

**Website Quality Certification Body
STQC Directorate,
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology,
Government of India**

TRANSITION PLAN FROM GIGW: 2018 TO GIGW: 2023

Date: 23.05.2023

INTRODUCTION:

GIGW 3.0 significantly enhances the guidance on the accessibility and usability of mobile apps, especially by offering specific guidance to government organizations on how to leverage public digital infrastructure devised for whole-of-government delivery of services, benefits and information. These cover aspects such as API level integration for use of integration with social media, India Portal, DigiLocker, Aadhaar-based identity, single sign-on, data sharing in open formats on the government's data platform, government's scheme discovery platform, government's citizen engagement platform MyGov, AI-based Indian language translation tools, seamless content/data access across web-based solutions of government organizations.

GIGW 3.0 REVISION ANALYSIS:

GIGW 3.0 offers upgraded guidelines on accessibility of websites and apps, with a view to make access to cyberspace more inclusive. In view of incorporation of comprehensive guidance in this version on apps as well (in addition to websites), this version is titled "Guidelines for Indian Government Websites and Apps". However, since the acronym GIGW gained wide currency, the acronym has been retained, with the letter "W" being signifying "Websites and Apps".

The new guidelines covers the following requirements:

- 5.1 Quality: Guidelines and attributes (25 nos.)
- 5.2 Accessibility: Guidelines and attributes (50 nos.)
- 5.3 Cybersecurity: Guidelines and attributes (03 nos.)
- 5.4 Lifecycle management: Guidelines and attributes (10 nos.)

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TRANSITION PERIOD:

GIGW 3.0 : 2023 was released in March 2023 and is set to replace GIGW 2.0 : 2018 within the transition period. STQC Directorate will start accepting new applications for Website Quality Certification in compliance with GIGW 3.0 from 1st October, 2023. All organizations that wish to remain certified in Website Quality Certification will need to do transition to the GIGW 3.0 : 2023 revision of the standard within the set transition period. The overall allowable transition period is expected to be 01 year from date of launch (i.e., from October 2023 through October 2024) or next surveillance audit whichever is earlier. The Organization (Client) is supposed to make changes in website, processes and documentation as per GIGW 3.0:2023 and submit the changes during Surveillance Audit..

STQC's goal is to maintain a clear transition plan that is easy for our clients to comprehend and apply. We aim to guide clients to make the transition from GIGW 2.0 to GIGW 3.0 as smooth as possible.

During that transition period, certificate issued under the scheme will remain valid.

PREPARING FOR YOUR GIGW 3.0 TRANSITION:

- Organizations must transition their existing *website* in accordance with the requirements to GIGW before their surveillance and transition audit is conducted. This should include gap analysis, any documentation changes, review of Security audit & corrective actions based on results, review of WQM, training of employees, and evidence of any new change in process/functional requirements.
- Organizations must conduct an *internal audit and management review* before surveillance and transition audit.

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YOUR GIGW 3.0 TRANSITION AUDIT:

- All organizations must have a transition audit to confirm the implementation of the revised standard. The transition audit may be conducted in conjunction with an existing audit or during surveillance audit.
- In case of launch of new website or replacing the certified website due to change in technology/ management decision, the request of certification will be treated as fresh case as per GIGW 3.0.

REVISED GIGW 3.0 CERTIFICATES:

- Non-conformances identified during a transition audit require a corrective action plan(s) to be submitted and approved. An updated GIGW 3.0 compliance certificate will be issued following the compliance to the stated requirements.
- Updated GIGW certificate issuance and validity will be as follows:
 - ✓ *Transition surveillance* – The organization's existing 'Valid Until Date' will be maintained.
 - ✓ *Transition re-assessment* – A new 'Valid Until Date' will be issued for the renewed 3-year period.

Note: For transition during surveillance, payment will be changes as per applicable guideline.

For any other information, Please contact below:

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