

CORPORATE CONNECT

SEBI'S DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY CIRCULARS

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (“SEBI”), *vide* its circular dated July 31, 2025, had mandated all Regulated Entities (“REs”) and Market Infrastructure Institutions (“MII”), to ensure that their digital platforms are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. This was mandated to ensure compliance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 and in accordance with the judgment of the Hon’ble Supreme Court dated April 30, 2025, wherein the Court held that *‘the right to digital access is an intrinsic component of the right to life and personal liberty’*. The circular stated that all REs shall ensure that their digital platforms and content published shall comply with established accessibility standards including adherence to web content accessibility guidelines 2.1 (or its latest version), the latest guidelines for Indian government websites and Indian standard 17802 for accessibility of information and communication technology products and services. It further required the REs to establish strong institutional accountability for digital accessibility by senior oversight and by appointing a nodal officer, setting up accessible grievance redressal mechanisms, and ensuring regular compliance reporting. Digital platforms, know your customer processes and registration systems shall be made accessible by incorporating features such as Indian sign language videos, closed captioning, descriptive audio and alternate text for images. REs shall conduct regular accessibility audits through certified professionals, remediate gaps, and provide staff training on inclusive design and

assistive technologies. Accessibility standards shall also be embedded into procurement, vendor selection, and all new or upgraded digital solutions.

SEBI *vide* its circular dated August 29, 2025, had extended the timeline for the REs to comply with the various compliances. The timeline for submitting the compliance/action taken report and the list of digital platforms were revised from August 30, 2025 to September 30, 2025. Appointment of International Association of Accessibility Professionals (“**IAAP**”) certified accessibility auditors was extended from September 14, 2025 to December 14, 2025. The timeline for conducting accessibility audits of digital platforms was extended from October 31, 2025 to April 30, 2026, while remediation of audit findings was extended from January 31, 2025 to July 31, 2026. The requirement to submit annual accessibility audit compliance reports was extended from April 30, 2026 to April 30, 2027.

SEBI, *vide* its circular dated September 25, 2025, issued compliance guidelines for the earlier circular dated July 31, 2025, specifying the compliance requirements, submission formats, and the mechanism for all REs to submit compliance directly to SEBI. The circular mandated that all submissions shall be sent via email to digital_acc@sebi.gov.in in the prescribed submission formats. Additionally, for REs operating multiple digital platforms, audit reports for all platforms shall be consolidated and submitted together. For example, an RE with 5 digital platforms shall be required to submit a consolidated initial audit report by April 30, 2026, and a consolidated final audit report by July 31, 2026.

SEBI, *vide* its circular dated December 08, 2025, issued clarification on digital accessibility requirements in digital platforms of the REs and has mandated that the investors right to digital accessibility be incorporated into the respective investor charters applicable to various REs, as published by SEBI.

The circular clarifies the following:

- (a) REs are permitted to submit a status report on their readiness and compliance with accessibility requirements for each digital platform by March 31, 2026, to the specified reporting authorities as mentioned in the table below:

Specified reporting authorities		
S. No	REs	Reporting authority
1.	Stock brokers/ Depository participants	Stock exchanges/depositories
2.	Investment advisor and Research analysts	Bombay Stock Exchange Limited
3.	MIIs and rest of the REs	SEBI

REs reporting to SEBI shall submit the status *via* e-mail to digital_acc@sebi.gov.in. The format of submitting a status of readiness and compliance is prescribed in Annexure B of this circular.

- (b) Investors can lodge accessibility related complaints against REs on SEBI's SCORES portal under the designated 'Accessibility' category, and the concerned RE shall resolve the accessibility issue to close the complaint.
- (c) All REs are required to periodically conduct accessibility audits of their digital platforms including websites, mobile applications, and portals through certified accessibility professionals.

DISCLAIMER: The material contained in this publication is solely for information and general guidance and not for advertising or soliciting. The information provided does not constitute professional advice that may be required before acting on any matter. While every care has been taken in the preparation of this publication to ensure its accuracy, Vaish Associates Advocates neither assumes responsibility for any errors, which despite all precautions, may be found herein nor accepts any liability, and disclaims all responsibility, for any kind of loss or damage arising on account of anyone acting/ refraining to act by placing reliance upon the information contained in this publication.

©2026, India. All Rights reserved with Vaish Associates Advocates

OUR OFFICES

DELHI

1st, 9th & 11th Floor,
Mohan Dev Building,
13, Tolstoy Marg,
New Delhi - 110001, India,

TEL: +91 11 42492525,
delhi@vaishlaw.com

MUMBAI

106, Peninsula Centre,
Dr. S. S. Rao Road, Parel,
Mumbai - 400012, India,

TEL: +91 22 42134101,
mumbai@vaishlaw.com

BENGALURU

Bhive Premium
Ramanashree (MG Road) No. 2/1,
Brunton Road, Off MG Road
Opposite Old Passport Office
Bengaluru - 560001, India

TEL: +91 80409 03588/ 89
bangalore@vaishlaw.com



CORPORATE, TAX AND BUSINESS ADVISORY LAW FIRM