F.No. STQC/IT&eGov/WQC/2022

STQC Directorate

Ministry of Electronics & IT

New Delhi

Date: 30.06.2025

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Mandatory Requirement of IAAP Certified Auditor Review Report as a pre-requisite for organisations applying for *GIGW (Guidelines for Indian Government Websites) evaluation* under *Website Quality Certification Scheme (WQCS).***

It is stated that the *Website Quality Certification Scheme (WQCS)* is an essential initiative to ensure government websites are accessible, user-friendly, secure, and in compliance with the Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) issued by MeitY.

2.      Further, in view of increasing emphasis on digital inclusiveness and accessibility standards, it has now been decided that an *IAAP (International Association of Accessibility Professionals) Certified Auditor Review Report* shall be mandated as a **pre-requisite** for any organization intending to apply for GIGW evaluation under WQCS in STQC. This requirement is adopted to:

a) Ensure preliminary compliance with accessibility norms by qualified professionals.
b) Improve the quality and readiness of submissions for GIGW evaluation.
c) Streamline the evaluation process and reduce rejection/rework due to non-compliance.
d) Align with global best practices in digital accessibility auditing.

3.      It is also to be noted that such a pre-requisite will bring credibility, uniformity, and authenticity to the accessibility compliance status of the websites before undergoing final evaluation under WQCS. It is mentioned that the above-mentioned pre-requisite of submitting an IAAP Certified Auditor Review Report may be made applicable mandatorily for all Service Request Forms (SRFs), Work Orders, or any similar formal requests for GIGW evaluation received on or after 01.10.2025.

4.     This timeline will provide sufficient lead time for all concerned Labs to initiate necessary steps for arranging Review Report by IAAP Certified Auditor for their website & mobile app accessibility. It will also allow the applicant organizations adequate time to identify and empanel competent agencies with certified professionals to carry out the required accessibility review, thereby ensuring smooth and uniform implementation of this mandatory pre-requisite across all evaluations.

5.     This is issued with approval of competent authority.

**(Suresh Chandra)**
**Head IT & eGovernance & Scientist 'G'**
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**To:**

1. All Ministries/Department/Organization
2. All STQC Labs
3. All STQC empanelled Labs
4. All employees of STQC CB/CC/Labs -IntraSTQC