

PRESS ACCREDITATION RULES

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HOME (B) DEPARTMENT

N O T I F I C A T I O N

Dated Dispur, the 1st August, 1989

No.HMB.75/87/20: Whereas it is considered necessary and expedient to frame new rules relating to Press Accreditation / Recognition and matters incidental there to the Governor of Assam is pleased to make the following rules:

CHAPTER-I

Short title
Commencement

1. These Rules may be called the Assam Press Correspondents(Accreditation/Recognition) Rules, 1989.
2. These Rules will come into force from the date of their notification in the official Gazette and on such notification, these rules supersede all such rules which were already in force.

CHAPTER-II

Definitions

3. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise required:
 - a) "Government" means the State Government of Assam.
 - b) "Director" means the Director of Information and Public Relations, Government of Assam appointed as such by the Government.
 - c) "Press Accreditation Committee" means the Committee set up by the Government under these rules.
 - d) "Accredited Correspondent" means a correspondent who has been granted accreditation in accordance with the procedure prescribed by these rules.
 - e) "Recognised Correspondent" means correspondent who has been granted recognition in accordance with the procedure prescribed by these rules.
 - f) "Press Correspondent" means a correspondent representing any Newspaper/News Agencies as defined in Working Journalist (Conditions of service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955 and employed as a whole time correspondent by the employer of Newspaper/News Agency.
 - g) "Stringer" means a correspondent not in the whole time employment of any Newspaper/News Agency and who is paid a retainer's fee as per the Wage Board Regulations for working Journalist.
 - h) "Editor" means the person who is declared as the editor under the Press and Registration of Books Act 1967.

- i) "Newspaper" means a daily, bi-weekly, tri-weekly, weekly & such other periodical publication containing public news and comments on public news.
 - j) "Press Photographer" means a photographer representing any newspaper and employed as a whole time photographer by the employer of the newspaper concern.
4. There will be two types of Cards-one-denoting accreditation and the other recognition. The accreditation / recognition card will be given only to those who fulfill the conditions laid down in these rules.

Constitution of the Committee

5. 1) "The Government shall constitute a Committee consisting of 10(ten) members, eight of whom will be nominated from amongst Editors and Working Journalists of different categories of News papers and representatives of recognised Journalist Bodies. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam or his nominee will be the Chairman of the Committee and the Director of Information and Public Relations, Assam will act as its member Secretary".

Term of the Committee

- 2) The normal term of the Press Accreditation Committee shall be for two years; but the Government may in special circumstances, extend the term of the Committee for any period not exceeding one year.
- 3) The Committee shall meet once in every three months by giving seven clear days notice to the members, but an emergent meeting may, however, be called after giving 48 hours notice.
- 4) The four members of the Committee shall form a Quaram for a meeting.
6. Upon receipt of the application of any matter relating to accreditation/ recognition of Press Correspondent, the Director of Information & Public Relations shall refer such matter with relevant information to the Press Accreditation Committee for disposal.

Accreditation / Recognition Procedure of making application

7. 1) Application for accreditation / recognition shall be made by a correspondent through the Editor/Management of the Newspaper or News agency in which he is employed, to the Director of Information and Public Relations, Assam for accreditation / recognition at the State Level.
- 2) In regard to the recognition at District level the application for recognition shall be made through the District Information & Public Relations Officer of the District concerned to the Director of Information and Public Relations Officer shall while forwarding the application certify that the application has not been convicted in a court of law for committing offence involving moral turpitude or criminal extortion in the course of acting in his profession, provided that in no circumstances the District Information and Public Relations Officer shall withhold any such application.

