

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4076
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.04.2022

ACCREDITATION TO JOURNALISTS

4076 SHRI JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has brought in new provisions for granting and enabling journalists to have accreditation;
- (b) if so, the details of amendments made in the guidelines;
- (c) the reasons for such changes;
- (d) whether the Editors Guild of India demanded withdrawal of these new guidelines by referring the same as vague, subjective, arbitrary and draconian; and
- (e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) to (b) The Government has issued “The Central Media Accreditation Guidelines, 2022” for grant of accreditation to working journalists and other categories of persons at the headquarters of the Government of India, in accordance with the eligibility criteria and other conditions, etc. laid down under these guidelines. The changes *inter-alia* include grant of PIB accreditation to the journalists working with digital news publishers, constitution of a sub-committee for quick decision making, adherence to various statutory compliances, etc.

(c) The accreditation guidelines were amended to recognise the rapidly evolving media landscape in the country including emergence of digital media and to streamline the accreditation process.

(d) to (e) The Government has received certain comments from Media bodies etc. on “The Central Media Accreditation Guidelines, 2022” dated 1st February, 2022. These guidelines were formulated after taking into consideration suggestions received by the Press Information Bureau (PIB) from various stakeholders including Members of the erstwhile Central Press Accreditation Committee, Media Associations, representatives of online media, etc.
