

**Government of Himachal Pradesh
Information and Public Relations Department**

No. Pub-A(3)-4/2026

Dated Shimla-171002

11th August, 2026

NOTIFICATION

In partial modification of this department Notification No. Pub-A(3)-1/2015 dated 16th February, 2016 the Governor, Himachal Pradesh is pleased to make the following rules further to amend the **Himachal Pradesh Press Correspondents Accreditation and Recognition Rules, 2016**, published in Rajpatra, Himachal Pradesh on 29.02.2016 for the Accreditation and Recognition of Press Correspondents in Himachal Pradesh, namely:-

Short title and commencement

1.(1) These rules may be called the Himachal Pradesh Press correspondents Accreditation and Recognition (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026.

(2) These rules shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Rajpatra (e-Gazette) Himachal Pradesh

Amendment of rule 6

2. In Rule 6 of the said rules for clause (3) (i) shall be added, namely:-

"Decision for Granting/refusing Accreditation/Recognition will be taken **within six months** after the receipt of application in the office of Director of Information and Public Relations, Himachal Pradesh and reasons would be recorded if application is rejected. Time period taken for completion of all codal formalities and verification of character/antecedent of the applicant shall be excluded from **six months** till the receipt of report from authorities. Provided that final decision to regularize/continue the Accreditation/Recognition will be taken by the Press Accreditation committee as per the provisions under para 8 of these rules".

Substitution of Rule 7

3. In rule 7 of the said rules for clause (d) shall be substituted and sub clause of (d) (i) shall be added namely:-

"(d)" For Accreditation/Recognition under Rules 3 (3), the Press Correspondent should have Bachelor Degree/Diploma in Journalism/Mass Communication from University recognized by University Grants Commission and minimum **ten years** experience in the profession of Journalism for State Level Accreditation/Recognition, **five years** experience for District Level Accreditation/Recognition and **three years** experience for Sub-division level Accreditation/Recognition from any recognized media group. Correspondents who do not possess Bachelor Degree/Diploma in Journalism/Mass Communication from University recognized by University Grants Commission should have minimum experience of fifteen years in the field of journalism".

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"(i) For Accreditation/ Recognition the Photographer/Cameraman should have one year certificate course in Photography/Digital Photography/Videography from ITI recognized by NCVT/SCVT or a Photographer/ Cameraman on the pay rolls of any National daily or National Channel or higher qualification and **ten years** experience for State Level Accreditation/Recognition, **five years** experience for District Level Accreditation/Recognition and **three years** experience for Sub-division level Accreditation/Recognition from any recognized media group."

In case Photographer/Cameraman does not have one year certificate course in Photography/Digital Photography/Videography from ITI recognized by NCVT/SCVT or a Photographer/ Cameraman on the pay rolls of any National daily or National Channel or higher qualification shall possess **fifteen years** experience in the field of Photography/Digital Photography/Videography from any recognized media group".

Substitution of para 10

4. For rule 10 of the said rules for clause 10 (a) shall be added, namely:-

"Facilities to the Accredited Correspondent/Photographer/Cameraman:- Facilities which are being given to the Accredited Correspondent/Photographer/Cameraman or are to be given would be subject to the decision of concerned Department/Board/Corporation, or other institution. These facilities shall be extended to accredited journalists only up to the age of 60 years. The relaxation of two years in the age could be granted to the correspondents in exceptional cases".

Amendment of para 11

5. In para 11 of the said rules, clause (1):-

(a) For sub clause (c) the following shall be substituted namely:-

"(c) In the course of his duties as Correspondent/Photographer/Cameraman, if he/she behaves in an undignified or unprofessional manner, reproduces story/news item or any other content based on fake/distorted/ incomplete/ incorrect/false information/news/ photograph, or paid news or produces distorted audio video or clippings or commits an offence involving moral turpitude"; and

(b) after sub clause (e), the following shall be inserted namely:-

"(f) Found guilty of Paid News as defined by Election Commission of India. Paid News would be taken into consideration after final decision of ECI".

By order

Rakesh Kanwar
Secretary (IPR) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Pub-A(3)-4/2026

Dated: Shimla-2

11th August, 2026

Copy for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Secretary to Governor, H.P., Shimla-171002.
2. All Administrative Secretaries to the Govt. of H.P.
3. The Media Advisor to the Chief Minister, H.P.
4. The Accountant General, H.P., Shimla-3.
5. All the Heads of Department in H.P.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners in H.P.
7. The Director, Information & Public Relations, H.P. Shimla-2.
8. The Under Secretary GAD to the Govt. of H.P. in compliance to item No. 54 of Cabinet meeting held on 22.05.2026.
9. All the District Public Relations Officers in H.P.



(Om Prakash)

Under Secretary (IPR) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh