F.No. 29/15/Misc/2019-TC GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING Office of the Registrar of Newspaper for India

9th Floor, Soochna Bhawan, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003

28.02. 2023

To

District Magistrate/District Collector/ADM/DCP/CMM/ District: State:

Sub: Submission of Form 1 Declaration to O/o RNI as per PRB Act, 1867

As you are kindly aware, the Office of Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) is mandated to verify titles and register newspapers based on the authenticated Declaration (Form1) from DM/Collector/SDM/CMM/DCP/Specified authority, as per the **Press and Registration of Books Act (PRB Act)**, **1867.** The Declarations authenticated as per Sec.6 of the Act are to be forwarded 'as soon as possible' by the Authenticating Authority to the Press Registrar as per Sec.6 proviso 2, to make relevant entries in the Register maintained by the Office of RNI (**Copy enclosed**).

In this regard, it has been noticed that the authenticated Declarations are not received directly from the authority concerned, in many cases. Therefore, this office has been processing applications based on original/attested/notarized copies of the Declarations submitted by the Publishers themselves. It has also come to the notice that at several instances altered/forged Declaration copies were received from publishers of some newspapers. In such cases, the matter has been intimated to the district authorities concerned for necessary inquiry.

In view of the above, RNI has revised its guidelines and it is decided that in the fitness of things and as mandated under the Act, the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India, hereafter, shall process only **those Declarations which are directly and officially received from the Authenticating Authority.** In such cases, O/o RNI will check only the mandatory requirements as per PRB Act and will not be asking for any additional supporting documents from the Publishers.

Therefore, you are requested to ensure forwarding of the authenticated original declarations (Form 1) **directly** to this office, **with effect from 1st April, 2023 onwards.** The declarations may be forwarded to the following office address: The Press Registrar, O/o the Registrar of Newspapers for India, 9th Floor, Soochna Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003. You may also forward the soft copy of the authenticated declarations to the email ID <u>registration-rni@gov.in</u> from your **official email ID**.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr. Dhiraj Kakadia) ADDL. PRESS REGISTRAR