14.1.2010

सेवा मे

नीलम कुमारी, विशोष कार्य पदाधिकारी, सह-लोक सूचना पदाधिकारी।

- 1. महानिबंधक, माननीय उच्च न्यायालय, पटना। 2.
- महािधवक्ता, माननीय उच्च न्यायालय, पटना। 3.
- सभी जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिहार।
- सदस्य सचिव, बिहार राज्य विधि आयोग, पटना। 4. 5.
- महाप्रशासक एवं राजकीय प्रन्यास, समाहरणालय, पटना। 6.
- निदेशक, बिहार न्यायिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, गुलजारबाग, पटना।
- सदस्य सचिव, बिहार राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, बुद्धमार्ग, पटना। T. 8.
- स्थानीय आयुक्त, सम्पर्क कार्यालय, (विधि विभाग), बिहार भवन नई दिल्ली। 9.
- विधि बोधक कार्यालय, पटना उच्च न्यायालय, पटना। 10.
- अधीक्षक, बिहार राज्य धार्मिक न्यास पर्षद, विद्यापित मार्ग, पटना।
- अध्यक्ष, बिहार राज्य दिगम्बर जैन धार्मिक न्यास पर्षद मकान नं0-03, द्वितीय 11. तल, रोड नं0-10ए0, रिजर्व बैंक कॉंलोनी के सामने राजेन्द्र नगर, पटना।

विषय:-

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम की धारा-4 के तहत सूचनाओं के स्वप्रेरण के संदर्भ में धार्मिक लोक शिकायत एवं पेंशन मंत्रालय कार्मिक एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी दिशा-निर्देशों का अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करने के संबंध में।

प्रसंग:-

सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के पत्रांक-16423, दिनांक-03.12.2019

पटना दिनांक... ? J-0/-2020

महाशय.

उपर्युक्त विषयक सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के पत्रांक-16432, दिनांक-03.12.2019 की छायाप्रति अनुलग्नक सहित संलग्न करते हुए अनुरोध है कि उक्त पत्र की प्रति अपने अधिनस्थ सभी सर्वेट कार्यालयों तथा अर्द्ध सरकारी संस्थानों को उपलब्ध कराते हुए उक्त का अनुपालन सुनिश्चित कराने की 🦠 की जाए।

अनु0:-यथोक्त।

विश्वासभाजन

(गीलम कुमारी)

विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी

्रि<sub>अ</sub>सह-लोक सूचना पदाधिकारी

5577 चिशाग

पत्रां ह-21 / रा॰सू॰आ॰-02 / 20 १९,सा॰प्र॰ (७ ४ -२८) बिहार सरकार

सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग

शिवनहादेव प्रसाद, सरकार के अवर सचिव।

सेवा में,

हार्गाह

सभी प्रधान सचिव/सचिव/ सभी विभागाध्यक्ष / सभी प्रमण्डलीय आयुक्त / सभी जिला पदाधिकारी।

पटना-15, दिनांक ०८- 12-15

विषय:--

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम की धारा-4 के तहत सूचनाओं के स्वप्रेरण प्रकटीकरण के भंदर्भ में कार्मिक लोक शिकायत एवं पेंशन मंत्रालय, कार्मिक एवं प्रशिक्षण विमाग, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी दिशा-निर्देशों का अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करने के संबंध में।

महाशय,

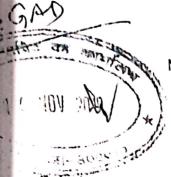
निदेशानुसार उपर्युक्त विषय के संबंध में कहना है कि स्चना का अधिकार अधिनियम की धारा-4 के तहा सूचनाओं के स्वप्रेरण प्रकटीकरण से संबंधित क्रामिक लोक शिकायत एवं पेंशन मंत्रालय, कार्मिक एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, भारत सरकार के पत्र संख्या--1/6/2011-IR दिनांक--07.11.2019 द्वारा जारी दिशा-निर्देशों की प्रति संलग्न करते हुए अनुराध है कि अवत पत्र की प्रति अपने अधीनस्थ सभी संबंद कार्यालगों, अधीनस्थ कार्यालयों तथा अर्द्ध-सरकारी संस्थानों को उपलब्ध कराते हुए उक्त का अनुपालन सुनिधिचत कराने की कृपा की जाय।

अनूः- यथोवत।

विश्वास्रभ भुरकार के अवर सचिव।

THE STATE STATE





No.1/6/2011-IR Government of India Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions Department of Personnel & Training

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

North Block, New Delhi Dated the 5th November, 2019

Sub: Implementation of suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of Right to Information

The suo motu disclosure of information to public is mandated under Section 4 (2) of the RTI Act, 2005, so that the public have to resort minimally to the use of this Act to obtain information. Section 4(1)(b) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 lays down the information which should be disclosed by Public Authorities on a suo motu or proactive basis. Section (3) prescribe forwide dissemination of every information, in such form and manner which is

无 The u即野signed is directed to refer to this Department's O.M. of even number cated 15th April 2013 and to reiterate the guidelines therein (Copy enclosed), duly incorporating a slight revision to Para 4.4 of the above guidelines allowing for third party audit by any Government Training Institute, in cases where no Training Institute exists under the 3.

- Central Government Ministries/Departments are advised to undertake suo motu disclosure based on these guidelines, in compliance to Sections 4(1)(b) read with Section 4(2),
- The enclosed guidelines may be brought to the notice of all Public Authorities under the 4. Ministry/ Department including those in their Attached Offices, Subordinate Offices, Constitutional Bodies, Statutory Bodies, Autonomous Organizations and Public Sector

V Suntia (Varsha Sinha)

Director

All the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India

Union Public Service Commission, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Rajya Sabha Secretariat. Cabinet Secretariat, Central Vigilance Commission, President's Secretariat, Vice-President's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, NITI Aayog, Election Commission

3. Central Information Commission, CIC Bhawan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka New 4

Staff Selection Commission, CGO Complex, New Delhi 5.

O/o the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, 10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg. New

Opy to: Chief Secretaries of all the States/UTs.

# ander Section 4 of the RTI Act



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# Guidelines on suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act

# 10 Suo motu disclosure of more items under Section 4

Sub-section 4(2) of the RTI Act, 2005 requires every public authority to take steps in accordance with the requirements of clause (b) of sub-section 4(1) to provide as much information  $su\bar{o}$   $m\bar{o}tu$  to the public at regular intervals through various means of communication, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to use the Act to obtain information. Accordingly, the Public Authorities may proactively disclose the following items also under the *suo motu* disclosure provisions of Section 4:

## 1.1. Information related to Procurement

Information relating to procurement made by Public Authorities including publication of notice/tender enquiries, corrigenda thereon, and details of bid awards detailing the name of the supplier of goods/services being procured or the works contracts entered or any such combination of these and the rate and total amount at which such procurement or works contract is to be done should be disclosed. All information disclosable as per Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure's O.M. No 10/1/2011-PPC dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 on Mandatory Publication of Tender Enquiries on the Central Public Procurement Portal and O.M. No. 10/3/2012- PPC dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 on Implementation of comprehensive end-to-end e-procurement should be disclosed under Section 4. At present the limit is fixed at Rs 10.00 lakhs. In case of procurements made through DGS&D Rate Contracts or through Kendriya Bhandar/ NCCF, only award details need to be published. However information about procurement which fall within the purview of Section 8 of the RTI Act would be exempt.

# 1.2 Public Private Partnerships

12.1 If Public services are proposed to be provided through a Public Private Partnership (PPP), all information relating to the PPPs must be disclosed in the public domain by the Public Authority entering into the PPP contract/concession agreement. This may include details of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), if any set up, detailed project reports, concession agreements, operation and mainter ance manuals and other documents generated as part of the implementation of the PPP project. The documents under the ambit of the exemption from disclosure of information under section 8(1)(d) and 8(1)(j) of

the RTI Act would not be disclosed *suo motu*. Further, information about fees, tolls, or other kinds of revenue that may be collected under authorization from the Government, information in respect of outputs and outcomes, process of selection of the private sector party may also be proactively disclosed. All payments made under the PPP project may also be disclosed in a periodic manner along with the purpose of making such payment.

# 13 Transfer Policy and Transfer Orders

Transfer policy for different grades/cadres of employees serving in Public Authority should be proactively disclosed. All transfer orders should be publicized through the website or in any other manner listed in Section 4(4) of the Act. These guidelines would not be applicable in cases of transfers made keeping in view sovereignty, integrity, security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State and the exemptions covered under Section 8 of the Act. These instructions would not apply to security and intelligence organizations under the second schedule of the RTI Act.

### 14 RTI Applications

14.1 All Public Authorities shall proactively disclose RTI applications and appeals received and their responses, on the websites maintained by Public Authorities with search facility based on key words. RTI applications and appeals received and their responses relating to the personal information of an individual may not be disclosed, as they do not serve any public interest.

### 1.5 CAG & PAC paras

15.1 Public Authorities may proactively disclose the CAG & PAC paras and the Action Taken Reports (ATRs) only after these have been laid on the table of both the houses of the Parliament. However, CAG paras dealing with information about the issues of sovereignty, integrity, security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State and information covered under Section 8 of the RTI Act would be exempt.

### 1.6 Citizens Charter

16.1 Citizens Charter prepared by the Ministry/Department, as part of the Result Framework Document of the department/organization should be proactively disclosed and six monthly report on the performance against the benchmarks set in Citizens Charter should also be displayed on the website of public authorities.

Discretionary and Non-discretionary grants All discretionary /non-discretionary grants/ allocations to state governments/ NGOs/Other institutions by Ministry/Department should be placed on the website of the NGOS Outer Inc.

Ministry/Department concerned. Annual Accounts of all legal entities who are provided grants by Public Authorities should be made available through publication, directly or indirectly on the Public Authority's website. Disclosures would be subject to provisions of Section 8 to 11 of the RTI Act.

## Foreign Tours of PM/Ministers 18

A large number of RTI queries are being filed on official tours undertaken by 181 Ministers or officials of various Government Ministries/Departments. Information regarding the nature, place and period of foreign and domestic tours of Prime Minister are already disclosed on the PMO's website.

As per DoPT's OM No. 1/8/2012-IF: dated 11/9/2012, Public Authorities may proactively disclose the details of foreign and domestic official tours undertaken by the Minister(s) and officials of the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India and above and Heads of Departments, since 1st January, 2012. The disclosures may be updated once every quarter.

1.S.3. Information to be disclosed proactively may contain nature of the official tour, places visited, the period, number of people included in the official delegation and total cost of such travel undertaken. Exemptions under Section 3 of the RTI Act, 2005 may be kept in view while disclosing the information. These instructions would not apply to security and intelligence organisations under the second schedule of the RTI Act, 2005 and CVOs of public authorities.

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Guidelines for digital publication of proactive disclosure under Section 4

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Section 4 lays down that information should be provided through many mediums depending upon the level of the public authority and the recipient of information (for example, in case of Panchayat, wall painting may be more effective means of dissemination of information), and that more and more proactive disclosure would gradually be made through Internet. There is need for more clear guidelines for web-based publication of information for disclosure.

- 2.2 The Department of Information Technology has been working on setting of technical standards for government websites and the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances has published guidelines for websites of Government Departments. These guidelines prescribe the manner in which websites need to be designed and how information should be disclosed. While adhering to the standards of government guidelines as laid down by Department of Information Technology and Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, the following principles additionally should also be kept in view to ensure that websites' disclosures are complete, easily accessible, technology and platform neutral and in a form which conveys the desired information in an effective and user-friendly manner.
  - a) It should be the endeavor of all public authorities that all entitlements to citizens and all transactions between the citizen and government are gradually made available through computer based interface. The 'Electronic Delivery of Services Bill, 2012' under formulation in Government of India would provide the necessary impetus.
  - b) Websites should contain detailed information from the point of origin to the point of delivery of entitlements/services provided by the Public Authorities to citizens.
  - c) Orders of the public authority should be uploaded on the website immediately after they have been issued.
  - d) Website should contain all the relevant Acts, Rules, forms and other documents which are normally accessed by citizens.

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e) Websites should have detailed directory of key contacts, details of officials of the

Public Authority.

It is obligatory under Section 4(1)(b)(xiv) of the RTI Act for every Public Authority to proactively disclose 'details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form'. The website should therefore indicate which digitally held information is made available publicly over the internet and which is not.

- g) As departments reorganize their systems and processes to enable themselves for electronic service delivery, it is recommended that the requirement of bringing due transparency as provided in the RTI Act is given adequate consideration at the design stage itself.
- h) To maintain reliability of information and its real time updation, information generation in a digital form should be automatically updated on the basis of key work outputs, like a muster roll and salary slip (NREGA in Andhra Pradesh) or formalization of a government order (Andhra Pradesh). Such an approach will lead to automation of proactive disclosure.
- Information must be presented from a user's perspective, which may require rearranging it, simplifying it etc. However, original documents in original formats should continue to be made available because these are needed for community monitoring of government's functioning.
- The 'National Data Sharing and Access ibility Policy' by the Department of Science and Technology is based on the principle that all publicly funded information should be readily available. The policy has been notified in March, 2012 and the schedule should be strictly adhered to.
  - k) Information and data should be presented in open data formats whereby it can be pulled by different Application Protocol Interfaces to be used in different fashions more appropriate to specific contexts and needs. Information/ data can, for instance, be presented in powerful visual ways using visualisation techniques. Such visual representation of information/ data can give insights that may remain largely



audio/videos recordings etc may be more useful. There have been moves in some parts of the country to video record Gram Sabha meetings. A picture of a NREGA worksite, for instance, may tell much more than words can. All such different media and forms should be used for proactive disclosure.

Every webs age displaying information or data proactively disclosed under the RTI Act should, on the top right comes, display the mandatory field 'Date last updated (DD/MM/YY)'.

- 3.2 Considering that disclosure in regard to certain sub-clauses have been relatively weak, detailed guidelines for four sub-clauses are given below:
- 33 Guidelines for section 4(1)(b)(iii) "the procedure followed in the decision-making processes, including channels of supervision and accountability".
- All government departments have specific duties and responsibilities under the 33.1 respective Allocation of Business Rules (AOB) issued by the appropriate Government. The constitutional provisions and statutes each department is required to implement are clearly laid down in the AOB. The manner of disposal of matters assigned to each Department/Ministry is described in the Transaction of Business Rules (TOB). Additionally, every department would have a specific set of schemes and development programmes which they are required to implement directly or through their subordinate offices or other designated agencies. These documents contain the specific operations that every Public Authority is required to undertake in the course of implementing the programme or scheme. Every operation mandated under the AOP read with the TOB would be linked to a specific decision-making chain. All government officers have to follow laid down office procedure manual or the other rules which gives details of how representations, petitions and applications from citizens must be dealt with. Templates, formats, and basic steps of decision-<sup>making</sup> are briefly explained in such manuals. These descriptions constitute the elements of decision-making processes in general.

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Additionally, in the routine work of governance, government functionaries are required to make decisions in a discretionary manner but broad guiding principles are laid down in some rule or the other. For example, the General Financial Rules lay down procedures for a variety of operations relating to government finances. How sanction must be accorded for incurring expenditure; how losses to government must be reported; how responsibility for lesses may be fixed on any government servant; how budgets, demand for grants are prepared and submitted; how public works must be sanctioned and executed; how commodities and services may be procured by a public authority; are all explained in these manuals which are updated from time to time. The challenge is to present a simplified version of the decision-making procedure that is of interest to a common citizen.

effective !

- 333 In view of the above, the guidelines for detailing the decision making processes are as follows:
  - (a) Every public authority should specifically identify the major outputs/ tangible results/ services/ goods, as applicable, that it is responsible for providing to the public or to whosoever is the client of the public authority.
  - (b) In respect of (a) above, the decision-making chain should be identified in the form of a flow chart explaining the rank/grade of the public functionaries involved in the decision-making process and the specific stages in the decision-making hierarchy.
  - (c) The powers of each officer including powers of supervision over subordinates involved in the chain of decision-making must also be spelt out next to the flow chart or in a simple bullet-pointed format in a text-box. The exceptional circumstances when such standard decision-making processes may be overridden and by whom should also be explained clearly. Where decentralization of decision-making has occurred in order to grant greater autonomy to public authorities, such procedures must also be clearly explained.
  - (d) This design of presentation should then be extended to cover all statutory and discretionary operations that are part of the public authority's mandate under the AOR read with the TOB.



In the event of a public authority altering an existing decision-making process, or a storage an entirely new process, such changes must be explained in simple language in order to enable people to easily understand the changes made.

Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(iv) - "the norms set by it for the discharge of its

functions".

Primarily, the intention of this clause is that every public authority should proactively disclose the standards by which its performance should be judged. Norms may be qualitative or quantitative in nature, or temporal or statutory norms. In order to ensure compliance with this clause, public authorities would need to disclose norms for major fit notions that are being performed.

Ministry Department Authority, are good examples of vehicles created for laying down around of performance for major functions and for monitoring achievements against those standards.

Wherever norms have been specified for the discharge of its functions by any statute or government orders, they should be proactively disclosed, particularly linking them with the decision making processes as detailed earlier. All Public Authorities should proactively disclose the following:

- a) Defining the services and goods that the particular public authority/office provides directly (or indirectly through any other agency/contractor).
- Detailing and describing the processes by which the public can access and/or acceive the goods and services that they are entitled to, from the public authority/office along with the forns, if any prescribed, for use by both the applicant and the service providing agency. Links to such forms (online), wherever a variable, should be given
- Describing the conditions, criteria and priorities under which a person becomes eligible for the goods and services, and consequently the categories of people who are entitled to receive the goods and services.

- Defining the quantitative and tangible parameters, (weight, size, frequency etc.) and timelines, that are applicable to the goods and services that are accessible to the public.
  - e) Defining the qualitative and quantitative outcomes that each public authority/office plans to achieve through the goods and services that it was obligated to provide.
    - Laying cown individual responsibility for providing the goods and services (who is responsible for delivery/implementation and who is responsible for supervision).
- Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(xi)- "the budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made".
  - 35.1 The public authorities while disclosing their budgets shall undertake the following:
    - (a) Keeping in view of the technical nature of the government budgets, it is essential that Ministries/Departments prepare simplified versions of their budgets which can be understood easily by general public and place them in public domain. Budgets and their periodic monitoring reports may also be presented in a more user-friendly manner through graphs and tables, etc.
      - (b) Outcome budget being prepared by Ministries/Departments of Government of India should be prominently displayed and be used as a basis to identify physical targets planned during the budgetary period and the actual achievement vis-à-vis those targets. A monthly programme implementation calendar method of reporting being followed in Harnataka is a useful model.
        - (c) Fund's released to various autonomous organizations/ statutory organizations/ attached offices' Public Sector Enterprises/ Societies/ NGOs/ Corporations etc. should be parent the website on a quarterly basis and budgets of such authorities may be made on the website on a quarterly basis and budgets of the Ministry/Department. If a subsidiary accessible through links from the website of the Ministry/Department. If a subsidiary does not have a website then the budgets and expenditure reports of

such subsidiary authority may be uploaded on the website of the principal Publication Authority.

- Wherever required by law or executive instruction, sector specific allocations and achievements of every department or public authority (where feasible) must be highlighted. For example, budget allocation and target focusing on gender, children, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and religious minorities should be specially highlighted. The sector-wise breakup of these targets and actual outcomes must be given in simplified form to enable the vulnerable segments of society to better understand the budgets of public authorities.
- Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(xiv) details in respect of information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form.
  - On the one hand, this clause serves as a means of proactively disclosing the progress made in computerizing information under Section 4(1)(a) of the RTI Act in a periodic manner. On the other, it provides people with clarity about the kinds of electronic information that, although not held by the public authority, is available to them. For example the stocks of ration available with individual fair price shops may not be held by the District Civil Supplies office, but may be available at a subordinate formation.
    - Keeping in view the varied levels of computerization of records and documents in public authorities, data about records that have been digitized may be proactively disclosed on the respective websites, excluding those records /files /information that are exempted under Section 8. The data about digitized record may include the name of the record and any categorization or indexing used; the subject matter and any other information that is required to be compiled in relation to a file as prescribed by Manual of Office Procedure (and to be prescribed by MOP for electronic records that is under finalization by DARPG), the division' section/ unit/ office where the record is normally held; the person, with designation. It sponsible for maintaining the record, and the life span of the record, as prescribed in the televant record retention schedule.

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Compliance with Provisions of suo motu (proactive) disclosure under the RTI Act

Hach Ministry/Public Authority shall ensure that these guidelines are fully operationalized within a period of tomonths from the date of their issue.

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- Proactive disclosure as per these guidelines would require collating a large quantum of information and digitizing it. For this purpose. Ministries/Public Authorities may engage consultants or outsource such work to expeditiously comply with these guidelines. For this purpose, the plan/non-plan funds of that department may be utilized.
- 4.3 The Action Taken Report on the compliance of these guidelines should be sent, along with the URL link, to the Central Information Commission soon after the expiry of the initial period of 6 months.
- 4.4 Each Ministry/ Public Authority should get its proactive disclosure package audited by third party every year. The audit should cover compliance with the proactive disclosure guidelines as well as adequacy of the items included in the package. The audit should examine whether there are any other types of information which could be proactively disclosed. Such audit should be done annually and should be communicated to the Central Information Commission annually through publication on their own websites. Further, the task of undertaking transparency audits may be given to the respective Training Institues under each Ministry/Department/Public Authority and across the States and Union "However, in cases where no training institutue exists under the Territories. Ministries Departments Public Authorities the tasks of undertaking transparency audits may be given to any Government Training Insitutue." All Public Authorities should proactively disclose the names of the third party auditors on their website. For carrying out third party audit through outside consultants also, Miristries/Public Authorities should utilize their plan/non-plan funds.
  - 4.5 The Central Information Commission should examine the third-party audit reports for each Ministry/Public Authority and offer advice/recommendations to the concerned Ministrics/ Public Authorities.
    - 4.6 Central Information Commission should carry out sample audit of few of the Ministries/Public Authorities each year with regard to adequacy of items included as well as Compliance of the Ministry/Public Authority with these guidelines.

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- 4.7 Compliance with the proactive disclosure guidelines, is audit by third party and its communication to the Central Information Commission should be included as RFD target.
- 5.0 Nedal Officer

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- Each certal Niestry/ Public Authority should appoint a serior officer not below the rank of a Joint Scaretary and not below rank of Additional HOD in case of attached offices for ensuring compliance with the proactive disclosure guidelines. The Nodal Officer would work ancer the supervision of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department or the HOD of the attached office, as the case may be. Nodal Officers of Ministry/Department and HOD separately should also ensure that the formations below the Ministry/Department/Attached Office also disclose the information as per the proactive disclosure guidelines.
- 6.0 Annual Reports to Parliament/Legislatures
- 6.1 Government has issued directions to all Ministries/Departments to include a chapter on RTI Act in their Annual Reports submitted to the Parliament. Details about compliance with proactive disclosure guidelines should mandatorily be included in the relevant chapter in Annual Report of Ministry/Department.

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