



RTI AUDIT
ON
RTI ACT IMPLEMENTATION IN ITPO
(COMPLIANCE OF SECTION-4)
FOR
(2015-2016)

BY

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

ITPO, the premier trade promotion agency of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India is committed to showcase excellence achieved by the country in diverse fields especially trade and commerce.

ITPO provides a wide spectrum of services to trade and industry and acts as a catalyst for growth of India's trade. ITPO approves holding of international trade fairs in India and regulates holding of various expositions in India primarily to avoid any duplication of efforts while ensuring proper timing. It manages India's world class exhibition complex which is constantly upgraded to keep it in a high standard of readiness. Spread over 123 acres of prime land in the heart of India's capital, New Delhi, Pragati Maidan offers about 61,290 sq. mtrs. of covered exhibition space in 16 halls, besides 10,000 sq. mtrs. of open display area. The state-of-the-art exhibition halls have enhanced the appeal of Pragati Maidan as the ideal center for an increasing number of fair organisers and business visitors from different parts of the world.

ITPO has an extensive infrastructure as well as marketing and information facilities that are availed by both exporters and importers. ITPO's regional offices at Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai, through their respective profile of activities, ensure a concerted and well coordinated trade promotion drive throughout the country.

With the commissioning of the state-of-the-art Chennai Trade Centre (CTC) in January 2001 and the Trade Centre Bangalore in September 2004, ITPO has successfully completed the first phase of the setting-up of modern exhibition facilities outside Delhi. The Chennai Trade Centre which addresses a long-felt need for a permanent and modern exhibition venue in Tamil Nadu, has already emerged as a hub of trade-related activities in the region.

Likewise, the formal commissioning of the Trade Centre Bangalore (TCB), at Whitefield on September 20, 2004 as a joint initiative of TPO and the Karnataka State Industrial Area Development Board, is the harbinger of an added impetus to trade promotion through fairs, exhibitions and associated activities of the State and Southern region.

On the advice of Department of Commerce, ITPO has been coordinating the construction of an exhibition-cum-trade complex 'North East Trade Centre' at Sarusajai, Guwahati under 'Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE)' Scheme, for facilitating trade in North-Eastern States. Spread over an area of 10 acres on the NH-37; the constructed exhibition complex under Phase-I of development, consists of three fully air-conditioned halls of 800 sq.mtrs. each, entrance lobby and plaza, mini convention-cum-conference room in a total plinth area of 8,700 sq. mtrs.

Activities & Services

Managing the extensive trade fair complex, Pragati Maidan in the heart of Delhi
Organising various trade fairs and exhibitions at its exhibition complex in Pragati Maidan and other centers in India.

Facilitating the use of Pragati Maidan for holding of trade fairs and exhibitions by other fair organisers both from India and abroad.

Timely and efficient services to overseas buyers in vendor identification, drawing itineraries, fixing appointments and even accompanying them where required.

Establishing durable contacts between Indian suppliers and overseas buyers.
Assisting Indian companies in product development and adaptation to meet buyers' requirements.
Organising Buyer-Seller Meets and other exclusive India shows with a view to bringing buyers and sellers together.
Organising India Promotions with Department Stores and Mail Order Houses abroad.
Participating in overseas trade fairs and exhibitions.
Arranging product displays for visiting overseas buyers.
Organising seminars/conferences/workshops on trade-related subjects
Encouraging small and medium scale units in export promotion efforts.
Conducting in-house and need-based research on trade and export promotion.
Enlisting the involvement and support of the State Governments in India for promotion of India's foreign trade.
Trade information services through electronic accessibility at Business Information Centre.

Public Grievances Redressal System

A senior officer is nominated as Public Grievance Officer, who will be available on a fixed day in a week, to personally hear any grievance related matter.
Appellate Authority- in case the redressal of the grievance is completed in stipulated time or not to the satisfaction of the person, he/she may be approach the appellate authority as notified by ITPO.
Contact particulars of the Nodal Officer for Grievances is given on the website:

Right to Information

The Organisation has implemented the Right to Information Act, 2005 and has put in place all necessary systems and procedures on the website of the Organisation. The Organisation has also appointed Public Information Officer and set up a mechanism of appeal as has been provided in the Act. Any Citizen of India can seek information under the Act.

Independent Audit of Effectiveness of Citizen Charter and Public Grievances Mechanism

On formulation of the above framework, an independent audit of Effectiveness of Citizen Charter and Public Grievances Mechanism may be undertaken and report sent to the Department of Commerce on an annual basis.

Vision

To be a leader amongst world class Trade Promotion Organisations, leveraging India's strengths international. Rapid growth in India's share of global trade and investments, quality of our services and customer satisfaction will be the touchstone of our success.

Missions

To promote, facilitate, encourage & co ordinate various activities and programs to enhance India's share of exports through trade in goods.

2.0 Implementation of the RTI Act.2005

ITPO as per the records available in the RTI cell, had started the implementation of the RTI Act 2005, immediately after the enactment of the RTI Act in 2005 as statue by the Government of India. As per the records, the company had nominated one Centralised Appellate Authority (AA) & 5 (Five) Public Information Officers (PIOs), one Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO), one Dy.PIO, one Alternate DPIO and 5 regional Level Public Information Officers during the year 2005 itself. Presently there are 4 Regional Level Public Information Officer (PIOs). In addition ITPO has also nominated Transparency officer to comply with CIC order.

Applications are being received by PIO and respective Regional PIOs as per provisions in the RTI Act and implementation guidelines issued by DoPT. Information to the applicants is being provided centralised system through corporate office by PIO. Quarterly reports to CIC and Ministry is also being compiled & sent through centralise system by PIO at corporate office .

Appellate Authorities (AA) is independently receiving the appeals related to all the PIOs and disposing of the same in line with the provisions in the act within stipulated period of 30 days.

List of the Appellate Authorities, PIO,s ,APIO , DPIOs and TO is attached at Annexure "1"

At present following officers are directly responsible for smooth implementation of the RTI act 2005 in CC.

Shri L. C. Goyal, IAS	Chairman & Managing Director (CMD)
Board Members	Functional Directors of ITPO
Shri Vikas Malhotra,	GM(IT) & Appellate Authority
Shri D.K.Jain	Dy.GM & PIO
Mrs. Hema Maity	Dy.GM & Transparency Officer
Shri Ashutosh Verma	Dy.CVO & APIO
Mrs. J.L. Kashyap	Sr. Manager & DPIO
Shri Surender Kumar	Mgr.(Adm.) & Alternate DPIO
Shri A.K.Sachdeva	Dy. Manager (RTI Cell)
Business units	Business Unit Heads & PIO at Regions
All Employees	As Custodians of Information

3.0 Officers contacted for the Audit

In order to conduct the RTI audit in the ITPO, a public authority, as per provisions under the act, following officials have been contacted for discussions and providing relevant inputs for smooth audit.

Shri Vikas Malhotra,	GM(IT) & Appellate Authority
Shri D.K.Jain	Dy.GM & CPIO
Mrs. Hema Maity	Dy.GM & Transparency Officer
Shri Ashutosh Verma	Dy.CVO & APIO
Mrs. J.L. Kashyap	Sr. Manager & DPIO
Shri Surender Kumar	Mgr.(Adm.) & ADPIO
Shri A.K.Sachdeva	Dy. Manager (RTI Cell)
Shri Brahm Prakash	Sr. Assitant

4.0 Compliance of RTI Act in ITPO (Compliance of Section 4(1)(b))

In accordance with the act it was the obligations of all the public authorities to comply with the provisions of the section 4(1)(b),(c) & (d) and to publish the same within 120 days from 15-06-2005 for smooth implementation of the Act from the date of enactment that is by 12-10-2005, ITPO had to proactively disclose all the information as mentioned in 19 paras i.e.(a) i to xvii,(b) & (c).

Detailed point wise status against each point is given in the Annexure II.

5.0 Provision for obtaining of information by citizen of India

Detailed procedure for obtaining information by the citizen of India/ applicant from ITPO has been provided under RTI portal, including particulars of Appellate Authorities (AA) Public Information Officer (PIO) , 4 Regional Level Public Information Officer (PIOs) and one Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO) & one Dy. Public Information Officer (DPIO) Copy enclosed at Annexure III.

For making appeal as per section 19 of the act, ITPO has also provided the complete details and procedure for filing first appeal to First Appellate Authority or any other correspondence related to RTI with the Appellate Authority, procedure for filing Second Appeal to Second Appellate Authority along with the address and contact details are also being given in the order of Appellate Authority.

As per the RTI organisation structure, ITPO having 4 Regional Level Public Information Officers (PIO,s), it gives wrong indication of that all the PIOs are independent , however applications are being disposed of through centralised system by PIO at Corporate office. It would be appropriate and suggested for renaming the officers as APIO, North,

and South etc. The suggestion was considered and after the approval of the competent authority, necessary office order by changing the designations has been issued.

6.0 Acceptance of cash by ITPO for RTI Fee

It is accepting cash against application fee as well as for additional fee for providing information, as per the Fee Rules of RTI Act 2005.

7.0 Compliance of Section 4(1) (a)

Detailed discussions were held with heads of departments for implementation of the act & providing of information as well as with respect to record management being followed by them.

Both the departments i.e. IT, Administration & Law have nominated nodal officer in their respective departments. Nodal officer co-ordinate and assist respective GM/DGM in faster disposal of appeals & RTI applications.

Computerisation of the documents & records indexing & cataloguing are under consideration. However, there is no standard record management policy Guidelines exists in ITPO.

8.0 Suo-motu disclosures under section 4(2), 4(3) & 4(4)

ITPO as per requirement of Suo-motu disclosures under 4(2), 4(3) & 4(4) has provided adequate information related to its functions, on the web site as well as in the annual report in English and Hindi.

9.0 Status of RTI applications for the year 2015-2016

No. of applications received during the year	= 117
No. of applications disposed of during the year	= 116
No. of applications disposed of within 30 days	= 115
No. of applications disposed of after 30 days	= 01
No. of applications pending, if any,	= 01

10.0 Status of RTI appeals to first appellate authority for the year 2015-2016

No. of appeals received during the year	= 07
No. of appeals disposed off during the year	= 06
No. of appeals disposed of within 30 days	= 06
No. of appeals disposed of after 30 days	= 00
No. of appeals pending, if any,	= 01

11.0 Quarterly Reports (section 25)

As per the records, all the 4 reports physically available in the office of CPIO, ITPO and seen by us related to the RTI Quarterly Reports, It has been found that ITPO is regularly submitting quarterly reports to CIC, in the prescribed Performa of DoPT. The copies of quarterly report are enclosed at Annexure IV.

12.0 Update of information (Section 4 (xvii))

ITPO has confirmed that, it is updating the information every year & as and when required. Presently, updated information is available on the website as on 19-10-2016.

13.0 Training on RTI (Section 26)

ITPO is regularly deputing PIOs/APIO/Dy.PIO and other officials for RTI training. During the year 2015- 2016 ITPO have deputed 4 officers for RTI training. More, awareness program for employees of ITPO on RTI needs to be arranged for faster disposal of application.

14.0 Availability of latest circulars, guidelines and notifications on RTI

Some of the circulars of DoPT are available in the RTI Cell at Corporate Centre. However, ITPO has been advised to keep all the relevant circulars/notifications readily available in separate RTI circular file.

15.0 RTI para in Annual Report

ITPO in their annual report have not included a para on implementation of RTI Act 2005, along with status of applications disposed of during the financial year. ITPO have confirmed to include in the next annual report.

16.0 Examination/ Audit of CPIO Office/AA Office

Detailed discussions were held in the office of Mr.D.K.Jain CPIO, Mrs. J.L.Kashyap, Sr.Manager & DPIO on 04-11-2016 , 09-11-2016 & 29-12-2016 along with Shri A.K.Sachdeva, Dy.Manager of RTI Cell, with respect to implementation of RTI Act and Audit. The process of RTI application disposal in ITPO including obtaining of information from other departments/custodians of information were also checked and examined, which has been found satisfactory. RTI receipts register is being maintained properly by ITPO . The despatch register is also being properly maintained, ITPO.

The CPIO is furnishing the information in accordance with the provisions under the act.

Detailed discussions were also held in the office of Shri Vikas Malhotra, Appellate Authority on 09-11-2016 with respect to implementation of RTI Act & Appeal disposal process of ITPO. The orders of First Appellate Authority were examined and found in order. The First Appellate Authority is issuing clear speaking orders with reasoning.

Records of documents, availability of relevant circulars /guidelines, training of officers on RTI etc were also examined , observation during the audit have been highlighted under the detailed observation.

17.0 Observations;

All the concerned documents, registers, files, website of ITPO including RTI Portal were examined /audited and detailed observations are as given below;

1.0 The sections 4(1)(b)(iv),(v) & (vi) need to be revisited and information needs to be provided as per the annexure II. Refer Annexure II.

2.0 Under Chapter4 (1) (b) (xi), Budget Allocations, budgets and actual expenditures details have not been provided. However, audited balance sheets given at Sl no.20 under RTI Portal, it needs to be mentioned under here or link to be provided.

3.0 As per the RTI organisation structure, ITPO having 4 Regional Level Public Information Officers (PIO,s), it gives wrong indication of that all the PIOs are independent , however applications are being disposed of through centralised system by PIO at Corporate office. It would be appropriate and suggested for renaming the officers as APIO, North, and South etc, who are assisting PIO as per section 5(4). This has been complied by ITPO.

4.0 Some circulars, DoPT guidelines & notifications are only available in the files.

5.0 On examinations of records of replies & information provided to the applicants it has been found that ITPO consistently has provided replies. it has been found that 99 % of the total applications have been provided within 30 days and only one application was disposed beyond 30 days.

6.0 On examinations of appeals management, it has been found that 100% appeals were disposed of within 30 days.

7.0 Regarding Update of RTI replies on Web site ITPO has been uploading the RTI replies & AA Orders which are in the interest of the public, in order to comply the DoPT circular No. 1/1/2013-IR, Dated: 21-10-2014.

8.0 Transparency Officer has been nominated by ITPO for ensuring compliance of section 4 in accordance with the circular/office order of CIC dated 15-11-2010 and 09-

12-2010. However, as per the circular of CIC, the Transparency Officer must be 2nd or 3rd in the rank in ITPO. This has been complied by ITPO.

9.0 Computerisation of the documents & records indexing & cataloguing are under consideration. However, there is no standard record management policy Guidelines exists in ITPO.

18.0 Final Conclusions / Recommendation to ITPO

ITPO is implementing the RTI ACT 2005 across all its offices at Corporate Office & Regional Offices as per the provisions under the RTI Act 2005 from the enactment of the statute that from 2005 itself.

ITPO has complied the obligations of public authority by pro active disclosures of the information as per section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act by providing information on the web site except for the statements of the documents, 4(1)(b)(iv to vi) which they have agreed to comply before the next revision of the website. Detailed status is given in the attached Annexure II. ITPO is implementing RTI ACT 2005 in right and true spirit, may be seen from the status of applications and appeals that all the applications have been disposed of by CPIO within the time limit of 30 days and also all the appeals were also dispose of by the appellate authorities in 30 days as per the provisions in the act. Following needs to be complied at the time of revision or before the next year audit.

1.0 The sections 4(1)(b)(iv),(v) & (vi) need to be revisited and information needs to be provided as per the annexure II. Refer Annexure II.

2.0 Under Chapter4 (1) (b) (xi), Budget Allocations, budgets and actual expenditures details have not been provided. However, audited balance sheets given at Sl no.20 under RTI Portal, it needs to be mentioned under here or link to be provided.

3.0 Standard Record management policy Guidelines to be introduced in ITPO.

In view of above, ITPO has complied all the parameters of the audit for the year 2015-2016.