

Government of India
Ministry of Electronics and IT

New Delhi, 6th June, 2022

Press Note

Putting the Interests of Digital Indians First

Proposed amended IT rules to provide additional avenues for grievance redressal apart from Courts and also ensure that the Constitutional rights of Indian citizens are not contravened by any Big-tech Platform by ensuring new accountability standards for SSMLs.

Will not impact early stage or growth stage Indian companies or Startups.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "IT Rules, 2021") on 25th February, 2021.

The goals of these rules are to ensure an Open, Safe & Trusted and Accountable Internet for all Indian Internet Users and Digital Nagriks. These rules have succeeded in creating a new sense of accountability amongst Intermediaries to their users especially within Big Tech platforms.

However, as the digital eco-system and connected Internet users in India expand, so do the challenges and problems faced by them, as well as some of the infirmities and gaps that exist in the current rule vis-a-vis Big Tech platform. Therefore, New amendments have been proposed to the IT Rules 2021, to address these challenges and gaps.

As a part of pre-legislative consultation process, a copy of the aforesaid draft amendment to the IT Rules 2021 has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (www.meity.gov.in) for public feedback and inputs. These are being offered for public consultation and comments from all stakeholders for the next 30

days. A formal public consultation meeting will be arranged by Mid-June, and the details will be notified soon.

Comments on the draft amendment may be shared at the following e-mail IDs – dhawal.gupta@meity.gov.in, notan.roy@meity.gov.in in either MS Word (or compatible format) or machine readable PDF format.