

QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

Question No.1 : Whether the State Government is implementing the Right to Information Act, 2005, if not the reasons therefore ?

Answer : Pertains to State Government.

Question No.2 :- Have you complied with the provisions pertaining to obligation of Public Authorities under Section 4 of RTI Act such as maintaining all the records duly catalogued and indexed computerisation appropriate records publishing the particulars of the Organisation functions and duties, powers and duties of officers and employees norms etc. etc. as prescribed by the said section of the Act, if not reasons may be cited ? If done partly the details may be given ?

Answer : Yes, Complied with the provisions pertaining to obligations of Public Authorities under Section 4 of RTI Act. For details the information have been called from various power stations by fax which will be received in due course and will be submitted shortly.

Question No.3 : Have you appointed the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) and Central Asstt. Public Information Officer (CAPIO) ? Provide their details and have you publish their details in the print and electronic media for the Information Act general public. Give same details with regard thereto.

Answer :- Not applicable.

Question No.4 : Have you put up any Notice Board (s) at conspicuous place (s) of your establishment depicting the names, designation and other details of your CPIO and CAPIO ? If not why ? depicting

Answer : Yes.

Question No. 5 : Have you appointed appellate appropriate authority in your establishment to decide application at RTI Act details thereof may be provided ?

- 2 -

Answer : Yes, 1st Appellate Authority at Corporate Office and at various Power Stations have been appointed. Details of which have been given at Page No._____ to _____.

Question No.6 : No. of request received by your establishment for obtaining information after the commencement of RTI Act whether information was given in all the cases ? In how many cases information was not provided – with reasons therefore ?

Answer : Number of request received and number of cases information given from January, 2007 to November, 2007 have been given in attached Proforma. However, the information regarding request received and number of cases information provides after the commencement of the RTI Act, 2005 to December, 2006 is called from various Power Stations and after receipt of the same will be sent shortly.

Question No.7 : How many applications were filed with the appellate authority in your establishment and how he disposed all those applications ?

Answer : Number of applications filed and disposed by the appellate authority from January, 2007 to November, 2007 have been shown in attached statement and from the commencement of Act

to December, 2006 have been called from various offices and will be sent shortly.

Question No.8 : Whether case or cases were filed with the State Information Commission or Central Information Commission ? Give details of such cases and outcome thereof ?

Answer : Cases filed with the State Information Commission and details of such cases and outcome thereof is called from various offices / Power stations. After receipt, same will be provided shortly.

- 3 -

Question No.9 : Whether any officer of your establishment has been fined or punished for not providing timely information are refusing information in violation of RTI Act ?

Answer : Not applicable. Not a single Officer of our Establishment (MSPGCL) has been fined or punished for not providing timely information or refusing information in the violation of RTI Act.

Question No.10 : Have you identified the informations in your establishment for which exemption has been provided from disclosure of such information under Section 8 of the RTI Act ?

Answer : Not identified.

Question No.11 : Whether any case of RTI pertaining to your establishment has gone to any court of law by way of an appeal ?

Answer : Details have been called from various Offices / Power Stations of MSPGCL and will be submitted in due Course after receipt of same.

Question No.12 : Generally, what kind of informations are being sort by the General Public from your establishment ?

Answer : Information of Contracts, General Administration, Recruitment etc. and general information is being requested by public.

Question No.13 : What are the arrangements made by your establishment for helping people who are illiterate and / or who live below the poverty line to make an application for self disclosure of information at all levels ?

Answer : During the personal visit the content of information is explained to them verbally and the same is provided free of cost.

- 4 -

Question No.14 : Do you think that a separate resource / allocation is needed for implementing the RTI Act ? Would the existing staff be able to cater to the anticipated demand at all level ?

Answer : Yes, a separate resource allocation is needed for implementing the RTI Act. The existing staff would not be able cater to the anticipated demand at all levels because their own table work is not completed in time and they could not give full concentration to their own office work allotted to them.

Question No.15 : Is it possible / desirable to have a separate committee to monitor the implementation of this Act in your establishment ?

Answer : No, it is not necessary to have separate committee since, the information under RTI Act is normally supplied in time through various Offices / Power Stations.

Question No.16 : What arrangement have been made by your establishment for accepting information request from remote areas ?

Answer : Our Power Stations particularly Hydro Power Stations are located in remote areas and the applications are accepted in these areas by our staff.

Question No.17 : What monitoring mechanism has the establishment has put in place to keep track of all applications received and how they were disposed off ?

Answer : Registers are maintained and applications are attended promptly.

Question No.18 : The Act stipulates that no fee is to be paid by persons living below poverty line ? What guidelines have been issued for proper implementation of this provision ?

- 5 -

Answer : Training under RTI Act 2005 have been given from the YASHADE, Pune for correct implementation of the RTI Act provision.

Question No.19 : Whether any frivolous complaints had been received by your establishment during the last one year ? If so what should be done to handle frivolous demand for information ?

Answer : Information is called from various offices / power stations of M.S.P.G.C.L.

Question No.20 : Whether your establishment is facing any difficulties in handling some of the cases of asking information of sensitive matters say of commercial interest etc. ? What kind of measure would you suggest to deal with such type of cases ?

Answer : Information is called from various Offices / Power Stations of M.S.P.G.C.L.

Question No.21 : Do you think that the state of record keeping is good enough to provide all the required information as stipulated under the RTI Act ? What needs to be done to improve the standard of record keeping ?

Answer : Yes, and difficulties from field will be intimated separately.

Question No.22 : What in your view would be the measure impediments in the effective implementation of RTI Act ? Do you think that the official secrets act would come in the way of effective implementation of RTI Act ? If yes, why ? What are your suggestions for effective implementation of the RTI Act ?

Answer : Answer will be submitted / sent shortly.

Question No.23 : What are your suggestions for ensuring that the maximum amount of information get disseminated through voluntary disclosure under Section 4 of the Act so that the work of providing information gets reduced ?

Answer : We have maintained transparency in all the matters including the recruitment etc. which will naturally reduce the work providing information.

Question No. 24 : What would be the easiest mode of payment of fees for seeking information ? Should there be provision to accept the fee through stamps / postal order of fixed value like the revenue stamps to be circulated through all post offices ?

Answer : Standard norms are accepted. However when the information is required by R.P.A.D. or Speed Post they should send the D.D. / Pay Order alongwith application form so reply can be given without any delay.

Question No.25 : Would it be desirable to have single window agency at the Head Office level which receives all information and then processes them further ?

Answer : Not necessary, since whenever the applications are received at various level they process and finalized at their end. However, one staff member should be available who will consolidate the monthly returns and provide the information to Government whenever government desires and maintain the records etc.

Question No.26 : What is the feasibility of creating a single window for citizens for seeking information ? Can Web based and other mechanism be evolved to create such a single window so that people need not approach various department separately ? What technical and physical infrastructure does your establishment need to facilitate the creation of single window at various level ?

- 7 -

Answer : The information which is generally called by public is already displayed on Website to facilitate.

Question No.27 : Has the your establishment initiated any training programme for the benefit of its officers / staff on norms of disclosure of information and implementation of the RTI Act ?

Answer : Yes, training under RTI Act have been imparted from YASHADA Training programme, Pune.

Question No.28 : Right to Information Act, 2005 provide only the information. It does not redress the grievance in particular. What are views with regard to it ? Do you think public grievance redressal mechanism if made a statutory law would help in redressing the problem of a petitioner in a better way ?

Answer : No not required.