Office Memorandum

Subject: Questionnaire to facilitate strategy formulation on RTI under the Performance Management and Evaluation System for the Department of Personnel and Training – regarding.

A High Powered Committee on Government Performance headed by the Prime Minister has decided that all Ministries and Departments in the Government of India are to prepare a strategy plan for the next few years under the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System (PMES). As a part of the strategy formulation this department is required to consult its various stakeholders.

2. The Department of Personnel and Training is the nodal department in the Government of India for the Right to Information Act, 2005. In its efforts to frame its strategy the Department is consulting all its stakeholders. A questionnaire has been prepared to that end. Responses to the questionnaire may kindly by 15th April, 2010 to:

Under Secretary (RTI)
Department of Personnel and Training,
North Block, New Delhi- 110001
Telefax 91-11-23093022
e-mail: usrti-dopt@nic.in

(Anuradha S. Chagti)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
QUESTIONNAIRE for PARTICIPANTS’ INPUTS

Pointers:

This questionnaire contains 8 questions pertaining to various aspects of implementation the ‘Right to Information Act’ 2005’.

Question 4 is to be answered only by State Governments while Question 5 is meant only for the Information Commissions.

Contact information about the respondent

a) Name of the Respondent:

b) Name and Address of the Organisation being represented:

c) RTI related work carried out in (location – if applicable): for (years)

d) Any other relevant information:
Inputs sought from Stakeholders

1. The objectives of the RTI were to provide for setting out the practical regime of right to information for citizens to secure access to information under the control of public authorities, in order to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority.

To what extent do you think that these objectives have been met:

a) Practical regime of right to Information
   i. Fully met
   ii. Largely met
   iii. Somewhat met
   iv. Not met

b) Access to information under the control of public authorities by the citizen.
   i. Fully met
   ii. Largely met
   iii. Somewhat met
   iv. Not met

c) Transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority
   i. Fully met
   ii. Largely met
   iii. Somewhat met
   iv. Not met
2. Recent discussions and surveys have indicated that the following are acting as constraints in the effective implementation of the RTI Act.

To what extent do you agree these are affecting the effective implementation of the RTI Act?

a) Incomplete disclosure under section 4(1)(b)
   i  Fully agree
   ii Agree somewhat
   iii Disagree somewhat
   iv Disagree

b) Poor record Management
   i  Fully agree
   ii Agree somewhat
   iii Disagree somewhat
   iv Disagree

c) Lack of awareness about the RTI Act
   i  Fully agree
   ii Agree somewhat
   iii Disagree somewhat
   iv Disagree

d) Imposition of fee
   i  Fully agree
   ii Agree somewhat
   iii Disagree somewhat
   iv Disagree
e) Lack of training of PIOs and FAAs.
   i  Fully agree
   ii  Agree somewhat
   iii  Disagree somewhat
   iv  Disagree

f) Lack of infrastructure in public authorities.
   i  Fully agree
   ii  Agree somewhat
   iii  Disagree somewhat
   iv  Disagree

g) Attitude of Govt. officials to part with information.
   i  Fully agree
   ii  Agree somewhat
   iii  Disagree somewhat
   iv  Disagree

h) Using RTI as a public grievance redressal mechanism
   i  Fully agree
   ii  Agree somewhat
   iii  Disagree somewhat
   iv  Disagree

i) Lack of Education on filing of an RTI Application.
   i  Fully agree
   ii  Agree somewhat
   iii  Disagree somewhat
   iv  Disagree
3. What needs to be done to overcome these impediments?

To what extent the following actions are important in improving the implementation of the RTI Act?

a) Training of CPIOs/ SPIOs
   i. Extremely important
   ii. Important
   iii. Somewhat important
   iv. Not important

b) Training of Public (Information seekers)
   i. Extremely important
   ii. Important
   iii. Somewhat important
   iv. Not important

c) Publicity campaigns
   i. Extremely important
   ii. Important
   iii. Somewhat important
   iv. Not important
d) More Proactive Disclosure
   i  Extremely important
   ii Important
   iii Somewhat important
   iv Not important

   [  ]

e) Better Record Management
   i  Extremely important
   ii Important
   iii Somewhat important
   iv Not important

   [  ]

f) More infrastructure for public authorities
   i  Extremely important
   ii Important
   iii Somewhat important
   iv Not important

   [  ]

g) Any other

____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
4. Question for State Governments

What steps have been taken by the state government for the effective implementation of the RTI Act.

a) Training

b) Awareness Generation

c) Record Management

d) Any other
5. Question for Information Commissions

Information Commissions constituted at the Central and State have been along with the powers to adjudicate complaints and appeals in the Act, been given the responsibility to monitor and report on the implementation of the Act.

What are the 2 most important constraints faced in functioning of the Information Commissions.

1. 

2. 

6. Do you think that the Government has become transparent and accountable since the enactment of the RTI Act

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7. Any 2 improvements you would like to see in the RTI Act, 2005.

1. 

2. 

8. How do you visualize the RTI regime after 5 years hence?
   (not more than 150 words)

   

   

   

   

   

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUTS