

**THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (INTERMEDIARY GUIDELINES AND DIGITAL  
MEDIA ETHICS CODE) RULES, 2021**  
(AVAILABLE [HERE](#))

**FAQS**

● **WHAT IS RULE 18?**

Rule 18 stipulates that publishers of news and current affairs content furnish two types of information to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting:

(i) *information of the details of its entity to enable communication and coordination (within 30 days of the publisher coming into existence)*

- The Ministry provided the format for information by Public Notice dated [26 May, 2021](#)
- By communication dated [10 June, 2021](#) the time for furnishing such information was extended by 15 days
- By communication dated [9 September 2021](#) the [Authorised Officer](#) published a reminder for furnishing such information
- **It is suggested that members who have not yet furnished the information do so in Annexure-I or Annexure-II (as applicable) immediately**

(ii) *a periodic compliance report every month mentioning the details of grievances received and action taken thereon*

- Rule 19 stipulates that publishers (and self-regulating bodies) display such information publicly and updated monthly
- The Ministry provided the format for information by Public Notice dated [9 September, 2021](#)
- Publishers/self-regulatory bodies are required to upload such information on their websites by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month

● **CURRENT STATUS OF THE RULES**

S.NO.	COURT	STATUS
1.	Supreme Court of India	Various petitions, and transfer petitions were clubbed together for hearing, however no substantial order passed Next date of hearing: 21.03.2023
2.	Madras High Court	Action taken by the Authorities in terms of rule 3 read with rule 7 will be subject to further orders of the Court.
3.	Bombay High Court	The operation of sub-rules (1) and (3) of Rule 9 of the IT Rules of 2021 have been stayed.
4.	High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam	The Court directed that no coercive steps be taken against LiveLaw and the other petitioners for non-compliance of provisions in Part III of the IT Rules of 2021

5.	High Court of Delhi	The Court has issued notice of the challenges to the IT Rules of 2021 to the Union of India. No stay has been granted on the operation of any part of the said Rules.
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- **WHO DO THE RULES APPLY TO?**

- News Aggregator [**rule 2(o)**]
- Publishers of:
  - (i) news and current affairs content [**rule 2(t)**]. This includes “**individuals**” who transmit content in the course of systematic business, professional or commercial activity
  - (ii) online curated content [**rule 2(u)**]
- [Significant] / Social media intermediaries [**rules 2(v) and 2(w)**] [**Note:** By Notification dated **25 February, 2021** the threshold for social media intermediaries to be considered “significant” was specified as **fifty lakh registered users in India**]

- **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF DIGIPUB?**

On 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting approved the registration of Digipub as the Level II Self Regulatory Body as per rule 12 of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.