

India's PIB Fact Check Unit — A Government Content-Removal Power Struck Down as Unconstitutional

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · India

Pending C-NAPSE evaluation

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

A 2023 IT Rules amendment let a government Fact Check Unit order platforms to remove content it deemed 'fake, false or misleading.' Challenged by journalists and a comedian, it was struck down as unconstitutional by the Bombay High Court in Sept. 2024.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	0/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	0/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	0/3
Scalability beyond pilot	0/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[Press Information Bureau \(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[TechPolicy.Press: Sanity Prevails as Bombay HC Strikes Down FCU](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[Lexology: Bombay High Court Tie-Breaker Judgment](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[Deccan Herald: Bombay HC strikes down amended IT rules](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

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