1

- (a) Press accreditation will also be granted to a maximum of three correspondents in the case of news agencies at the State headquarters and two each in Kochi and Kozhikode.
- (b) State accreditation committee members are also eligible for press accreditation card.
- (c) Accreditation will also be granted to one correspondent of the Hindi, Kannada and Tamil dailies having circulation in Kerala. Such dailies should have total circulation of more than 50,000 copies.
- (d) One press accreditation to media persons may be issued to category A news papers having production centers at Thiruvananthapuram at their production centers, if this category news papers have editions in any other districts, one press accreditation may be issued in that particular district also.

7. (a) A media accreditation card signed by the Director of Information & Public Relations will be issued to each accredited media person. Admission to special function will, however be governed by invitations.

- Note:—*(1) The person to whom an accreditation card is issued is responsible for its safe custody.
- (2) The card shall be issued on calendar year basis. Two months time is allowed for the renewal of the card. If the card is not renewed within this period, the card will be treated as cancelled.
- (3) The card should be surrendered in the event of transfer or when the person concerned ceases to be an accredited media person or on the demand by Media Institutions.
- (4) 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 District Information Officer for processing with the copy of the FIR from the police station concerned.
- (5) A sum of ₹ 250 should be remitted by the media person for issuance of a duplicate card.

8. Accreditation card is non-transferable.

9. Accreditation does not confer any official status on the media person. Government merely recognize that the media person represents the media institution that employs him/her. He/she should not use any letter head and or visiting card with the words "Accredited to the Government of Kerala" etc.

10. (a) When a media representative ceases to represent the newspaper or electronic media or the news agency on behalf of which he is accredited, the fact should be brought to the notice of the Director of Information & Public Relations in writing by the media correspondent/photographer or by the Managing Director/Managing Editor/Editor or Proprietor of the newspaper/electronic media and in the case of a news agency by the General Manager concerned within fifteen days, failing which facilities accorded to the newspaper and electronic media or news agency be withdrawn by the Director of Information & Public Relations and action taken will be communicated to the members of the Media Accreditation Committee. An accredited media correspondent/photographer who is continuously absent for three months from the headquarters shall forfeit his accreditation. This absence may be extended to any period on a written request from the Managing Director/Managing Editor/Editor or Proprietor of the newspaper and electronic media or the General Manager of the news agency. The accredited media person will also directly inform the Director of Information & Public Relations about his absence from headquarters.

(b) The accreditation facilities extended to media person of the print and electronic media or news agency will be withdrawn and the accreditation cancelled in case the newspaper or news agency or electronic media suspends or ceases publication/broadcasting/telecasting for over a period of six months. In such cases the accreditation facilities withdrawn will be restored to the media person immediately after the newspaper or news agency or electronic media resumes publication as such within a period of two months or for any period found reasonable to the Director of Information & Public Relations.

11. (1) A media person will be liable to disaccreditation or for cancellation of covering facilities if :—

(a) In the course of his duties he behaves in an undignified, unethical or unprofessional manner.

(b) He ignores or violates the condition on which information and facilities are provided by Government or acts contrary to any provision of these rules or of the direction of the Director of Information & Public Relations.

(2) Action under rules 11(i) will be taken by the Director of Information and Public Relations. If aggrieved by the decision of the Director of Information & Public Relations he/she may file appeal before the Press Accreditation Committee at its next meeting.

(3) If there is any complaint against the person holding accreditation other than prescribed in these rules, the case shall be reviewed by the sub-committee.

Retirement

12. The accreditation ceases when the person completes the age of 60 or retires from service whichever is earlier.

13. The list of accredited media persons should be reviewed annually by the concerned Information Officer and it will be placed before the Accreditation sub-committee when changes are noted in any item like status and service and viewership etc. of the newspapers/news agencies or electronic media.

14. These rules will come into effect from the date of issuance of the order.