

STATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT

Journey So Far and Challenges Ahead

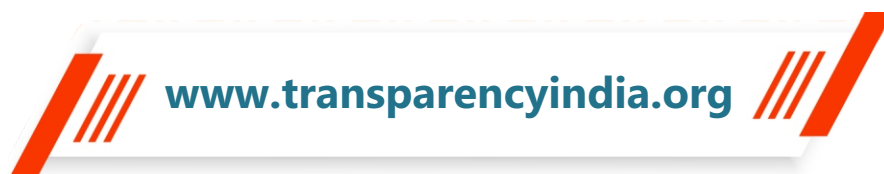


15 Year (2005-2019)



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We raise awareness about corruption; advocate legal and policy reforms at national and state levels; design practical tools for institutions, individuals and companies wishing to combat corruption; and act as a leading centre of anti-corruption expertise in India.

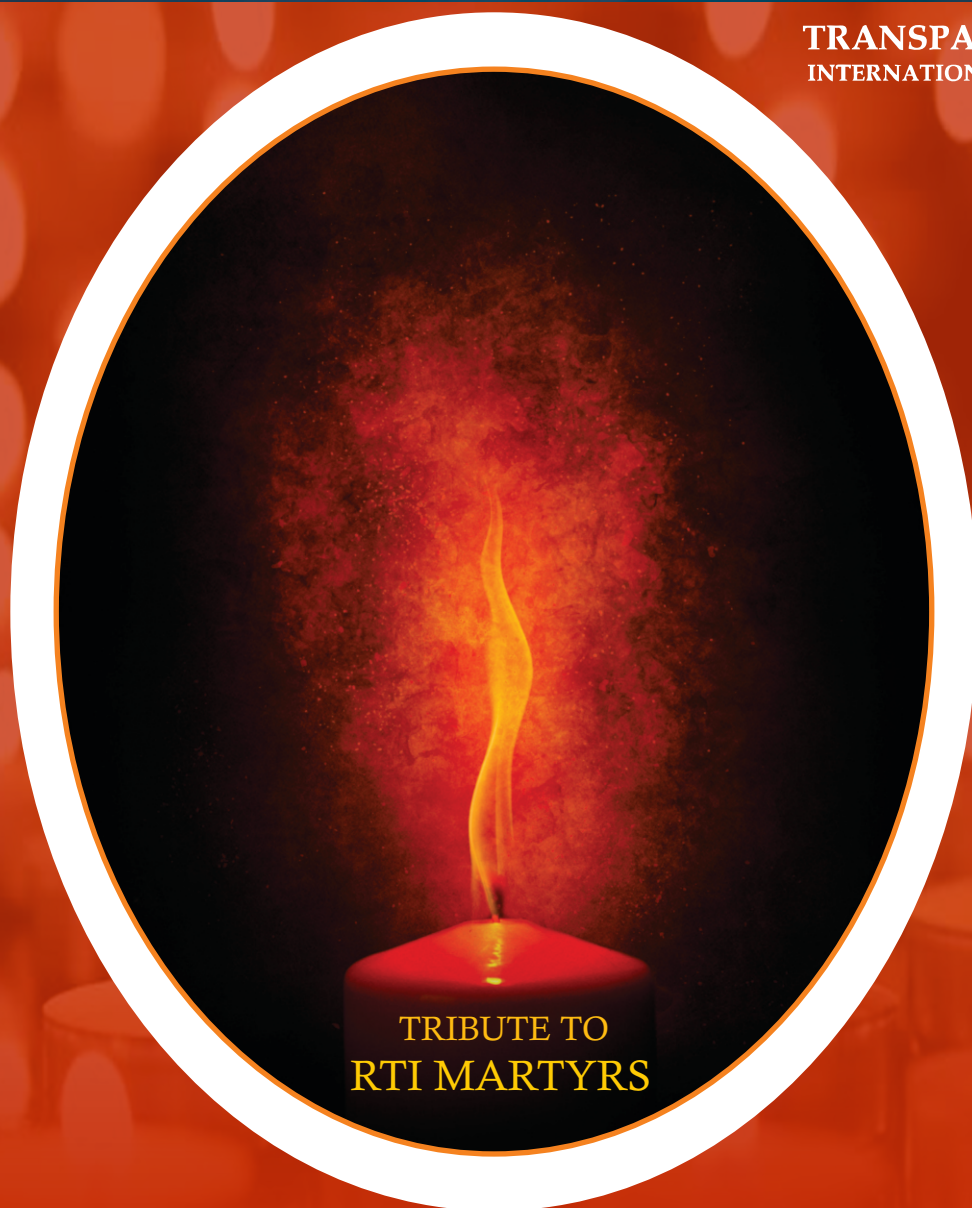


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TRANSPARENCY
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TRIBUTE TO
RTI MARTYRS

UNITED WE STAND

Dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in fight
against corruption and Right to Information

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PREAMBLE OF RTI ACT 2005

“...Democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information which are vital to its functioning and also to contain corruption and to hold Government and their instrumentality accountable to the governed”





Chairman's Message...

RTI Act will enter 16th year of implementation on 12th October, 2020 in the country which is fighting against not only lack of transparency and accountability; corruption; attempts to suppress dissent and free flow of information; but also a health-related pandemic COVID-19.

On 16th Birth Anniversary of Transparency Legislation, we must contemplate on the challenges and problems being faced by the RTI regime in India especially in the context of COVID-19.

Despite the enactment of the legislation in 2005 to foster an era of transparency and accountability in government functioning; only half the battle has been won because the implementation of RTI in India is still fraught with many challenges.

Major recognised & national political parties of the country take undue advantage of the claim to create enabling environment for effective right to information implementation and win the elections and/or pro transparency image. But once these acquire power, these ruling combinations forget about the promises made and instead make concerted efforts to make RTI Act lose its strength and vigour. Infrastructural and staff requirements of Central and State Information Commissions are ignored; information requests made by concerned citizens on important matters of public importance are outrightly rejected and through covert means attacks and threats are used against RTI activists and applicants to suppress their voices. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought into focus several drawbacks within the RTI legislations which have further undermined one of the most important good governance initiatives in India. Even after 15-16 year, Information commissions are perceived as burden on Government.

In my personal opinion it is high time to stand united to fight & reinvent the network of pro-transparency civil society groups of the country to intensify struggle for free and transparent flow of information in the country not only during a health crisis but also during normalcy.

Jai Hind!! .

-S.R. Wadhwa
Chairman, TII



FOREWORD

With the implementation of the RTI Act in 2005 in India- a new journey towards empowering citizens to seek information regarding the functioning of the government and its functionaries began with great zeal and vigour. *Enacted with the prime objective of bringing about progressive change in governance of the country, the only concern that remains to be addressed in the 16th year of the act's implementation is- Why RTI regime has to continuously face challenges on political and social fronts to achieve this objective?*

Every government claims that it is committed to transparency, good governance and anti-corruption in order to empower people to fight corruption and unethical practice. RTI is considered to be an enabling law which not only gives the power to the citizens to question the government but also the noble chance to the government to fulfil its commitment towards the citizens of the country. In the age of Digital India, Digital Governance has to be fostered within the RTI regime in order to ensure that information flows throughout the democracy while establishing in-built mechanisms of accountability, transparency and proactive disclosure within the governance system.

Now in the 16th year of RTI Act's implementation when the information regime is already facing challenges in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic similar to other sphere of life, it is an opportune time to look into the State of RTI implementation in Indian States and check whether the act's implementation has met the intention of the legislation. Activists across the country feel the same way and have been boosted with the adoption of SDG 16.10.2 which make it an obligation on the part of the Member state to adopt and implement strong RTI legislation. Since the current government seems more inclined in state sponsored propaganda rather than state-citizen-transparency dynamics, the time is ripe to start new era of transparency and accountability in governance.

Rama Nath Jha

Executive Director, TII

15 Year Journey of RTI Implementation in India

The largest democratic country - India consisting of the second largest population in the world establishes the citizens as the central actor in the political arena of the country. Our democracy thrives on free, fair and effective participation of each citizen in the political life and decision-making system of the country. This participation becomes meaningful only when they achieve access to relevant information. Information does not belong to the Government - it belongs to citizens and any information gathered by the Government is for the benefit of Public at large. Access to information is not a privilege, but a right. Hence, it is imperative for appropriate information and know-how of the information seeking process for easy access of the same.

Information rights have been described as “the fourth great wave of citizens' rights” similar to civil, political and social rights within the discourse on rights and participation. Internationally, the right to information has been recognized as a fundamental human right and a touchstone for all other freedoms. This year marks the 254th Anniversary of the Right to Information in the World and 16th Anniversary in India.

The first Transparency Law was adopted in the Kingdom of Sweden in the year 1766, followed again by the adoption of a comprehensive Transparency Law in 1949 by Sweden. Finland followed Sweden's suit in 1951 and USA adopted the law in 1966. At present, more than 122 countries have adopted comprehensive right to information (RTI) acts which covers approximately 90-92 percent of the World's population. After successfully enacting Transparency Laws at national levels, certain governments were successful in getting RTI specifically recognized in the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. Even the UN Statistics Committee agreed to include an indicator on the Right to Information in 2016.

Right to Information Act became operational on 12th October, 2005 in India. This law empowered Indian citizens to seek information from Public Authorities, thus making the Government & its functionaries transparent, accountable and responsible. RTI movement in India is a unique case of successful exercise of participatory democracy. It has been termed as an act of advocacy campaign, a people's movement, effective lobbying, and democratic deepening.

In Global Annual Rating of RTI Acts based on legislation published by Centre for Law and Democracy, RTI Act of India started with 2nd best in the year 2011 and dropped to 4th best in the World in the year 2016. India has further dropped down to 6th position in the year 2018(same in 2020). Unlike many other countries (for e.g. UK) which took several years in operationalising the Act post enactment, India took only a few months to bring it into force.

Undoubtedly, the Right to Information Act is historic and has the potential of changing forever the balance of power in India transforming governments and other powerful institutions and empowering citizens. The situation of implementation has improved over the years, several micro level studies still point out a wide gap in the usage of the Act among urban-rural masses. Issues like non-compliance in proactive disclosure by Public authorities, hostile approach of PIOs towards citizens and misinterpreting provisions of the Act to conceal information, lack of clarity on what public interest is, right to privacy, stand in the way of effective implementation of RTI Act.

Approximately 33% of Public authorities under Central Government are failing to report to the Central Information Commission regarding the Number of RTI applications they handle in one year, despite the fact that filing of annual RTI returns is mandatory under Section 25 (2) of RTI Act. This is because of a few genuine reasons such as shortage of manpower, no proper cataloguing and storage of information, the volume of frivolous queries and a grave concern regarding the non-serious attitude of many public authorities. Queries are mostly personal in nature, which is another concern. RTI will serve its purpose more if RTI applications are filed on issues of larger public interests.

Another area of concern is the non-seriousness with which the time frame for replies to RTI applications is taken by the public authorities. RTI activists insists that an imposition of penalties and payment of compensation to applicants can be used as tools for ensuring adherence to the norms of providing information within a reasonable time frame. Probably fixing a time limit for the disposal of first appeals as well as second appeals may go a long way if the government takes a step in this direction as has been prompted through the initiative of Madras High Court recently.

Considering the increasing number of RTI queries and applications with several public authorities, there is a dire need to create a template to make proactive disclosure more effective and informative. Only after striking a balance between the disclosure of information and the limited resources and time available to public authorities, it can be ensured that information seekers know what to ask from ocean of government information available.

The biggest challenge in the upcoming years is to ensure protection of information seekers as cases of harassments and murder of RTI applicants is increasing across the country. In the last 15 years, at least 90 people who had filed RTI applications have been killed while 175 others have been attacked, dozen applicants committed suicide while hundreds applicants reported being harassed from powerful lobby. Besides, the Government does not maintain any data on the RTI activists and information seekers who lose their lives in the interest of the country.

The Shadow of Covid-19 on the RTI Regime in India

Covid-19 pandemic in the year 2020 has brought to the forefront several discrepancies and deficiencies within the information regime in India which has shook the strong foundation built by the RTI Act ever since 2005. Data regarding the well-being measures for the migrant workers, total number of migrant workers, the number of workers affected by the pandemic etc.; Data regarding ration and food grain distribution across districts; Information about Covid-19 treatment centres and regarding decision-making process as to the acquirement of PPE kits and information regarding the actions taken against police personnel for their impunity against innocent citizens of the country during the pandemic- All of this is missing in the public domain and efforts made to gain such information are also curbed. The pandemic is the scapegoat for the failure of the information regime to function properly.

During a pandemic that has created havoc not only in India but all around the world and that has put not only lives but livelihoods of people at stake- it becomes very important that information flow does not get hampered. The Right to Information Act 2005 must continue to ensure accountability and empower citizens to seek information during these difficult times especially information regarding the crisis management. Instead of turning the citizens into passive consumers of information provided by press releases of respective government departments; advertisements; TV and newspaper reports etc. the RTI Act should have become a formidable weapon in the hands of the citizens to make sure that the transparency regime does not suffer a setback due to the Covid-19 crisis.

Essential issues of public importance on which information must be readily made available to the public specifically if a RTI has been filed, have been kept under the wraps by the government. Instance of such escapist attitude can be seen in the refusal by the PMO to provide information regarding PM Cares Fund stating that it is not a public authority and the refusal of State Bank of India on the premise that it is a third party in the matter. Details regarding the public fund which is being used to manage the crisis are not being revealed to the public. Another phenomenon is that there has been a relative lackadaisical attitude of the authorities towards the information seekers as RTIs are transferred from one public authority to another as was the case in the RTI filed to get details of the list of Covid-19 treatment facilities in the different districts.

Suo Motu disclosures under the RTI Act have also been apathetically ignored by the authorities especially those related to health, migrant labourers, finances etc. Instead of voluntarily publishing data on the website portals and providing as much as information as possible to the public regarding the true pictures of the Covid-19 pandemic in India- the authorities are utilizing all kinds of tactics to undermine the sovereignty and right to freedom of information of the citizens.

The institutional establishments put in place to uphold the sanctity of the RTI Act in the form of Central Information Commissions (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs) have proven to be a failure during the pandemic. Though the CIC has been operating; hearing cases through audio/video conferencing; conducting trainings/webinars/conferences with various stakeholders regarding how to deal with the Covid-19 situation; accepting appeals and complaints online and so on; but it has been rendered headless as the Chief Information Commissioner retired in August 2020. The state information commissions of Assam, Bihar, Goa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh were also headless. Several SICs did not work during the lockdown phase and had minimal staff members that were present at the office but no hearings were held like in Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand SICs; landline numbers of the SICs and mobile numbers of many information commissioners and secretaries of SICs were unavailable and websites of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Nagaland SICs remained inactive during the pandemic.

During pandemic video conferencing was being used a tool for hearings by CIC and six SICs; whereas the rest 22 SICs had failed to resume their work and staffs of the SICs are enjoying the paid leave despite many free platform coupled with low cost data plans are available for digital connectivity . Already backlog of cases has been an issue plaguing several of the SICs and their being not functional during the times of crisis is just adding to the backlog. It is pertinent to mention that CIC alone cannot take the burden of upholding the transparency regime in the country. The state information commissions which have a wider reach and capacity should have come to the rescue and heard matters of public importance on priority basis. These should have provided online facility to the public to put forth their grievances and get information which is a significant foundation of a democratic country like India.

Such low performance on the part of the information commissions and the dismal image of the information regime in India has not battered down the spirit of the citizens of the country especially the RTI activists and RTI users spread across the country. Technology has been leveraged to bring together RTI enthusiast across the country on online platforms to discuss and debate around the RTI Act; its implementation and future in the context of Covid-19. It is hoped that the officials take inspiration from the undying fortitude of the citizens of the country and start taking their responsibilities seriously.

About State Transparency Report 2020

As on date, there is no empirical data as such available to analyze the impact of implementation of RTI Act. In this backdrop, Transparency International India started publishing STR since 2017 which showcases reliable and empirical data on the implementation of the RTI Act in India, in general, and Indian States in particular. We hope this edition, anchored in actual experience will help in identifying the strengths and weaknesses in each of the 28 states (Jammu & Kashmir now UT) and acts as an eye opener in strengthening of the RTI Act. The report forms India's most comprehensive and verified data set, making it one of its kinds; relying solely on primary data. The empirical data makes this report a powerful tool that can help measure a State Information Commission's adherence to the RTI Act in respective states and paves the way for informed policy debates, both within and across states.

The Central Information Commission and State Information Commissions make the fundamental structure to facilitate the Public Authorities in implementation of the Act. The State Information Commission engages directly with public and thus becomes the most important stakeholder of the implementation of the Act. Hence, the real impact of RTI Act can be assessed by evaluating the performance of different aspects of RTI Act at the state level. Unfortunately, in last 15 years, most of the stakeholders focused on Union level rather than State level. Upon recognizing the importance of the essential role that these State level entities play, this report primarily focuses on the State Information Commissions for an exhaustive analysis to initiate a fresh departure in the fight against corruption in the Indian scenario. This report brings out the highs and lows of the performances of the respective State Information Commissions to spark their conscience for bringing further improvement in their functioning and at the same time create healthy competition among themselves. Through this report, Transparency International India aims to create a repository of relevant information for a new discourse on transparent and corruption free systems and thus change the culture of secrecy within the government.

Scope and Methodology

The litmus test for implementation of the Right to Information Act is its success at the State level. Transparency International India has conceptualized this exhaustive analysis across the 28 States (Jammu & Kashmir now UT) and the Central Information Commission to provide structural analysis and a policy review of the Right to Information legislation. Functioning of each State Information Commission has been analyzed along the essential parameters which bring out the extent to which each State is complying with the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

The scope of our report focuses on the following aspects of RTI Act-

- **Section 25(2): Number of RTI Applications**
- **Section 19(3) & Section 18(1): Number of Second Appeals & Complaints**
- **Section 20 (1): Number of Penalties Imposed on Public Authorities.**
- **Section 4 (1) (b): Annual Reports of Information Commissions**
- **Post & Vacancy of State Information Commissions**
- **Analysis of Budget State Information Commissions**
- **Analysis of Websites of State Information Commissions**
- **Cases of Threats & Harassments against Public Information Seekers**

The data represented in the report are based on the analysis of replies to the RTI Applications filed by Transparency International India in 2019 to infer about the compliances under various sections of the Act. The RTI Applications were followed by several reminder emails and telephone calls to the different State Information Commissions. Besides, websites of the respective State Information Commissions were also assessed to get complete picture of the real situation. The data received and gathered was segregated into applications received, first appeals, second appeals, complaints, penalty, compensation, budget, cases of threats & harassments etc

After tabulating the data, the analysis was done on the basis of the availability of a functional website, user friendly usage of the portal, online tracking system, availability of annual reports and regularity in updating the relevant documents on their respective websites. Additionally, the trends in the penalty and compensation were also meticulously studied to bring out a clear picture of the state of functioning of respective State Information Commissions. The report also brings out various other interesting elements concerning the same.

This 2020 edition of the State Transparency Report is based 3/4th on the data acquired through extensive and comprehensive filing of RTI applications in the respective Information Commissions last year (second half of 2019). Along with that, broad analysis of data on the websites of the respective Information Commissions has been done this year (as on 2nd October, 2020) specifically to gain information on initiatives taken up by different commissions during the COVID-19 pandemic.



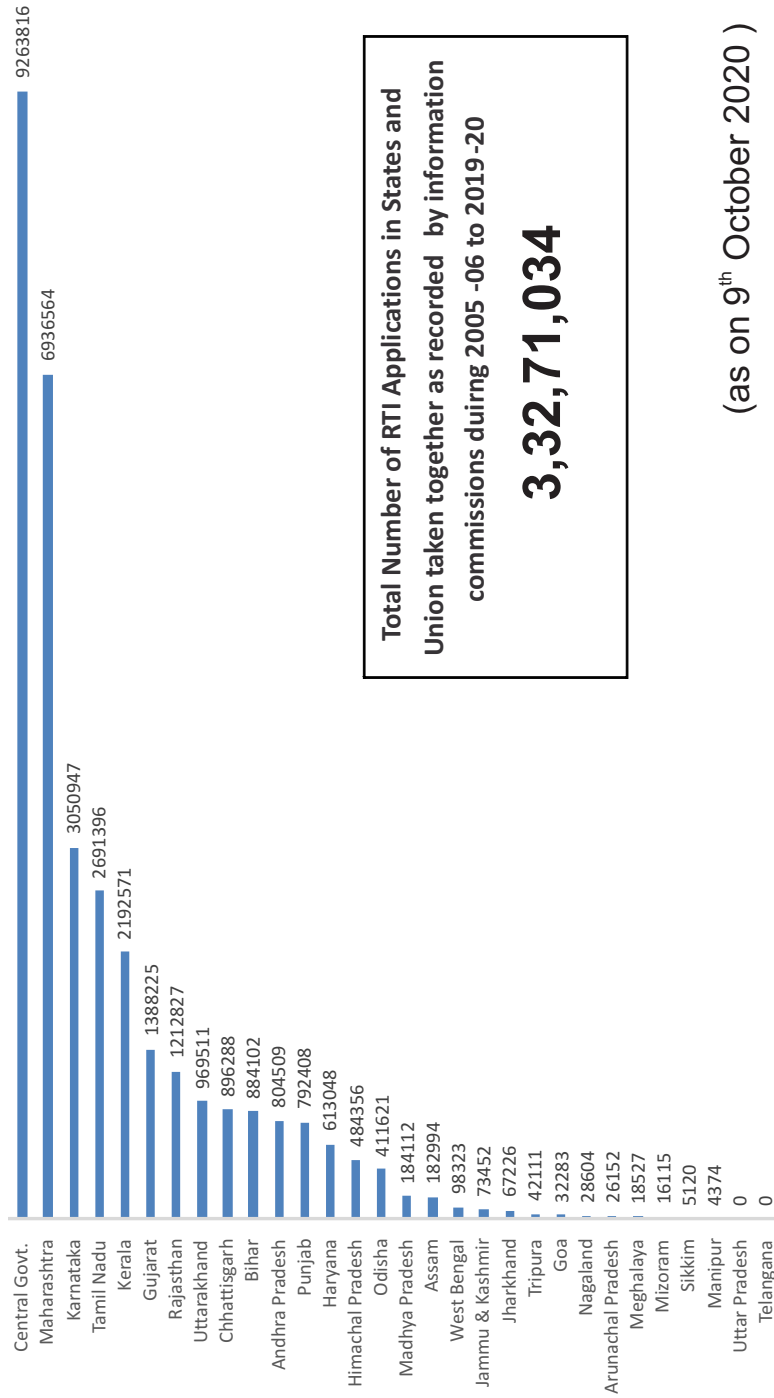
RTI Act

..Journey in Numbers

Total RTI Applications Received by all Public Authorities (Union & States)

During 2005-06 to 2019-20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act

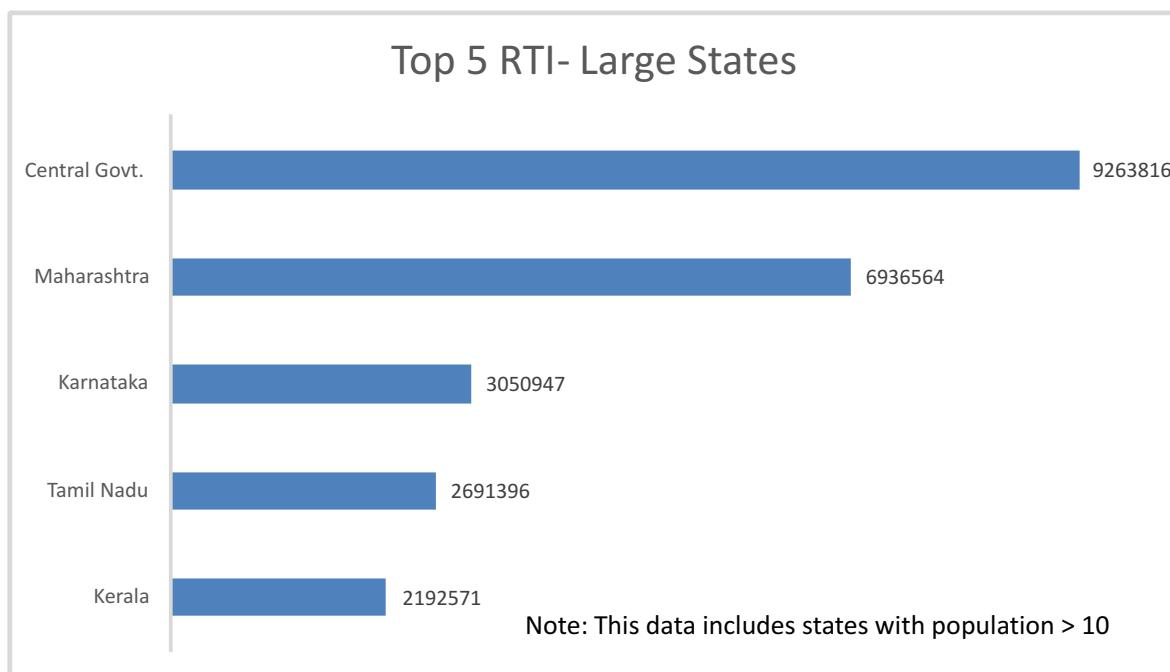
Total RTI Applications in States and Union



(*FY - Financial Year; CY- Calendar Year)

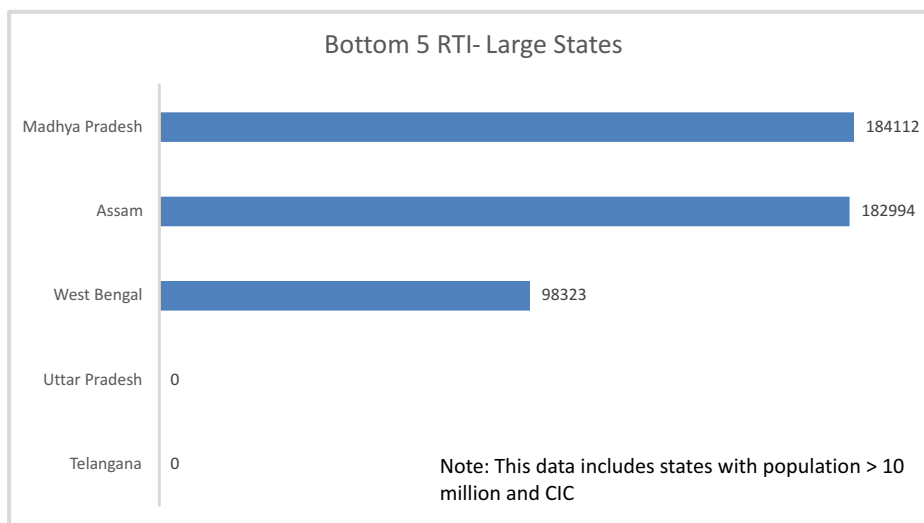
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Top 5 Govt. (Union & State) Receiving Maximum No. of RTI Application During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act



(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

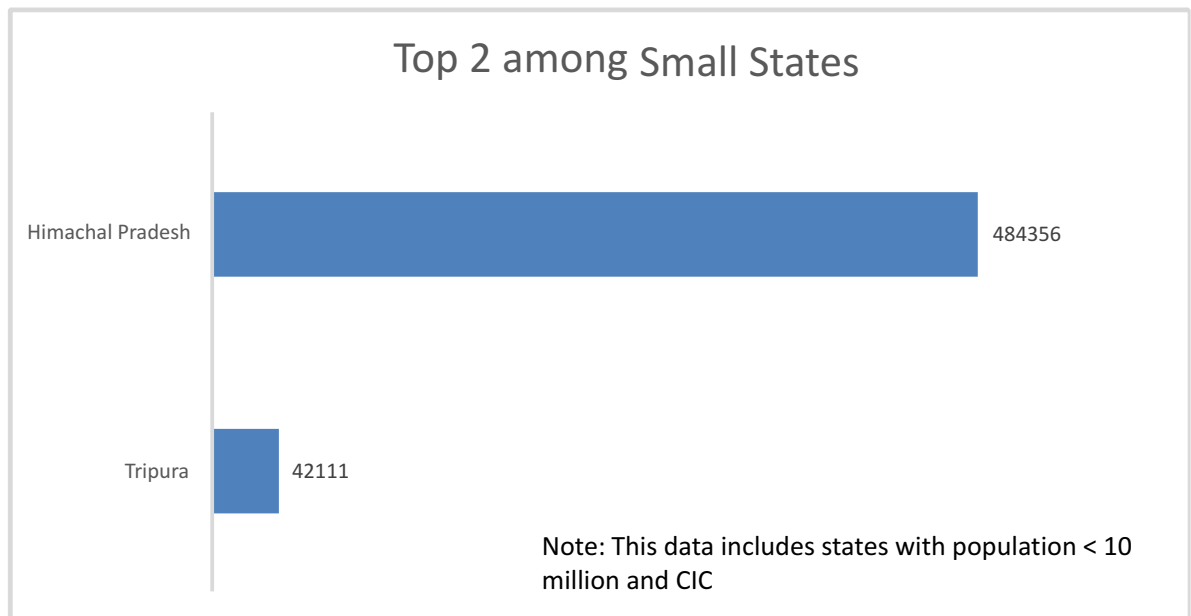
5 Govt. (Union & State) Receiving fewer No. of RTI Applications During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act



*(MP SIC is not maintaining data properly)

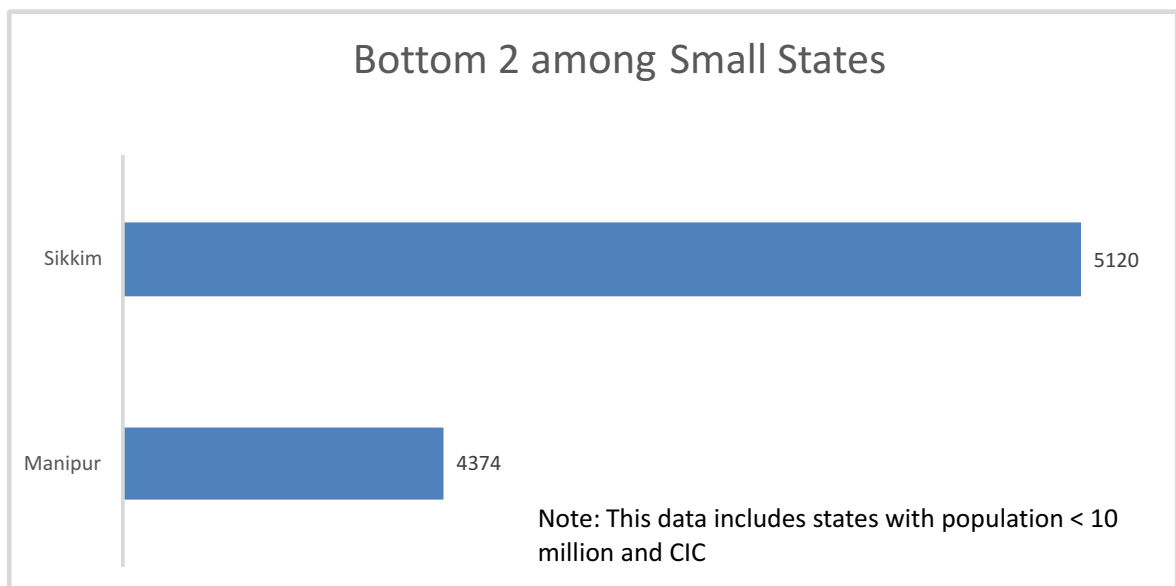
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Top 2 among Small States with Population <10 million Receiving Maximum No. of RTI Application During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act



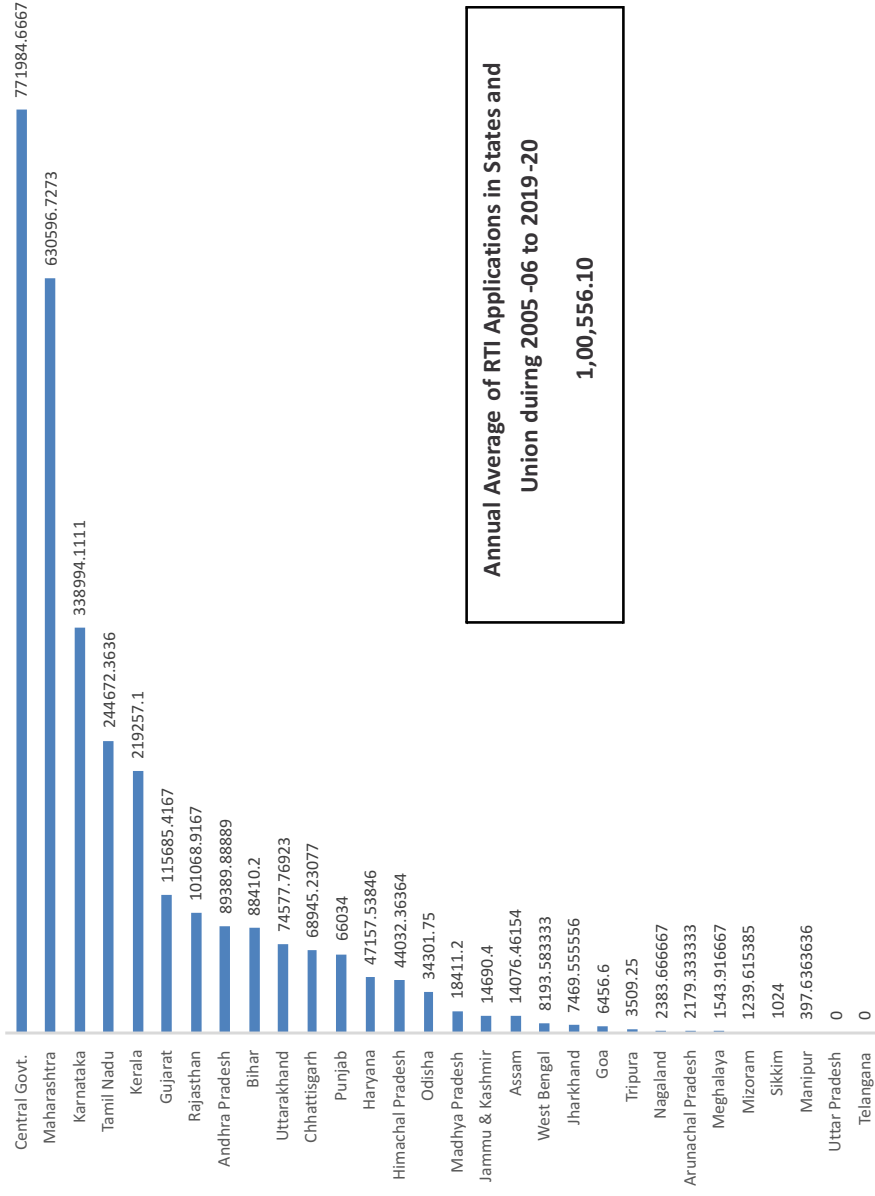
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Lowest among Small States with Population <10 million Receiving Fewer No. of RTI Application During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act



(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

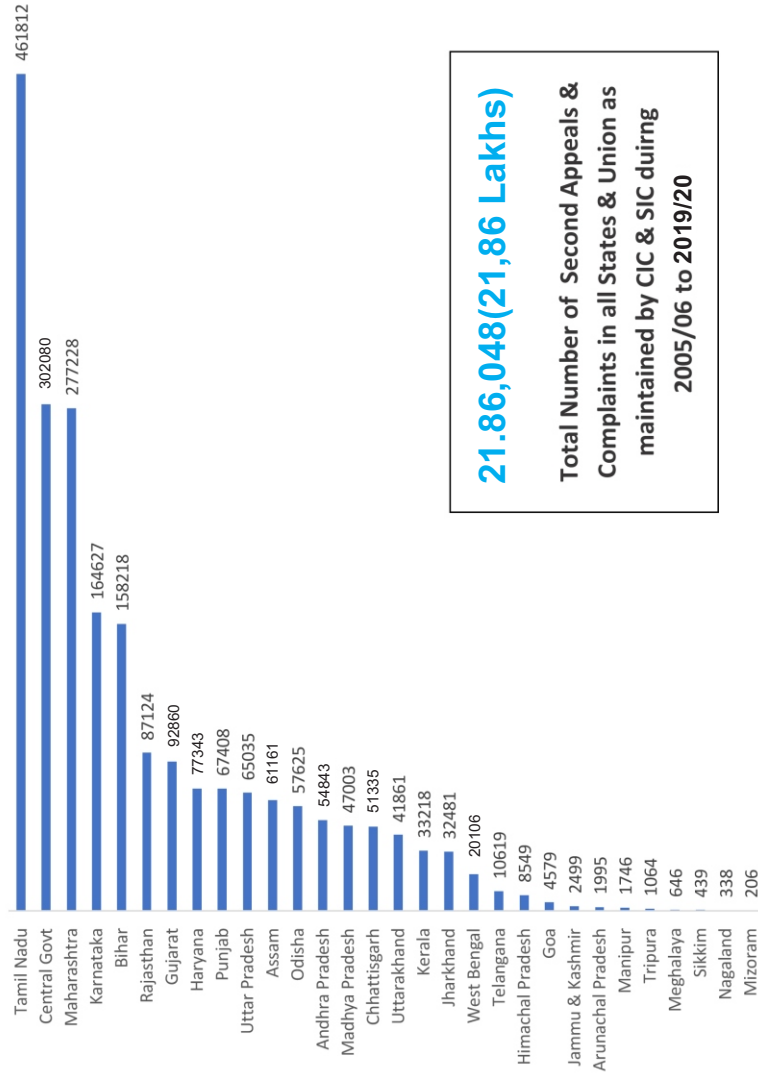
Annual Average RTI Applications in States and Union



(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Total Second Appeals & Complaints Received by all information Commissions (Union & State) during 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 19(3) & 18 of the RTI Act.

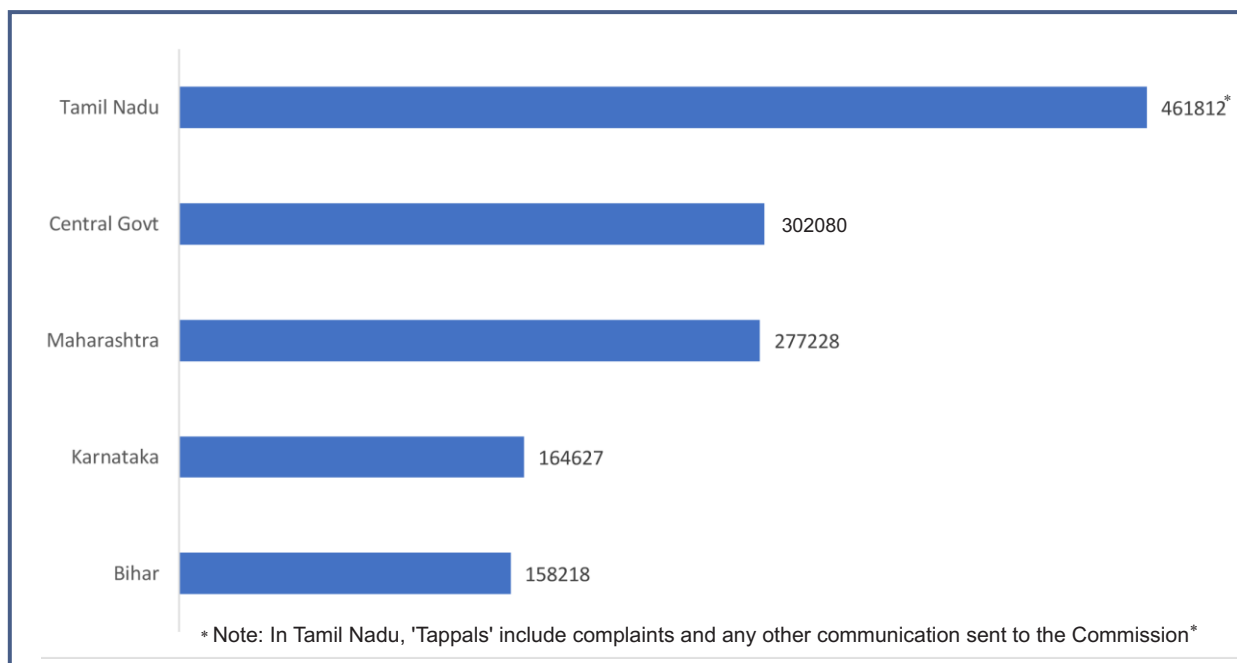
Total Second Appeals & Complaints in States and Union



Note: In Tamil Nadu, 'Tappals' include complaints and any other communication sent to the Commission

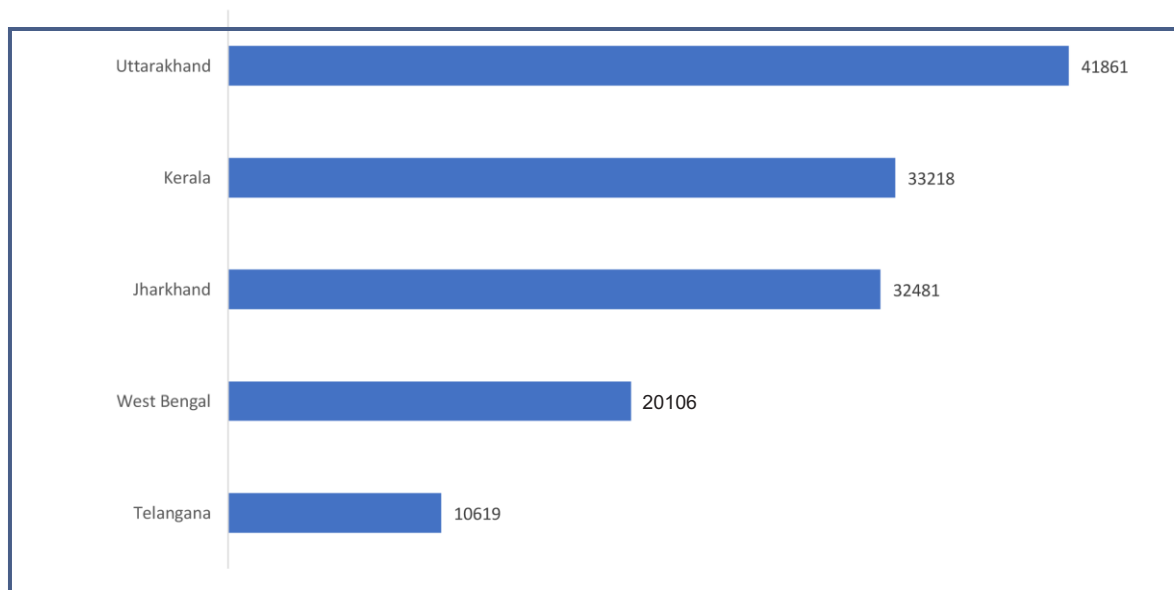
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Top 5 Govt. (Union & States) Receiving Maximum No. of Second Appeals & Complaints During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 19 (3) & 18 of the RTI Act



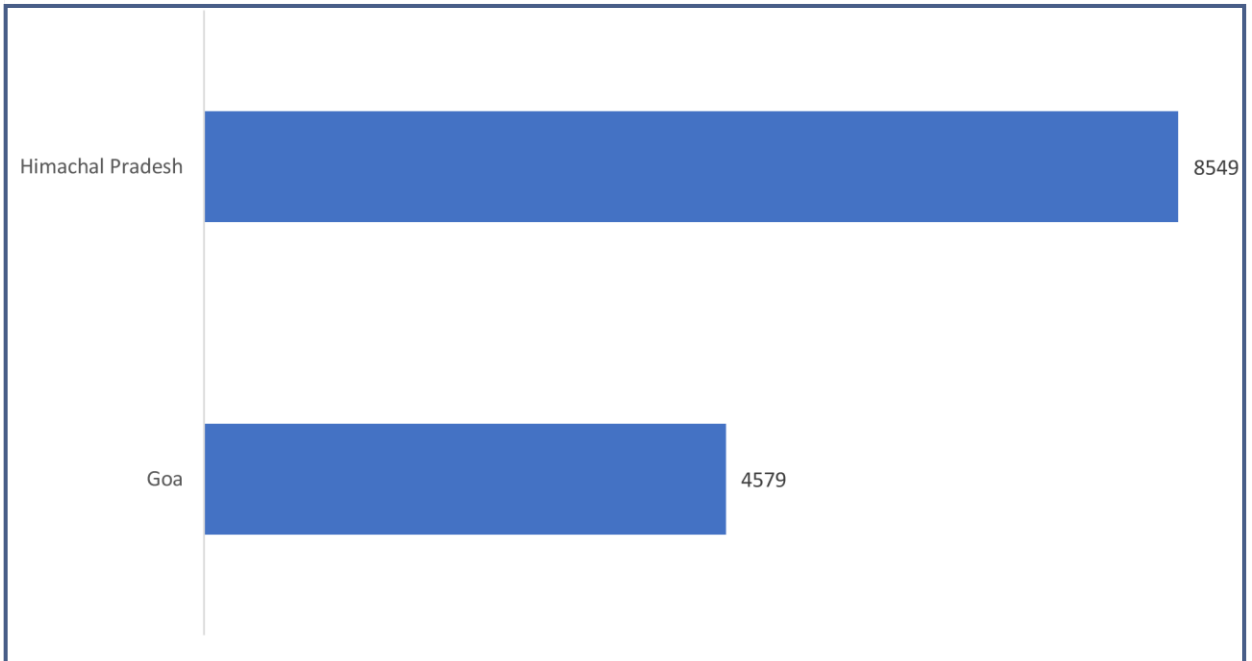
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

5 Govt. (Union & States) Receiving Fewer No. of Second Appeals & Complaints During 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 19 (3) & 18 of the RTI Act



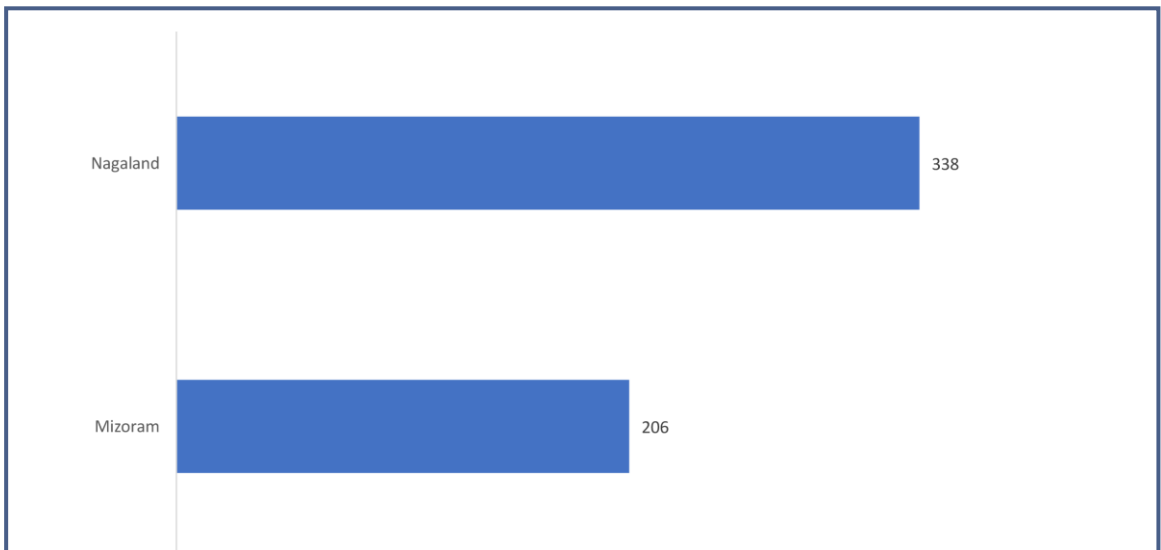
(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Top 2 among Small States with Population <10 million Receiving Maximum No. of Second Appeals & Complaints During 2005-06 to 2018-19 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 19 (3) & 18of the RTI Act



(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

lowest among Small States with Population <10 million Receiving Fewer No. of Second Appeals & Complaints During 2005-06 to 2018-19 (FY/CY) as per data available with Commissions under Section 19 (3) & 18of the RTI Act



(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

Penalty Imposed on Public Authorities

The Commission (CIC or SIC) has powers to impose penalty against Public Information Officer under section 20 (1) of RTI Act. commission can impose a penalty of Rs 250 per day to maximum Rs. 25,000 but before a penalty is imposed the official must be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

Total number of cases in which penalty were imposed on PIO/APIO by Hon'ble SICs

As on 01/01/2020

Penalty Imposed under Section 20 (1) on Public Authorities															
No. of Cases of Penalty Imposed (Financial Year Wise)															
S.N.	State Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Assam	-	3	8	12	7	3	3	4	3	3	5	8	2	2
2	Bihar	-	2	-	-	-	86	48	116	139	72	-	-	-	-
3	Gujarat	-	8	18	32	24	37	25	20	26	69	68	152	96	79
4	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	9	3	24	47	46	40	32	0	1	5
5	Jammu & Kashmir*	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	9					
6	Karnataka	-	4	20	64	208	-	537	Amount Disclosed			-	-	-	-
7	Kerala**	-	-	40	40	44	72	14	42	70	88	45	50	114	45
8	Mizoram	3													
9	Nagaland	-	-	6	2	4	6	1	6	3	4	10	4	10	17
10	Odisha	0	4	46	66	89	102	203	229	94	57	21	52	29	39
11	Rajasthan				39	20	357	132	103	458	429	789	476	Amount Disclosed	
12	Tripura	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	709	729
14	Uttarakhand		74	-	61	-	89	137	125	115	36	151	209	150	76
15	Telangana	Information Commission Recently Constituted													

No. of Cases of Penalty Imposed (Calendar Year Wise)															
S.N.	State Information Commission	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	-	12	40	62	259	425	351	-	-	-	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	25	-	-	51	-	-	-	0	26	16	15	7	15
3	Chhattisgarh	-	5	5	6	69	Amount Disclosed								
4	Goa	-	28	23	22	20	75	75	49	0	43	0	12	10	14
5	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	429				
6	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Meghalaya	-	2	2	8	5	2	4	7	4	3	12	2	0	7
8	Punjab	-	-	60	-	64	61	49	29	48	39	12	30	32	39
9	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	6	1	1	6	4	0
10	Tamil Nadu	-	-	8	28	102	40	14	34	20	17	36	-	-	-
11	West Bengal	-	-	2	5	5	4	3	2	1	-	-	-	2	3

No. of Cases of Penalty (Financial & Calendar Year (Mixed) Wise)															
S.N.	State Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Jharkhand	-	39	13	41	62	17	18	38	32	48	20	-	-	-
2	Haryana	-	2	16	63	76	108	77	49	202	395	625	445	329	305
3	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	5

(Source: Annual Reports, Review of websites & RTI reply received from SICs)

*J & K is now UT w.e.f. 5th Aug. 2019

Note: **Data changed from previous STR due to update from KIC website

Post and Vacancy in Central Information Commission/State Information Commissions: (As on 9th October, 2020)

Post & Vacancy in Central Information Commission & State Information Commission (As on 2nd October, 2020)								
S.No.	Information Commission	As Originally Constituted	Post Sanctioned as on Date (Including Chief Information Commissioners)	Chief Information Commissioners		Information Commissioners		Remarks
				Post Filled	Vacant	Post Filled	Vacant	
1	Central Govt.	5	11	0	1	5	5	2 Woman IC
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	6	1	0	5	0	
3	Arunachal Pradesh	4	5	1	0	1	3	
4	Assam	2	3	1	0	2	0	1 Woman IC
5	Bihar	3	4	1	0	3	0	
6	Chhattisgarh	1	4	1	0	2	1	
7	Goa	1	3	0	1	2	0	1 Woman IC
8	Gujarat	1	6	1	0	5	0	
9	Haryana	1	11	1	0	7	3	1 Woman IC
10	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	1	0	0	1	
11	Jammu & Kashmir*	J & K is UT w.e.f. 5th Aug 2019						
12	Jharkhand	7	2	0	1	0	1	
13	Karnataka	3	11	1	0	9	1	1 Woman IC
14	Kerala	1	6	1	0	4	1	1 Woman IC
15	Madhya Pradesh	1	8	1	0	7	0	
16	Maharashtra	1	9	1	0	4	4	
17	Manipur	1	3	1	0	0	2	
18	Meghalaya	1	1	1	0	N.A.	N.A	
19	Mizoram	1	3	1	0	2	0	
20	Nagaland	1	3	1	0	2	0	
21	Odisha	2	6	1	0	3	2	
22	Punjab	1	11	1	0	8	2	1 Woman IC
23	Rajasthan	1	5	1	0	2	2	
24	Sikkim	1	2	1	0	1	0	
25	Tamil Nadu	1	7	1	0	4	2	
26	Telangana	2	6	1	0	5	0	
27	Tripura	3	2	1	0	0	1	
28	Uttar Pradesh	1	11	0	1	10	0	
29	Uttarakhand	1	6	1	0	2	3	
30	West Bengal	1	3	1	0	2	0	
Total			160	25	4	97	34	

Remarks:

- As per STR 2019 published on Oct, 2019, 24 out 155 (excluding J&K) posts were vacant.
Whereas currently, 38 out of 160 posts of Chief Information Commissioner & Information Commissioners are vacant.
- *J & K is UT w.e.f. 5th Aug 2019
- Meghalaya Information Commission is the only single member commission
- 5 State Information Commission are 2 member commissions & 6 State Information Commissions are 3 member commissions
- 4 Information Commissions are headless including CIC
- Sanctioned Post increased for Gujarat and Telangana
- Eight Commissions including CIC have Women Information Commissioners



State Information Commissions as on 9th October 2020

Availability of Annual Report of State Information Commission (As on 9th Oct, 2019)																
Financial Year Wise																
S.N.	Information Commission	Establishment Date	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	Central Information Commission	12th Oct 2005														
2	Assam	1st March 2006														
3	Bihar	8th May 2006														
4	Gujarat	5th Oct 2005														
5	Himachal Pradesh	4th Feb 2006														
6	Jammu & Kashmir	28th Feb 2011														
7	Karnataka	30th July 2005														
8	Kerala	19th Dec 2005														
9	Mizoram	29th June 2006														
10	Nagaland	14th March 2006														
11	Odisha	29th Oct 2005														
12	Rajasthan	13th April 2006														
13	Tripura	19th Jan 2006														
14	Uttar Pradesh	14th Dec 2005														
15	Uttarakhand	3rd Oct 2005														
16	Telangana	13th Sept 2017														
Information Commission Recently Constituted																
Calendar Year Wise																
S.N.	State Information Commission	Establishment Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Andhra Pradesh	15th Nov 2005														
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13th Oct 2006														
3	Chhattisgarh	20th Oct 2005														
4	Goa	2nd March 2006														
5	Madhya Pradesh	22nd Aug 2005														
	Maharashtra	7th Oct 2005														
	Meghalaya	7th Oct 2005														
8	Punjab	11th Oct 2005														
9	Sikkim	2006														
10	Tamil Nadu	7th Oct 2005														
11	West Bengal	12th Oct 2005														
Financial & Calendar Year (Mixed) Wise																
S.N.	State Information Commission	Establishment Date	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	Jharkhand	24th July 2006														
2	Haryana	31st Oct 2005														
3	Manipur	12th Sept 2006														

Remarks:

Color				
Inferences	Published	Recently Published	Not Published	

Note : *J & K is UT w.e.f. 5th Aug 2019

Website Analysis of State Information Commissions

Websites are one of most effective ways of connecting with stakeholders. It is the first indicator of the intent of the respective entity to be transparent. It becomes extremely important not only to update the website, but also make it user friendly and language neutral.

S.No.	Information Commission	Availability of Local Languages in Websites of Information Commission	Availability of online Appeal/Complaint Filing Facility	Cause Lists Displayed on Websites	Availability of Status of Cases	Availability of Case Disposal and Pendency Statistics	Availability of Decisions of Information Commissions	Availability of Annual Reports of Information Commission	Availability of Budget and Expenditure of Information Commission	Whether Assets and Liabilities of ICs are Disclosed	Information Material	Remarks
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
1	Central Information Commission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mobile App
2	Andhra Pradesh	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3	Arunachal Pradesh	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	Assam	X	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Bihar	Domain Name of SIC Exist, previously working but for some years website is not functional										
6	Chhattisgarh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7	Goa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8	Gujarat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9	Haryana	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10	Himachal Pradesh	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	Jammu & Kashmir	J&K no longer a state with effect from 5th Aug, 2019										
12	Jharkhand	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mobile App
13	Karnataka	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14	Kerala	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15	Madhya Pradesh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16	Maharashtra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17	Manipur	X	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18	Meghalaya	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19	Mizoram	X	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
20	Nagaland	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
21	Odisha	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
22	Punjab	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
23	Rajasthan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
24	Sikkim	X	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
25	Tamil Nadu	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
26	Telangana	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
27	Tripura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
28	Uttar Pradesh	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	X	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
29	Uttarakhand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
30	West Bengal	X	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Note : Only two Information Commissions have mobile app

Budget of Information Commissions

Information Commission Budget (As on 01/01/2020)			
S. No.	Information Commissions	Budget sanctioned (In Crores)	
		2017-18	2018-19
1	Central Information Commission	27.86	Not Disclosed
2	Andhra Pradesh	1.93	2.35
3	Arunachal Pradesh	4.63	4.50
4	Assam	3.68	4.16
5	Bihar	7.32	6.60
6	Chhattisgarh	5.45	4.73
7	Goa	3.00	2.16
8	Gujarat	4.19	4.14
9	Haryana	8.56	9.58
10	Himachal Pradesh	2.74	2.34
11	Jammu & Kashmir	J & K is UT w.e.f. 5th Aug 2019	
12	Jharkhand	2.68	Not Disclosed
13	Karnataka	4.75	Not Disclosed
14	Kerala*	Not Disclosed	Not Disclosed
15	Madhya Pradesh	4.75	Not Disclosed
16	Maharashtra**	Not Disclosed	Not Disclosed
17	Manipur	70 lakhs	Not Disclosed
18	Meghalaya	1.26	2.50
19	Mizoram	2.47	2.35
20	Nagaland	2.13	2.24
21	Orissa	3.27	4.02
22	Punjab	6.40	8.79
23	Rajasthan	3.43	4.02
24	Sikkim	1.60	Not Disclosed
25	Tamil Nadu	Not Disclosed	8.40
26	Telangana***	Not Disclosed	Not Disclosed
27	Tripura****	Not Disclosed	Not Disclosed
28	Uttar Pradesh	Not Disclosed	Not Disclosed
29	Uttarakhand	2.94	3.38
30	West Bengal	1.89	2.36

Total Budget in 2017-2018

107 crores approximately for 23 Commissions

Note *Budget for Year 2014-15 disclosed

**Budget for Year 2012-13 disclosed

***Information Commission Recently Constituted

****Budget is basically maintained by the GA (AR) Department, Govt. of Tripura.

Challenges Ahead

Right to Information Act, 2005, was enshrined with the objective to make the government: Transparent and Accountable. RTI is indeed an instrument of good governance. Not only can RTI data be used to reorient public policy, it also facilitates healthy working of democracy. However, the implementation of the act has been limited in its extent because of the existence of a fundamental problem with the mindset of the persons sitting in the power. The diverging objectives of the persons in power and as envisaged by the Act, has proven to be the biggest hurdle in the successful implementation of the Act. Structural and procedural difficulties have also proven to be one of the major hindrances in the popularizing RTI Act as a tool of the masses.

Pendency in Central Information Commission and State Information Commissions, acts counter to the objective of the act. Quality Information at appropriate time is soul of the RTI Act. Vacancies of Information Commissioners directly translate to the increased pendency of the cases to be disposed. It is often seen that these vacant positions become the parking lot for the retired civil servants. On the contrary, these important positions should be manned with candidates with legal acumen. Exceptions as per Section 4 of the RTI Act should be based on sound grounds not whims of the government/executive.

Besides, one can safely conclude that the First Appellate Authority is just performing duty of an 'attesting authority' to reply of PIO instead of appellate as envisioned in the act. The Government department failed to adopt a culture of pro- active disclosures required as per Section 4 of the RTI Act, 2005. According to DoPT, Central Information Commission is responsible to enforce section 4 of the Act and more or less commissions have failed to supervise. At commission level, the successful model of "RTI Adalat" must be popularized.

The recent RTI Amendments instead of upholding the belief of 'maximum governance, minimum government' are causing the slow death of democracy in the country. The amendments create the possible danger of the executive overstepping and trying to hamper the independence of Central Information Commissions and State Information Commissions and arm twist these institutions making them toothless.

Challenges faced by different stakeholders

RTI has four major stakeholders: Central and State Information Commissions, Public Authorities, Civil Society and Public who can be called the Information Seekers. All of these stakeholders need to collaborate to achieve the mandate of the Act and these stakeholders face the following challenges with respect to the RTI Act:

State Information Commission:

1. Lack of 'political will' for strengthening State Information Commission.
2. Absence of Infrastructure and Inadequate human resources in Commission.
3. High Level of Pendency and vacancy in Information Commission.
4. Lack of Monitoring and Review mechanism within the Government department on RTI.
5. Absence of culture of suo moto disclosure of information.

Public Information Officer:

1. Ineffective record management system particularly in state field offices/ departments
2. Inadequate training to PIO & FAAs particularly on key order/judgments of Information commissions and courts
3. Limited use of IT like in Case Management System and 'e reply' during processing RTI applications.
4. Understaffed positions of PIOs, thus increased workloads.
5. Lack of motivation & no incentives for good work.

Information Seekers:

1. Low awareness level, particularly among marginalized section.
2. Non- uniform RTI rules and procedures, inconvenient mode and non uniform fee across the States.
3. Unsupportive attitudes of PIOs are leading to unsatisfactory and poor quality replies by PIOs.
4. Ritualistic approach' by First Appellate authority, huge pendency and leniency towards PIOs at Information Commission level.
5. Intimidation and threat by the person in power.

Recommendation for Strong RTI Implementation Regime in India

Technology-oriented Regime

In this tech savvy world, use of innovative technology to disclose more and more information through the government websites across all platforms including vast mobile connectivity and mobile applications, in multiple languages will in itself make the system transparent.

Building a Culture of Training

Training and orientation of the government officials on RTI Act, rules and recent order/judgments will immensely add to the efficiency of their respective departments. A dedicated center to give training to the PIOs and civil society will go a long way and will equip them with desired skills.

Enhancement of Awareness

Lack of awareness among the stakeholders of the RTI Act, will prove detrimental to the objective of having a wide reach. Whereas, including an introductory material of one or two page on the RTI Act in the curriculum can help in making the youth aware of the Act, along with the citizenry as a whole.

Other Measures

- Anonymous requests must be allowed.
- All refusals must be reasoned and appealable.
- Maximum disposal should be the rule with narrow and clearly defined exceptions.
- Effective and timely appeal procedures.
- No reasons required for seeking information from public authorities.



Statistical Annex

Total RTI Applications Received by PIO of different Departments of the State/Union under Section 25(2) of the RTI Act (As on 01/01/2020)

Total RTI Application received by PIOs of different Departments of the State under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act (Financial Year)																
S.No.	Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	Central Govt.	24436	171398	263261	329728	529274	417955	629960	811350	834183	755247	976679	917009	1233207	-	7893687
2	Assam	3250	3784	4021	4902	1485	15497	15577	17073	19284	16926	25989	18260	22189	14757	182994
3	Bihar	-	3448	50190	97001	109321	99527	129807	133718	126271	114939	19880	-	-	-	884102
4	Gujarat	8433	76957	94218	70759	70256	72804	55074	101521	172981	161405	152097	136059	97023	-	1269587
5	Himachal Pradesh	106	2654	10105	17869	43835	55463	72191	61202	63722	50675	46430	60104	-	-	484356
6	Jammu & Kashmir*	-	-	-	-	741	3110	12136	27619	29846	-	-	-	-	-	73452
7	Karnataka	10014	40092	57804	93112	172847	221716	293405	418863	425475	544754	-	-	-	-	2278082
8	Kerala	590	26890	109675	120946	158185	177546	227088	250846	373078	373756	737971	-	-	-	2192571
9	Mizoram	-	476	371	177	695	741	1045	1316	1750	1593	2144	1642	2237	1957	16144
10	Nagaland	-	46	187	399	590	1105	2206	3042	4217	4234	4526	4344	3708	-	28604
11	Odisha	447	4618	9772	37997	42036	35649	52305	43011	60126	25172	26127	38820	35541	-	411621
12	Rajasthan	-	9140	19846	28790	45610	75577	71243	94257	140539	170809	199866	196447	160703	-	1212827
13	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
14	Tripura	47	235	1088	2012	3940	5123	3801	2302	2757	3595	3573	6794	6844	-	42111
15	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
16	Uttarakhand	1385	9691	15640	23832	27311	37976	69088	87691	114790	122056	104238	109760	101594	100159	925231

Information Commission Recently Constituted

Total RTI Application received by PIOs of different Departments of the State under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act (Calendar Year)																
S.No.	State Information Commission	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	8864	31964	59664	65973	101453	122133	145583	163624	105251	-	-	-	-	804509
2	Arunachal Pradesh**	-	-	455	-	327	748	550	312	4919	9141	1604	7238	188	670	26152
3	Chhattisgarh	-	25812	31387	33841	36952	46404	48785	66469	61806	84391	80252	86629	101592	91420	795740
4	Goa	-	-	3877	5711	-	-	-	-	-	11274	5167	6254	-	-	32283
5	Madhya Pradesh	380	7704	5458	2958	1904	2385	3362	4111	2395	72422	81033	-	-	-	184112
6	Maharashtra	-	123571	316002	416090	440728	548987	645023	682286	751190	703093	868818	684281	-	-	6180069
7	Meghalaya	-	310	537	360	676	836	1074	1289	1625	1816	2653	2132	5219	-	18527
8	Punjab	-	10056	27256	40397	59168	91033	70901	61519	125059	109320	85534	62331	49834	-	792408
9	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1558	1490	746	921	405	5120
10	Tamil Nadu	-	12269	63912	114721	179441	237517	250042	333010	360995	371481	392724	375284	-	-	2691396
11	West Bengal	-	-	7253	-	11919	15470	8053	10361	10512	5767	7967	11996	9025	-	98323

Total RTI Application received by PIOs of different Departments of the State under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act (Financial/Calendar Year)																
S.No.	State Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	2611	-	-	8901	9815	17187	-	28712	-	-	67226
2	Haryana	-	4985	18112	16858	20757	32856	54057	34996	31567	25358	34533	58455	212121	68393	613048
3	Manipur	-	-	171	90	287	104	189	279	419	235	493	878	1229	-	4374

Note: * J & K is now UT w.e.f. 5th Aug. 2019

**Data changed from previous STR as per the RTI reply provided by the commission

Total Second Appeals & Complaints received under Section 19 (3) & 18 respectively of the RTI Act (As on 01/01/2020)

Total Second Appeals & Complaints received under Section 19 (1) & 18 respectively of the RTI Act (Financial Year)																
S.No.	State Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	Central Govt.	0	6839	11261	15426	22800	28875	33922	28801	20438	35396	25960	23811	25815	-	279344
2	Assam	200	460	1278	1290	20360	2001	3351	4084	5403	7040	5234	5090	4395	747	60933
3	Bihar	-	586	5730	11330	16598	14902	38963	22043	23184	24882	-	-	-	-	158218
4	Gujarat	197	2866	3125	4150	3712	4761	5224	12654	11360	8361	8449	7462	10077	-	82398
5	Himachal Pradesh	0	84	298	460	715	847	1242	1289	808	678	718	441	451	518	8349
6	Jammu & Kashmir*	-	-	-	-	13	24	974	741	747	-	-	-	-	-	2499
7	Karnataka	207	4239	4913	5968	13460	14463	13493	15227	13460	15888	7735	12246	20263	23065	164627
8	Kerala	-	903	2322	2704	2812	2777	3823	4243	4971	4651	4012	-	-	-	33218
9	Mizoram	-	7	14	20	16	20	24	9	21	20	20	11	10	14	206
10	Nagaland	-	7	5	15	15	21	30	37	30	32	56	32	38	20	338
11	Odisha	0	1320	2500	2365	3124	4048	3904	5263	4711	7551	10546	3775	4237	4281	57625
12	Rajasthan	-	760	2170	2821	4699	5825	7857	8607	6369	7458	8625	1390	13324	17219	87124
13	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10619
14	Tripura	59	-	90	90	75	177	-	14	18	81	105	162	119	74	1064
15	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65035
16	Uttarakhand	87	589	1349	1694	1920	3429	5082	4934	4390	4314	3585	4200	3699	2589	41861

Total Second Appeal & Complaint received under Section 19 (1) & 18 respectively of the RTI Act (Calendar Year)																
S.No.	State Information Commission	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh**	-	1263	2572	4169	5002	5530	4887	7971	11388	7061	-	-	-	-	49843
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	63	41	91	149	179	166	135	107	166	262	269	367	1995
3	Chhattisgarh	-	1413	2183	2225	2441	2448	4254	2986	3696	4476	4041	4776	6042	5355	46336
4	Goa	-	172	240	403	274	908	502	373	333	170	181	364	281	378	4579
5	Madhya Pradesh	76	2185	3126	3199	3924	4455	5399	4932	3375	4720	5626	5986	-	-	47003
6	Maharashtra	-	6641	11569	17466	21710	24075	27992	31897	42071	47415	46392	-	-	-	277228
7	Meghalaya	-	17	57	60	84	58	44	51	49	41	66	51	49	19	646
8	Punjab	20	1083	2900	3854	5098	5101	5279	5667	7066	7112	7108	6307	5215	5598	67408
9	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	129	37	55	63	47	33	439
10	Tamil Nadu***	-	8550	35035	41520	52351	53464	54974	60548	60465	47568	15842	10862	10427	10206	461812
11	West Bengal	-	-	494	1101	1215	1705	2027	2373	1990	2061	2085	1250	1619	2138	20058

Total Second Appeal & Complaint received under Section 19 (1) & 18 respectively of the RTI Act (Financial/Calendar Year)																
S.No.	State Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	Haryana	-	321	1260	1605	2631	3010	4440	4565	5575	8069	8572	8045	9800	9548	67441
2	Jharkhand****	-	-	-	-	-	3279	3398	2774	2118	3377	4125	2038	3398	2748	32481
3	Manipur	-	-	96	135	192	222	300	94	-	-	227	219	219	-	1746

Note:

*J & K is now UT w.e.f. 5th Aug. 2019

**Andhra Pradesh Commission reconstituted on 11/8/2017

***In Tamil Nadu, 'Tappals' include complaints and any other communication sent to the Commission

****Data changed from previous STR as per the RTI reply provided by the commission

Average RTI Applications Filed at Union & State during 2005/06 to 2019/20 (FY/CY) as per data available with commissions under Section 25 (2) of the RTI Act (As on 01/01/2020)

S.No.	Information Commission	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total	Data Available for No. of Years	Average RTI Per Year	Remarks
1	Central	24436	171398	263261	329728	529274	417955	629960	811350	834183	755247	976679	917009	1233207	1370129	-	9263816	12	771984.67	APSC reconstituted on trend
2	Andhra	-	-	-	59664	65973	101453	122133	145583	163624	105251	-	-	-	-	-	804509	9	89389.89	data to SIC for 2018-19
3	Assam	-	-	-	455	327	748	250	312	4919	9141	1604	7238	188	670	-	26152	12	2179.33	data to SIC for 2018-19
4	Bihar	3250	3784	4021	4902	1485	15497	15577	17073	19284	16926	25089	18260	22189	14757	-	182994	13	14076.46	data to SIC for 2018-19
5	Chhattisgarh	-	25812	31387	33841	36952	46404	48785	66469	61806	84391	80252	86629	101592	91420	100548	884102	10	88410.20	since 2017-18
6	Gujarat	8433	76957	94218	70759	70256	72804	55074	101521	172981	161405	152097	136059	97023	118638	-	1388225	12	115685.42	declining since 2015-16
7	Haryana	-	-	3877	5711	-	-	-	-	-	11274	5107	6254	-	-	-	32283	5	6456.00	declining since 2015-16
8	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	613048	13	47157.54	2015-16
9	Jammu & Kashmir	106	2654	10105	17869	43835	55463	72191	61202	63722	50675	46430	60104	-	-	-	484356	11	44032.36	2019
10	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	741	3110	12136	27619	20846	-	-	-	-	-	73452	5	14690.40	2018-19 is under
11	Karnataka	10014	40092	57804	93112	172847	221716	293405	418863	425475	544754	342354	430511	-	-	-	3050947	9	338994.11	data properly till 2013-14
12	Kerala	590	26890	109675	120946	158185	177546	227088	250846	373078	373576	373971	-	-	-	-	2192571	10	219257.10	of RTI in State
13	Madhya Pradesh	380	7704	5458	2958	1904	2385	3362	4111	2395	72422	81033	-	-	-	-	184112	10	18411.20	total no of RTI in State is
14	Maharashtra	-	123000	316000	416090	440728	548987	645023	682286	751190	703093	868188	684289	757060	-	-	6936564	11	630596.73	total no of RTI in State is
15	Manipur	-	-	171	90	287	104	189	279	419	235	493	878	1229	-	-	4374	11	397.64	total no of RTI in State is
16	Meghalaya	-	310	537	360	676	836	1074	1289	1625	1816	2653	2132	5219	-	-	18527	12	1543.92	total no of RTI in State is
17	Mizoram	-	476	371	177	695	741	1045	1316	1750	1593	2136	1642	2237	1936	-	16115	13	1239.62	2018-19 is under
18	Nagaland	-	46	187	399	590	1105	2206	3042	4217	4234	4526	4344	3708	-	-	28604	12	2383.67	since 2016-17
19	Nagaland	-	46	187	399	590	1105	2206	3042	4217	4234	4526	4344	3708	-	-	411621	12	34301.75	declining significantly
20	Odisha	447	4618	9772	37997	42036	35649	52305	43011	60126	25172	26127	38820	35541	-	-	792408	12	66034.00	declining significantly
21	Punjab	-	10056	27256	40397	59168	91033	70901	61519	125059	109320	85534	62331	49834	-	-	1212827	12	101068.92	under complain
22	Rajasthan	-	9140	19846	28790	45610	78577	71243	94257	140539	170809	199866	196447	160703	-	-	5120	5	1024.00	2018 only 26
23	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1558	1490	746	921	405	-	2091396	11	244672.36	was reconstituted on
24	Tamil Nadu	-	12269	63912	114721	179441	237517	250042	333010	360995	371481	372284	-	-	-	-	421111	12	3509.25	since 2016-17
25	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0.00	maintaining data
26	Tripura	47	235	1088	2012	3940	5123	3801	2302	2757	3595	3573	6794	6844	-	-	969511	13	74577.77	2018-19 changed from previous State
27	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98323	12	8193.58	As compared to Size of State, No of RTIs in state are very low
28	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98323	12	8193.58	As compared to Size of State, No of RTIs in state are very low
29	West Bengal	1385	9691	15640	27148	27311	37976	69088	87691	114790	122656	104258	109760	101594	95359	45764	98323	12	8193.58	As compared to Size of State, No of RTIs in state are very low
30	West Bengal	-	-	7253	11919	15470	8053	10512	5767	7967	11996	9025	-	-	-	-	98323	12	8193.58	As compared to Size of State, No of RTIs in state are very low

Remarks:

Data for the year 2005-06 is not considered as most of the Information Commissions had been constituted in Oct, 2005 or later on.

Abbreviations

RTI- Right to Information
TII- Transparency International India
CIC- Central Information Commission
SCIC- State Chief Information Commissioner
IC- Information Commissioner
SIC- State Information Commissioner
APSIC- Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission
ANSIC- Arunachal Pradesh State Information Commission
ASSIC- Assam State Information Commission
BHSIC- Bihar State Information Commission
CGSIC- Chhattisgarh State Information Commission
GASIC- Goa State Information Commission
GJSIC- Gujarat State Information Commission
HRSIC- Haryana State Information Commission
HPSIC- Himachal Pradesh State Information Commission
JHSIC- Jharkhand State Information Commission
KASIC- Karnataka State Information Commission
KLSIC- Kerala State Information Commission
MPSIC- Madhya Pradesh State Information Commission
MHSIC- Maharashtra State Information Commission
MNSIC- Manipur State Information Commission
MLSIC- Meghalaya State Information Commission
MZSIC- Mizoram State Information Commission
NLSIC- Nagaland State Information Commission
ODSIC- Odisha State Information Commission
PBSIC- Punjab State Information Commission
RJSIC- Rajasthan State Information Commission
SKSIC- Sikkim State Information Commission
TNSIC- Tamil Nadu State Information Commission
TSSIC- Telangana State Information Commission
TRSIC- Tripura State Information Commission
UKSIC- Uttarakhand State Information Commission
UPSIC- Uttar Pradesh State Information Commission
WBSIC- West Bengal State Information Commission
Govt.- Government
N/A- Not Applicable
PIO- Public Information Officer



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