NewsMeter

Section 1: Eligibility to be a verified signatory

This section aims to assess if an Applicant meets the eligibility criteria for becoming a verified signatory to the MCA Code of Principles.

1.1 The Applicant is legally registered in India

It should include the type of organization (company, LLP, partnership, trust, society, or sole proprietorship) and the registration number.
If your organization is a distinct unit or team within a larger organization, provide registration details of the parent company.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

NewsMeter is a digital media brand of Fifth Estate Digital Pvt. Ltd running English, Telugu news websites and Youtube channels. Newsmeter is a brand and Fifth Estate Digital Pvt Limited is a company. NewsMeter Fact Check is a separate independent unit. Fifth Estate Digital private limited is a legally registered company under Section 7 of Companies Act 2013 with Registrar of Companies Hyderabad of Ministry of Corporate Affairs India. The Corporate Identity Number of the company is U22300TG2019PTCI34125.

Link: https://newsmeter.in/about-newsmeter-2

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant is an independent unit of a legally registered media company that runs websites and YouTube channels.

1.2 The Applicant's fact-checking activities have a substantial and demonstrable focus on India

Please share a list of articles, fact-checks, any study or research, or a project that demonstrates the applicant's focus on India.
Kindly note:
The assessor will also assess compliance through a review of random fact checks published over the previous year.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/unseen-hands-facebook-ads-funding-and-election-disinformation-in-south-india-732105

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/nirmala-sitharaman-endorses-scam-investment-platforms-no-videos-are-deepfakes-744817

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/students-protest-against-tn-cm-with-get-out-stalin-poster-no-image-is-ai-generated-744509

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/illegal-mosque-in-hyderabad-demolished-find-the-truth-here-744504

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's focus is clearly on India; most of its work focusses on issues taking place in the country or revolving around it.

1.3 The Applicant's fact-checking has been published either in English/Hindi and/or in one of the 22 languages listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India, in the course of the twelve months prior to the date of application

The applicant must have published an average of at least six fact-checks a month over the course of the 12 months prior to the date of application, and at least 75 fact-checks in the twelve months prior to the date of application.
If the applicant is working primarily in an under-represented language, in which no existing founding member of the MCA has been conducting regular fact checks, then the applicant must have published an average of at least 3 fact-checks per month over the course of the twelve months prior to the date of application or at least 75 fact-checks in the 24 months prior to the date of application.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check
https://newsmeter.in/factcheck-telugu
https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-tamil
https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-kannada
https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-malayalam

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

Apart from English, the applicant carries out fact checks in four Indian languages--Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam.

1.4 At least 75% of the Applicant's fact checks must relate to issues that could have an impact on the welfare or well-being of individuals, the general public, or society, or have a public interest element

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months.
No additional information required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

Most of the applicant's fact checks are in the public interest.

1.5 The Applicant's editorial output must not be under the control of the state, any political party, or a politician

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's fact checks are laregly independent and not under the control of the state, any political party or a politician.

1.6 The Applicant must, fully and fairly, disclose if it receives funds from local or foreign state or political sources

If the organization receives funding from local or foreign state or political sources, kindly provide a URL of the page on your website where a statement makes this information publicly available.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

NewsMeter does not receive funding from local or foreign governments, state entities, or political sources.

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has declared that it does not receive any funds from any local or foregin governments or political sources.

Section 2: Non-partisanship and fairness

This section aims to understand how an Applicant ensures impartiality in their fact-checking operation.

2.1 The Applicant fact-checks use the same high standards of evidence and judgement for equivalent claims, regardless of who made the claim

Please share links to 10 fact checks published over the past year that you believe demonstrate your non-partisanship. Please briefly explain how the fact checks selected show that you use the same high standards of evidence for equivalent claims, follow the same essential process for every fact check, and let the evidence dictate your conclusion.
Please provide a link to a page where the applicant shares its SOP for fact-checking equivalent claims, regardless of who made the claim.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

1.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/mosque-demolished-in-uttarakhand-no-video-is-from-indonesia-745123
2.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/amit-shah-announces-death-penalty-for-drugs-and-ragging-crimes-find-the-truth-here-745002
3.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/nehru-said-he-is-english-by-education-muslim-by-culture-and-hindu-by-accident-heres-the-truth-744997
4.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/fact-check-congress-worker-himami-narwal-murder-case-linked-to-love-jihad-no-accused-is-from-same-religion-744702
5.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/sadhgurus-photo-with-daughter-goes-viral-with-misleading-claim-744502
6.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/bjp-graduate-mlc-candidate-anji-reddy-admits-to-buying-party-ticket-for-rs-30-crore-find-the-facts-744275
7.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/pm-cares-funds-for-free-coaching-limited-to-scs-obcs-no-here-are-the-details-744214
8.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/muslim-man-harasses-hindu-girl-in-ups-muzaffarnagar-no-accused-is-hindu-743468
9.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/bjp-winning-delhi-polls-due-to-muslim-vote-split-kapil-mishras-viral-clip-is-doctored-743276
10.https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/fact-check-stone-pelting-on-maha-kumbh-train-claim-of-communal-attack-is-false-743146

Demonstration of Non-Partisanship & High Standards

The selected fact checks cover a wide range of claims involving different political parties, public figures, and communal narratives. NewsMeter applies the same rigorous verification methods—including reverse image/video searches, forensic analysis, official statements, and open-source intelligence (OSINT)—regardless of the claim's origin.

Our fact-checking process ensures that:

Each claim undergoes independent verification using primary and authoritative sources.
The same methodology is applied across political and social claims to maintain consistency.
The evidence dictates the conclusion, rather than bias or pre-existing narratives.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Fact-Checking Equivalent Claims

NewsMeter follows a standardized, transparent methodology for evaluating claims. The detailed SOP can be accessed here: https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology
https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant uses the same standards of evidence and jugement for equivalent claims, regardless of who made the claim. It also publishes a Standard Operating Procedure on its website.

2.2 The Applicant does not unduly concentrate its fact-checking on any one side

Please provide a link to a page on your website where the following is explained:
How you select claims to check,
How you establish the importance and reach of a claim, and,
How you ensure that your fact-checking is not concentrated on any one side.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology
https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's fact checking is non-partisan. It makes a declaration on its website on how they fact check depending on the reach and importance of the claims. The fact checking is not concentrated on any one side.

2.3 The Applicant discloses on its website and/or in the fact check any reasonable conflict of interest, other relevant interests, or bias, including that of the experts or organisations cited in the fact check

Please provide a link to a page where this policy is outlined on the applicant's website.
Please provide an example, if one exists, of how such a case was handled.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

NewsMeter is committed to transparency and ensures that any potential conflicts of interest are disclosed in our fact checks. Our methodology outlines our editorial independence and fact-checking standards, which can be accessed here: https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology and here: https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Disclosure of Expert Affiliations

In cases where we cite experts or organizations in our fact checks, we clearly disclose their affiliations, including any political or ideological ties, where relevant. If an expert has a history of association with a political party, government body, or advocacy group, this information is explicitly mentioned in the fact check to provide readers with full context.

For example:

If an expert previously held a position in a political party or government, this will be **stated in the article** to ensure readers are aware of their background.
If an organization cited in our fact check has any **political or lobbying interests**, this is disclosed along with the nature of its work.
Any financial or ideological links of sources that could **influence their perspective** are mentioned where relevant.

This practice ensures that our audience can assess the credibility and neutrality of the information provided, reinforcing our commitment to fair and unbiased fact-checking.

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The non-partisanship policy is clearly elaborated on the applicant's website. The applicant says that it declares interests of sources mentioned in the fact check.

2.4 The Applicant is not affiliated with nor declares or shows support for any political party, any politician or political candidate, nor does it advocate for or against any policy positions on any issues save for transparency and accuracy in public debate

Please provide the URL of the page on your website where you declare that you are not affiliated or support any political party or politician.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/factcheck-team
https://newsmeter.in/non-partisanship-policy-2
https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant is not affiiliated with and does not show any support for any political party or person, nor does it advocate for any issues.

2.5 The Applicant sets out its policy on non-partisanship for staff on its website/in internal documents. Other than for the sake of transparency and accuracy, its employees and consultants are prohibited from making any partisan statements or being involved in advocacy or policy debates on issues that may reasonably leave the audience with questions about its biases

Please provide a link to a page where this policy is outlined on the applicant's website.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/non-partisanship-policy-2

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's policy of non-partisanship is clearly enunciated in its website and makes it clear that its employees cannot make partisan statements or be involved in any policy debates.

2.6 The Applicant discloses any ownership or stake in its organization held by sitting members of parliament, assembly, local governments; office bearers or spokespersons of political parties; or those directly or indirectly associated with political parties

Please provide a link to a page where this policy is outlined on the applicant's website.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/about-newsmeter-2
https://newsmeter.in/factcheck-team

NewsMeter maintains complete editorial independence and does not have any ownership or stake held by sitting members of parliament, assembly, local governments, office bearers, or spokespersons of political parties. Additionally, no individual directly or indirectly associated with any political party has any control over our operations, funding, or editorial decisions.

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has declared that no politician or any one associated with any political party has any stake in the organisation.

2.7 The Applicant does not employ anyone who holds a salaried and/or prominent position in a political party, government, state, or public company under the direct or indirect control of a political party, government, or the state

Please provide the URL of the page on your website where this policy is outlined on the applicant's website.
Please provide an updated list of the currently employed individuals under applicant’s fact-checking operation.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/non-partisanship-policy-2

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's non-partisanship policy makes it clear that its employees are prohibited from any association with any public office.

2.8 The Applicant only advocates for issues that are relevant to the mission of fact-checking, strengthening democracy, and improving general transparency and accountability of various organs of the state, and are compatible with the reputation for independence and impartiality

Please provide a link to a page where this policy is outlined on the applicant's website.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant focuses on fact checking and makes an effort to be independent and impartial.

Section 3: Transparency of sources

This section aims to understand how the Applicant ensures that their readers can independently verify the findings mentioned in a fact check themselves.

3.1 The Applicant identifies the source of all significant evidence used in its fact checks and provides relevant links where the source is available online

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months.
No additional information required.
Kindly note:
The Applicant must identify the source of all significant evidence used in its fact-checks and provide relevant links where the source is available online, such that its readers can replicate their work if they wish.
In cases where identifying the source would compromise the source's personal security, the Applicant should provide as much detail as possible and as is compatible with the source's safety.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant identifies all sources, with links.

3.2 The Applicant uses the best available primary, not secondary, source of evidence

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months.
No additional information required.
Kindly note:
Where suitable primary sources are not available, the applicant explains the use of a secondary source.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant mainly uses reverse image searches and other tools resulting in the use of secondary sources of evidence. Only in a few cases does it contact primary sources.

3.3 The Applicant checks all key elements of claims against more than one named source of evidence, except where the one source is the only source relevant and available on the topic

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant checks all main elements of claims against more than one named source of evidence.

3.4 The Applicant always identifies and discloses its relevant interests, including any commercial relations, and that of its sources, in the fact checks, where the reader might reasonably conclude those interests could influence the accuracy of the evidence provided

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant discloses its sources clearly enough so that the user can conclude whether the interests of the sources could influence the accuracy of the evidence.

Section 4: Transparency of funding and organisation

4.1 The Applicant is an independent organization

Please provide the link to a page on your website detailing each source of funding that accounts for 7.5% or more of total revenue for the previous financial year.

This page must also set out the legal form in which the organization is registered (such as a non-profit, company etc) and the applicable details of its directors, and role of shareholders with 7.5% or more holding in the company.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/about-newsmeter-2

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant receives most of its funding from its promoters and some of it from advertising and news aggregators that pick up their content.

4.2 The Applicant is a dedicated fact-checking section or unit in an organization

Please share a link to a place on your website where the Applicant declares that there is no editorial interference by the parent organisation on the fact checks being carried out.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/factcheck-team

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant is a fact-checking unit of a media house and states so on its website.

4.3 The Applicant discloses the names of persons or entities holding over 10% of the shares/stakes in it

Please share a link to a place on your website where the Applicant provides the names of persons and entities that hold more than 10% shares in it. This applies for both independent fact-checking organisations as well as fact-checking operations that are part of a bigger parent company.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/about-newsmeter-2

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant mentions how the unit is funded--its promoters hold more than 10% shares in.

4.4 The Applicant provides information about who runs its editorial operations and how

Please share a link to a place on your website where the Applicant provides the following information:
An organizational structure
By whom editorial control is exercised
Clarify how is editorial control exercised
The professional biography of all those who, according to the organizational structure, play a significant part in its editorial output.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/factcheck-team

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's website sets out its organisational structure lays out the professional biographies of its members.

4.5 The Applicant provides an easy means on its website and/or via social media for users to communicate with its editorial and fact-checking team

Please share a link to where on your website and/or social media where you encourage users to communicate with your editorial team. This includes all interactive channels such as tiplines, chatbots, social media handles, email addresses etc.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

NewsMeter provides multiple channels for users to communicate with our editorial and fact-checking team. We actively encourage the public to submit claims for verification and engage with us through the following platforms:

Website Contact Page: https://newsmeter.in/contact-newsmeter
WhatsApp Tipline: +91 7482 830 440 (for submitting fact-check requests)
Email: factcheck@newsmeter.in
Social Media Handles:

Twitter/X: https://twitter.com/NewsmeterFact
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/newsmeter
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/newsmeter.factcheck

We actively monitor these channels to ensure quick responses to fact-check requests and reader inquiries.

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has various channels through which users can communicate with the editorial team and the website. It invites users to send in claims through a WhatsApp tipline, it has a website contact page and

website. It invites users to send in claims through a WhatsApp tipline, it has a website contact page and social media handles through which users can get in touch.

Section 5: Transparency of methodology

5.1 The Applicant's fact-checking methodology is available on its website

Please provide a link to the statement on your website that explains the methodology you use to:
Select fact-checks
Research fact-checks
Write fact-checks
Publish fact-checks
Includes definitions of any/all rating systems used

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor

NEEDS MORE INFO

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's fact-checking methodology is available on its website. It explains how claims are selected, how they are verified, how the rating systems work, too. However, if a user were to click the words Fact Check Methodology at the bottom of the page on the website, it says 404 error. That needs to be checked.

Applicant

NEEDS MORE INFO

Date: 19/04/2025

This glitch has been fixed. Please check it now.

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 20/04/2025

The applicant's fact-checking methodology is available on its website. It explains how claims are selected, how they are verified, how the rating systems work, too.

5.2 The Applicant selects claims to fact-check based on their reach and importance

The Assessors will review the methodology to make sure it is complete.
Kindly note:
In its methodology, the Applicant explains how it selects claims to check, how this explains its reach and importance; and where possible explains the reason for choosing the claim to check.
No additional information required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant selects claims to check based on their reach and importance.

5.3 The Applicant provides evidence that supports and undermines a claim, irrespective of who made the claim

Assessors will review the methodology to make sure it is complete. No additional information required.
Kindly note:
The Applicant provides all the relevant evidence in a fact check that appears to support the claim, as well as relevant evidence that appears to undermine it.
The Applicant assesses the merits of the evidence found using the same applicable high standards, regardless of who made the claim.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant provides evidence that supports the claim and that might undermine the claim and uses the same standards to judge all claims.

5.4 The Applicant makes a demonstrable effort to contact the person/organization making the claim to seek supporting evidence

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.
Kindly note:
If the proponent of the claim fails to reply in a timely manner, this should not impede the fact check.
If the proponent adds caveats to the claim, it is free to continue with checking the original claim.
If it determines that reaching out to the proponent of a claim may endanger their online/offline safety in any manner, it may not reach out.
If the claim is already in the public domain through social media etc., the Applicant is not under obligation to reach out.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant might make an effort to contact the person making the claim to seek supporting evidence,

but it would be difficult to find evidence of that.

5.5 The Applicant encourages readers to send in claims to fact check

Please provide a link or links to channels where the public can submit claims for verification while making it clear what readers can legitimately expect will be fact-checked and what isn't fact-checkable.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

NewsMeter actively encourages readers to submit claims for fact-checking through multiple channels. We have a clear process outlining what types of claims can be fact-checked and what falls outside our scope.

Submission Channels:

WhatsApp Tipline: +91 7482 830 440
Email: factcheck@newsmeter.in
Website Submission Page: https://newsmeter.in/contact-newsmeter

Social Media Handles for Fact-Check Requests:

Twitter/X: https://twitter.com/NewsmeterFact
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/newsmeter
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/newsmeter.factcheck

What We Fact-Check:

Viral claims, images, and videos that could mislead the public
Political statements, government policies, and official announcements
Health-related misinformation, including medical and scientific claims
Misinformation that could incite communal or social unrest

What We Don't Fact-Check:

Personal opinions or unverifiable rumors
Satirical or fictional content that is clearly labeled as such
Private disputes or allegations that lack public interest or verifiable evidence

This information is also available in our **Fact-Check Methodology**: https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has various ways of encouraging readers to send in claims to fact-check. The methodology makes it clear about what can be fact-checked and what cannot.

5.6 The Applicant quotes experts after establishing their credibility

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.
Kindly note:
Assessors will look for professional work experience, educational qualification etc. of the quoted experts in fact-checks or mentions peculiar circumstances that will qualify him/her to stand as specially qualified.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applciant has largely used credible sources and experts.

5.7 The Applicant ensures each investigation undergoes at least one round of editing before publication, by someone other than the author

Assessors will review the methodology to make sure it is complete. No additional information required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has indicated that all fact-checks are vetted by at least one other person before they are published.

5.8 The Applicant presents findings in precise, factual, and non-emotive language while taking care not to overstate conclusions

The assessor will assess compliance through a random review of the fact checks published over the previous three months. No additional information required.
Kindly note:
This means the opinion of authors/fact-checkers in the article should never be included.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant uses clear, precise and objective language to present its fact checks.

Section 6: Open and honest corrections policyy

6.1 The Applicant has a corrections or complaints policy that is easily and prominently visible and accessible on its website

Please provide the link to a page on your website detailing the process for:
Identifying and publishing corrections
Readers to register complaints
Kindly note:
The policy sets out a clear definition of what it does and does not cover
How major mistakes, especially those requiring revised conclusions of a fact check, are handled
Communicates that some complaints may justify no response
The applicant adheres to the corrections policy scrupulously

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has a clear corrections policy that is accessible on it website. The policy explains how corrections are carried out.

6.2 Where credible evidence is provided demonstrating that the Applicant has made a mistake worthy of correction, it makes the correction openly and transparently, seeking to ensure as far as possible that readers of the original see the correction and the corrected version

Please provide a short statement on how the Applicant's corrections policy was adhered to over the previous year. Kindly include evidence of two examples of the responses provided by the Applicant to a correction request over the previous year. Where no correction request has been made in the previous year, you must state this in your application, which will be publicly available in the assessment if your application is successful.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Text

At NewsMeter, we are committed to maintaining accuracy and transparency in our fact-checking. Our corrections policy ensures that if an error is identified, we promptly update the fact-check with the corrected information and provide a clear explanation of the change.

Over the past year, we have not received any formal correction requests. However, our editorial team continuously reviews feedback and remains open to making corrections if credible evidence is provided. We strive to uphold the highest journalistic standards by verifying information rigorously before publishing and updating our reports when necessary.

Our corrections policy is outlined in detail here: https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant states that it has not received any formal correction requests over the past year.

6.3 The Applicant, existing verified signatories or those seeking renewal, sets out the complaints policy expressly. It informs its readers (either on its corrections/complaints page or on the webpage where it declares itself to be an MCA verified signatory) that if they believe the verified signatory is violating the MCA Code of Principles, they may raise a complaint with the Fact Checking Network (FCN) Board through the link provided on the verified signatory's website

Please provide the link to a page on your website detailing the process for readers to register complaints
If you are a verified signatory of the MCA, please provide the link to a page on your website that explains readers that they can raise a complaint with the FCN Board through the link provided on the verified signatory's website.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **NEEDS MORE INFO**

Date: 18/04/2025

Since this is a first-time application, this criteria does not hold. However, the applicant has provided a link to the International Fact Checking Network's complaints page. Also, it has now provided a link to its methodology page.

Applicant **NEEDS MORE INFO**

Date: 19/04/2025

We've outlined this under Clause 3.2 of methodology category on our website, where users are given two options to address complaints—one through our editorial team and the other via IFCN's Code of Principles complaints mechanism. https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 20/04/2025

Since this is a first-time application, this criteria does not hold. However, the applicant has provided a link to its methodology page and provided an email address for users to contact them in case of any corrections that need to be made.

6.4 If the Applicant is the fact-checking unit of a media company, its parent company adopts and adheres to the same corrections policy as is being followed by the Applicant

Please provide a link to the parent media company's honest and open corrections policy and provide screenshots of corrections as evidence that it adheres to this.
If you are the parent company then you have already provided this information in previous points. No further evidence required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy
https://newsmeter.in/grievance-redressal-form-2

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant is a fact-checking unit of a media house and the media house has a similar corrections policy.

Section 7: Intellectual property rights

7.1 The Applicant publishes all fact checks on its website, and does not keep the fact checks behind a paywall. The fact checks should be easily accessible in the public domain and without coste

The assessor will review a random selection of fact checks published over the previous year. No additional information required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

All fact checks are in the public domain and not behind a paywall.

7.2 The Applicant observes & respects intellectual property laws, creative commons licences, copyrights when using, modifying, and/or merging any contente

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy or guidelines regarding the use and respect of intellectual property rights.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Terms&Conditions-2
https://newsmeter.in/privacy-policy-2

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has stated that it observes and respects intellectual property and copyright laws apart from creative commons licences.

7.3 The Applicant allows, where possible & applicable, the organization's content to be used for non-commercial purposes under a Creative Commons license with source attribution

Please provide the link(s) that has the Creative Commons license or a similar open licensing statement clearly displayed, either on content or on a visible part of the website along with clear guidelines for how to attribute their work.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Terms&Conditions-2

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has extensive details on how content can be used with source attribution, on its website.

7.4 The Applicant respects the output of other fact checking institutions/initiatives and independent fact checkers, and does not republish or reuse any part thereof without obtaining explicit consent or crediting the source clearly; and where possible, does it only after notifying them, based on the license type of the content

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy or guidelines on reusing fact-checks of other fact checking institutions/initiatives and independent fact checker/s.
Please provide examples, if any, where you collaborated with other fact-checking institutions/initiatives and independent fact-checkers for a fact-check, explaining your methodology.

APPLICANT Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/fact-check-methodology

Assessor´s verdict: **COMPLIANT**

Conversation:

Assessor **COMPLIANT**

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's website states its policy on reusing fact checks of other fact-checking entitites.

7.5 The Applicant discloses all references and sources that have been used in the fact-check

Kindly provide your answer as a Yes/No

The assessor will review a random selection of fact checks published over the previous year. No additional information required.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

Yes

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant mentions all references and sources used in the fact check.

Section 8: Commitment to privacy and safety

8.1 The Applicant obscures the image and/or identity of subjects of a fact-check article when there is a reasonable concern for their safety, privacy, and dignity, including but not limited to, images/identity of children, victims of heinous crimes and sexual assault against women, and other vulnerable individuals

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy regarding use of sensitive subjects such as children, victims of crimes, and other vulnerable individuals.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor

COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has a policy, clearly stated on its website about the use of sensitive subjects.

8.2 The Applicant is restrictive, respectful, and considerate when mentioning or identifying minors (as permitted under existing law) and makes all possible efforts to protect their privacy

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy for mentioning or identifying minors and the efforts it would take to ensure and protect their privacy.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The editorial policy of the applicant states how it identifies (or does not) minors and how it will protect their privacy.

8.3 The Applicant anonymises, or at least partially conceals, any personal information (such as telephone numbers, IDs or passports, bank account numbers, email addresses etc) that could allow the harassment of people, except in cases where it forms the crucial evidence of a fact-check, subject to applicable laws including the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy on handling personal information in their fact-checks. The policy should stress the importance of anonymization and seeking consent when necessary.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/Editorial-Policy

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant's editorial policy states how it handles personal information in its fact-checks, including anonymisation.

8.4 The Applicant has put in place measures that aim to address the risk of trauma or harassment experienced by staff as a result of its activities, from both internal and external actors, including but not limited to, providing training to prevent and identify symptoms.

Please provide the link to a page on your website that states the policy regarding harassment and trauma experienced by staff. The policy should include definitions, procedures for reporting and addressing incidents, and potential consequences for those involved.

APPLICANT

Date: 21/02/2025

https://newsmeter.in/staff-safety-and-well-being-policy

Assessor´s verdict: COMPLIANT

Conversation:

Assessor COMPLIANT

Date: 18/04/2025

The applicant has a staff well-being policy regarding possible harassment and trauma experienced by staff. It clearly explains how it would deal with any incidents.

staff. It clearly explains how it would deal with any incidents.