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Questionnaire for Study visit of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice to Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai from 24 to 28 April 2022

Sub: REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RTI ACT 2005

Question	Details	Answer
1	Please provide following information related to the implementation of the RTI Act in your organization during past 3 years (2019, 2020 & 2021):	Answer furnished on attached Annexure-1
2	Please provide details of CPIOs/PIOs/APIOs of your organization (including HQ and branch/subordinate offices) appointed under Section 5 of the Act.	Answer furnished on attached Annexure-1
3	Based on the nature of RTI requests received by your organization in the recent past, broadly under what categories [such as personnel matters, business area (public authority's core function), procurement, others etc.] the RTI requests received may be classified? Whether those areas have been identified and analysed under which the RTI requests are increasing? If so, whether such information has been made available on the organization's website under suo motti disclosures	Most of the cases are of personal in nature, requires clarifications, answers, third party personal information etc. Grievances of employees are also reflected on RTI application.
4	How many requests (percentage of total request received) have been rejected by your organization during the year 2021 citing various provisions of the RTI Act? Whether internal steps such as training, sensitizing PIOs, better mechanism/ process to access information etc. are being taken by your organization to minimize such rejection?	01 (2.5%)
5	How many appeals during past 3 years have been upheld in favour of the applicant by the CIC when both CPIO and first appellate authority have rejected the RTI request? Please furnish details. Based on this information do you feel that first appeal is effectively implemented in your public authority?	2019- 0, 2020-01, 2021-01 Yes, first appeal is effectively implemented in PRL.
6	Section 4(I)(a) of the RTI Act says "maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the RTI under the Act". Whether your organization is conforming to such requirements of the Act and whether practices / procedures of your organization have been revisited to in order to synchronise with such requirements of the Act?	De-centralised record management system is followed and maintained in a systematic way, so as to locate easily.
7	Section 4(I)(a) of the RTI Act says that "ensure all records that are appropriate to be computerised are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerised and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated." Have you analysed what kinds of data are appropriate to be computerised and placed on your website? Please	All published research papers of various areas, Annual Reports, monthly activities of PRL through The Spectrum are placed in website.

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	describe the steps taken by your organization in this regard and your future action plan for computerization?	
8	Section 4(1)(b) of the Act prescribes certain requirements for the public authorities as listed below. Kindly complete the table below:	Answer furnished on attached Annexure-1
9	Section 4(l)(c) of the Act says "publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing decisions which affect the public". What are the three most important policies formulated in your Organization in the recent past? Are these three policies published on the website? Were the relevant facts published while the above mentioned policies were being formulated?	Vikram Sarabhai Protsahan Yojana (VIKAS Scholarship) Summer Internship Programme *Academic Project Training Yes
10	Section 4(l)(d) of the Act says "provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons". List three decisions of the recent past where the affected persons have been given reasons of the decisions?	Nil
11	Section 4(2) of the Act says "provide as much information suo-motu to the public at regular intervals through various means of communication, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information". Name any three proactive disclosures that your organization has done other than the requirements under section 4(l)(b)?	PRL activities are published through PRL News Spectrum on monthly basis. Publication of tenders on various types of contracts (works/Services) Publishing of result on various types of recruitment exams/skill test etc.
12	To ensure implementation of various provisions of Section 4 of the RTI Act, 2005, guidelines have been issued vide DoPT's O.M. No. 1/6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013 and were subsequently amended in 2016 and 2019. These guidelines, inter-alia, provide for third party audit of proactive disclosure by Public Authority. Whether your organization has carried out any third party audit so far? If so, the details therefor and if not, the reasons thereof.	Yet to complete the third party audit
13	Whether facility to file online RTI application through DoPT's 'RTI Online portal' (https://rtionline.gov.in/) has been made available to the applicants with respect to your organization? If no, reasons for the same may be furnished.	Yes
14	Whether training programmes are being imparted by your organization to the CPIOs/Appellate Authorities/employees in general on various aspects of the Act? Please furnish details.	Yes
15	Based on the experience of last 15 years on implementation of the RTI Act in your organization,	Purpose of Information sought/Public interest involved on, may be added into the

[Signature]

	what are your suggestions for improvements in the Act?	application level, so that misuse of the RTI platform may reduce to certain level. Many cases are received from own employees for harassing the public authority on various reasons.
16	What are your suggestions for improvements in the RTI data reporting mechanism?	Nil
17	Do you feel that by implementing the RTI Act, your organisation has obtained the goodwill of the public; and the transparency & accountability of your organisation has increased?	PRL always maintain the transparency and accountability in its activities.

आनंद डी. मेहता

21.04.2022

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Annexure-1

Question-1

Sl No.	Details	2019	2020	2021
i	The number of requests made	77	36	40
ii	The number of requests where first appeal was preferred by the applicant	06	06	07
iii	The number of appeals referred to the Central Information Commission, for review, the nature of such appeals and the outcome	01	05	03
iv	Particulars of any disciplinary action taken against any officer in respect of the administration of the RTI Act, on the orders of the CIC, first appellate authority or any other authority	Nil	Nil	Nil
v	Year-wise amount of charges collected under the Act (copy of charges levied by your organisation for furnishing of various types of information under the Act may also be provided)	Nil	Nil	Nil

Question-2 Details of CPIO/APIO of PRL

Public authority	Name & Designation of the Officials	Contact Details.
CPIO	Shri. Anand D Mehta Head P & GA/CPIO,	Tele: 079-26314007 Mobile: 09427027118 E-mail: anandmehta@prl.res.in
APIO	Shri. K K Sasikumar Senior Administrative Officer/APIO	Mobile: 09825115758 E-mail: sasikk@prl.res.in

Question-8

Requirements under 4(1)(b) clause	Published? (Y/N)	Frequency of updation?	Who is responsible for updation	Setup system for feedback/Social Audit? (Y/N)
(i) to (xvii)	Y	Quarterly	APIO/CPIO with Head Computational Services	N

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