

Brief About Workshop

One day Regional Workshop on the theme “**Implementation of RTI Act; Problems faced and Roadmap for the future**” is being jointly organized by DoPT, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension, Govt. of India and ATI- HIPA Gurgaon on Thursday the 04th December, 2014. This is being organized under the Government of India’s scheme titled “Improving transparency and Accountability in Government through effective implementation of Right to Information Act, 2005”. The workshop is assigned for the participants from states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana

The objectives of the workshop are:

- To provide a knowledge sharing platform for sharing best practices, success stories and experiences on Implementation of RTI Act.
- To discuss and deliberate on Problems faced in the implementation of RTI Act through presentation of papers and case studies.
- To discuss and deliberate the steps needed to be taken to further strengthen the RTI Regime.
- To discuss the strategies for better compliance of SICs decisions.

The following themes have been identified for detailed deliberations:

- i. Impact as a result of RTI on Transparency and Accountability in government working.
- ii. Awareness amongst the stakeholders of RTI.
- iii. Suo moto Disclosure- Challenges and Constraints.
- iv. Problems in effectively implementing the RTI Act.
- v. Steps needed to be taken to further strengthen the RTI regime.
- vi. Practical Problems faced by People in Assessing Information from Public Authorities.
- vii. Effectiveness of SICs and Compliance of their Decisions.

The learning from this workshop will be collated and published for wider dissemination. The workshop would be focused on learning lessons and sharing experiences with the help of four major sessions, apart from the inaugural and concluding sessions (**Programme schedule is enclosed**).

Invitation for papers on Best Practices and Success Stories

The ATI, Gurgaon (HIPA) is hosting a Regional Workshop in December at Gurgaon, Haryana in association with Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT), Govt. of India. As part of the Workshop papers are invited on the following themes:-

1. **Best practices in Implementation of the RTI Act:-** Papers are invited from various stakeholders on Good Practices in RTI. It can be on awareness generation, capacity building, improved record management practices, pro-active disclosure and management of RTI related work within public authorities. The format of the write ups shall be as follows:-
 - a. Name of the Public Authority whose best practice is being considered.
 - b. Need felt/problem faced by the public authority leading to adoption of such practice.
 - c. Details of the said practice, including its scope, financial implications and deployment of resources such as manpower and infrastructure etc.
 - d. Lessons learnt by the Public Authority during implementation of the said best practice.
 - e. Positive outcome of such practice in the implementation of the RTI act.
 - f. Scope of its replication in other public authorities.

2. **Sharing success stories:-** Large number of successes have been reported in the field using the Right to Information Act. Success stories are invited from general public and civil society organizations.

Papers on the above themes may be sent by e-mail address on (rajvird@hipa.in) on or before 15th Nov, 2014. Papers received after the due date will not be considered. The best papers from the two themes shall be selected and presented during the workshop.

Selected paper presenters from outside the State will be paid second A/C railway fare and the other participants will have to meet expenses on their own.

* The best five Best Practices and five Success Stories will be given a cash prize of Rs. 5000/- each.

Guidelines for Regional Workshop

1. Theme - The theme for the workshop will be “**Implementation of RTI Act: Problems faced and Roadmap for the future**”.

2. Participants- 70-75 Participants from states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana

Participants to be drawn from offices of Information commissioners, Officers of government departments working as heads of the Public Authorities, PIOs/APIOs/FAAs, RTI Trainers, and also Representatives of Civil Society Organizations, Media Persons, Academicians and Individuals working in the field of transparency by promoting RTI Act.

3. Structure of the Workshop

It is proposed that the workshop should focus on learning lessons and sharing experiences. As such, four major sessions have been planned, apart from the inaugural and concluding sessions.

Session 1- on best practices on implementation of the RTI Act:- Papers on Best Practices are invited from various stakeholders to highlight best practices on the theme.

- Implementation of RTI Act; Problems faced and Roadmap for the future
- Best practices may relate to awareness generation, capacity building, improved record management practices, pro active disclosure, wide dissemination of proactive disclosure using all medias and management of the RTI related work within public authorities.
- The format for the write ups should be as follows:-
 1. Name of the Public Authority/Organization, whose practice is being considered in the write up.
 2. Need felt/problem faced by the Public Authority/Organization leading to adoption of such practice.
 3. Details of the said practice, including its scope, financial implications and deployment of resources such as manpower and infrastructure etc.
 4. Lessons learnt by the Public Authority/organization during implementation of the said practice.
 5. Positive outcome of such practice in the implementing proactive disclosure (suo-moto disclosure) of the RTI Act.
 6. Scope.
- The best five practices will be selected by the panel constituted by HIPA and presented during workshop.
- It is also proposed that each of the selected presenters will be given a cash prize of Rs. 5000/- each.

Session 2- on sharing success stories:- Large number of successes have been reported in the field of using RTI.

- Success stories are invited from general public, media person, civil society Organizations and RTI users. Success stories which represent public interest and which directly or indirectly lead to some systemic improvement would only be considered.
1. The best five success stories will be selected by the panel constituted by HIPA, Haryana and presented during workshop. Result would be pasted on HIPA website.
 2. It is also proposed that each of the selected presenters will be given a cash prize of Rs. 5000/- each.

Sessions 3rd & 4th - will be a panel discussions and

Session 5th- open house questions and answers.

4. Papers on Best Practices & Success stories should be sent to **Haryana Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), RTI Cell, Plot No. 76, Sector 18, Gurgaon-122015 latest by 15th Nov, 2014.**

Participant should write full name, address, contact numbers & email address and also mark the entry and envelope as Paper for Regional workshop on RTI. Papers may be send on email address:- rajvird@hipa.in

5. The Best Practices/Success Story write ups/Papers (in English or Hindi) should be of about 5000 words, neatly typed in 1.5 line space and 14 size font. All documents in support of the best practices/success story should be attached separately. The complete name and address including telephone and email address of the individual submitting the write up should be mentioned.

6. The copyright of the papers presented will vest in Govt. of India (GOI) who may publish the output and/or may use it in any other way for the purpose of strengthening the working of RTI regime in the country. GOI may, however, upon request, permit presenter to use the ou tput within one year.

7. Traveling expenditure not exceeding 2nd AC Railway fare of selected five presenters of Best Practices and Success stories each shall be reimbursed by HIPA.

8. Other participants whose papers or success stories are not selected are also welcome as participants in the workshops at their cost.

9. HIPA will arrange for tea, lunch and required support in One Day Workshop, Lodging & Boarding for one day for all outstation participants is arranged. Accommodation will be arranged on sharing basis.

For confirmation of entry or any query, please contact:

Dr. Rajvir S. Dhaka-
Faculty Member- Public Administration &
In-Charge- RTI Cell
Mobile- 9911399437

Dr. Naresh Yadav
Assistant Project Director

Haryana Institute of Public Administration
76, HIPA Complex, Sector 18,
Gurgaon
Phone No. 2340522, 2340690, 2340691 & Fax No. 2348452

RTI REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Programme Schedule
One day Regional Workshop
on
“Implementation of RTI Act: Problems faced and Roadmap for the future”
(04th December, 2014)

09.30-10.00 a.m.	Inauguration
10.00-11.15 a.m.	Papers and Success stories presentations
11.15-11.30 a.m.	Tea Break
11.30-12.30 p.m.	Session on Best Practices in the implementation of RTI Act
12.30-01.30 p.m.	Session on Sharing Success Stories
01.30-02.15 p.m.	Lunch Break
02.15-03.15 p.m.	Panel Discussion on “Suo Moto Disclosures and other Practical Problems faced by People in Accessing Information”
03.15-03.30 p.m.	Tea Break
03.30-04.30 p.m.	Panel Discussion on “Effectiveness of Information Commissions in ensuring compliance of their Decisions.
04.40-05.00 p.m.	Open House Discussion
05.00-05.15 p.m.	Award Distribution Address by the Chief Guest Conclusion