

**F. No. L-13/14/2014-IGD**  
**Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**  
**Internet Governance Division**  
**6, CGO Complex,**  
**Electronics Niketan,**  
**New Delhi – 110003**

**Dated: 23-10-2019**

**Subject: Guidelines for allocation of registration at the third level under .GOV.IN domain zone.**

Ref: (1) Order No. 7(3)/04-CC&BT dated 20th November, 2004.

(2) Guidelines issued vide F. No.L-13/14/2014-IGD dtd. 06-04-2015.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) had issued guidelines for allocation of registration under .GOV.IN domain. National Informatics Centre (NIC) had been made the authorized registrar for .GOV.IN vide F. No.L-13/14/2014-IGD dated 06-04-2015. NIC has been allocating .GOV.IN domain names in accordance with these guidelines. These guidelines are now being revised with prospective effect in order to cater to the rapidly growing requirements for the future as well as to provide greater clarity for registration under .GOV.IN domain.

2.1 Eligibility for registration under .GOV.IN domain at the third level would be as follows:

- I. Apex Offices (such as Offices of the Hon'ble President of India, Hon'ble Vice President of India, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India).
- II. Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and their attached/ subordinate offices/ Directorates and Statutory Bodies of such Ministries/Departments.
- III. State Governments & Governments of the Union Territories for States/UT's constituting the Union of India.
- IV. Parliament of India including both the houses and offices of their speaker/ chairman.
- V. Judicial Bodies
  - a) Supreme Court of India as established by Part V, Chapter IV of Constitution of India.
  - b) High Courts for the states established under Article 214 of the Constitution of India.
  - c) Tribunals.

d) All other bodies created by law, by the assent of Government of India to perform any other judicial/quasi-judicial functions such as National Level Lok Adalats and National Legal Services Authority.

VI. All the other Legislative bodies and attached institutions of the Government of India.

VII. Commissions/Councils created by or under the Constitution of India, statute/executive order of the Government of India.

2.2 Generic domain name, and Individual Person's name based domain name shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN. An exception to the above could be considered and decided by the Ministry at one level higher.

2.3 Educational Institutions, Research and Academic Institutions shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domains at the third level. Such organizations could apply for registration under .EDU.IN, .RES.IN or .AC.IN domain zones.

2.4 Financial Institutions/Banks and PSUs/Undertakings of Government of India/State Governments/UTs shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain at the third level.

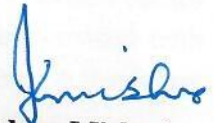
2.5 Autonomous Societies/ Bodies/ Projects/ Schemes/ Events/ Committees of Government of India/State Governments/UTs shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective Ministries/Departments of the Government of India/ State Governments/UTs for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.

2.6 Apex offices of the State/UT such as those of the offices of the Governor/ Lt. Governor/ Administrator/ Chief Minister and the State Legislature such as Legislative Assembly/Legislative Council etc. shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective Ministries/Departments of the State /UT Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.

2.7 Ministries/Departments of State Governments and Union Territories constituting the Union of India, their attached/subordinate offices and their Directorates and the Statutory Bodies of such Ministries/Departments shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective State Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective State/UT's domain zones as applicable.

- 2.8 Local Self Governments as defined in under Part IX of the Constitution of India shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective Ministries/Departments of the State Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.
- 2.9 Attached offices of Local Self Government Institutions as defined under Part IX of the Constitution of India shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective Ministries/Departments of the State Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.
- 2.10 Subordinate Courts including but not limited to District Courts/ Sessions Courts and all other bodies created by law, by the assent of States or UT's of Union of India such as State Level Lok Adalats/State Legal Services Authorities etc. established by State/UT Governments constituting the Union of India shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level. They may be considered by the respective Ministries/departments of the State/UT Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.
- 2.11 Commissions/Councils created by statute/executive order of or by the executive order of the State /UT Governments shall be ineligible for registration under .GOV.IN domain zone at the third level, however they could be considered by the respective Ministries/Departments of the State/UT Governments for registration at the appropriate level as a sub-domain under their respective domain zones as applicable.
- 2.12 Allocation of .GOV.IN domain will be in conformity with .IN Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (INDRP) as modified from time to time.
- 2.13 Allocation of .GOV.IN domain will be in conformity with latest .IN Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (INDRP) as modified from time to time.
- 2.14 Allocation of .GOV.IN domain shall conform to standard domain naming conventions and WHOIS safeguards.
- 2.15 The registration of a third level domain name that is allocated earlier but not activated/ lying idle for more than one year maybe withdrawn after issuing notices to the registrants/ respective domain registering entities.

- 2.16 Suspension of domains allocations made earlier at the third level under .GOV.IN domain zone may result, if the website is found to be in violation of guidelines issued by this Ministry/office from time to time. However such suspension would result after issuing notice and giving opportunity to the defaulting registrant to rectify such violation.
- 2.17 A separate committee comprising Director (MeitY), representative of NIC & representative of National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) will review the assigning of .GOV.IN domain names at the third level from time to time.
- 2.18 An exception to the above guidelines could be considered and decided by the Secretary/MeitY on receipt of such requests from the Secretary concerned of the Government Organizations as provided for in para 2.1.
- 2.19 These guidelines will come into force with immediate effect. However, existing allocations already made under the previous guidelines will continue till alternative allocation and migration plan are worked out by the Ministry/Department in consultation with NIC/MeitY.



(Jaideep Mishra)

Joint Secretary

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**Copy to:**

All Concerned Ministries/ Departments of Government of India  
IT Secretaries & SIO's/NIC for All Concerned State/UT Governments  
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