

NATIONAL MEET ON RTI ACT

Focusing on:

**“Emphasis on Transparency in Disclosure,
Transparency Audit & Managing Exemptions”**

1st and 2nd March, 2024 (Friday-Saturday)

Keynote Speakers:



Hon'ble Shri Heeralal Samariya, IAS (Retd.)
Chief Information Commissioner, CIC



Hon'ble Shri H. Nongpluh, IPS (Retd.)
State Chief Information Commissioner
Meghalaya State Information Commission



Organised by
**STANDING CONFERENCE OF
PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SCOPE)**

Venue

Hotel Vivanta,
Police Bazar, Opposite Old Assembly
Shillong, Meghalaya – 793001

NATIONAL MEET PERSPECTIVE:

SCOPE strongly support the implementation of Right to Information Act & committed through its member enterprises to be transparent and make available the right information by striking a balance between transparency and confidentiality. So, the emphasis would be on ways & means to strike a right balance between the Transparency & Confidentiality.

Still, most of the “Public Authorities” including Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) are partly complying the provision of Section 4 of the Act, i.e., suo-motu disclosures of information. Non/partial compliance has resulted into the introduction of Transparency Audit and it’s monitoring vide DoPT circular 15-04-2013. The challenges in pro-active disclosures by Public Authority and managing of Transparency audit being faced by the participants shall be addressed and clarified by the eminent faculties.

Presently, there are about 250 operating CPSEs which are “Public Authorities” as per RTI Act 2005. In the process of implementation of RTI Act & Transparency Audit, certain difficulties are still being faced by these CPSEs. Therefore, in order to address the issues, SCOPE is organizing this “National Meet on RTI Act 2005” for educating the participants and removing their doubts on the subject.

Effective implementation of RTI Act demands frequent interaction among stockholders. The sharing of experiences in CPSEs is important as most of these are facing difficulties in sharing commercial information.

Hence, this program will help in maintaining consistency in replies, better understanding of the act as well as getting awareness about latest modification/amendments etc. During this program **focus shall be more on Transparency in disclosure of Information, Transparency Audit & Managing the Section 8- Exemptions”. Apart from these, management of commercial information, personal information & emerging trends in RTI Act shall also be deliberated.**

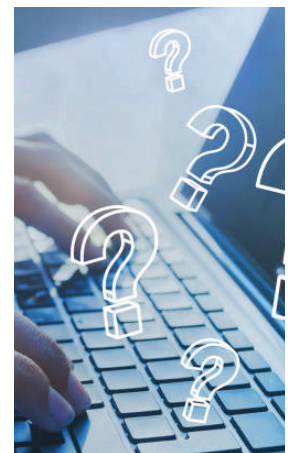
SCOPE shall also address the issues and concerns of CPSEs emerged during the program as an important part of its advocacy role, thus influencing the policy makers in relevant Ministries of the Govt. of India and the Central Information Commission for suitable solutions.

With the above perspective and to provide a platform to CPSEs to deliberate on the challenges being faced in the implementation of RTI Act, SCOPE proposes to organize a **National Meet on RTI Act from 1st March to 2nd March, 2024 at Hotel Vivanta, Shillong (Meghalaya).**

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the National Meet is to update & enhance the knowledge of CPIOs/ PIOs/ APIOs/ Nodal Officers & Executives of CPSEs on RTI Act implementation. As well as, it shall also be benefited to gain better appreciation of the RTI Act, the issues involved & true RTI implementation in their respective organizations. The participants will get the opportunity to deliberate on their issues and to get update on the latest developments / trends in the area of RTI Act.

The main emphasis shall be on “**Transparency in disclosures, Transparency Audit & Management of the Exemptions**” & also cover the challenges in handling the commercial information, personal & fiduciary information. The deliberations shall also include, sharing of experiences / good practices of CPSEs and challenges in implementation of the RTI Act by some of the PSEs, latest DoPT circulars, CIC and Hon’ble Courts decisions, etc.



SCOPE's National Meet on RTI Act 2023 inaugurated by Shri Y.K.Sinha, Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), in the presence of Shri. K. Ravinder Naik, IAS, Principal Secretary, U.P. Government

BROAD COVERAGE:

- Out Line of RTI Act, its Development / latest trends in Implementation of RTI Act & New Challenges
- Salient Provisions of the RTI Act,
- Latest guidelines by DoPT 2013 on RTI, Transparency Audit, amendment 2012 & 2019
- Obligations & Rights of Public Authorities (CPSEs) for Proactive & Suo-Motu Disclosures
- Why need of the Transparency Audit of Public Authority?
- Facilitation of Transparency & Challenges to P.A. in Third Party audit
- Role of Transparency in Corporate Governance
- Management of 1st & 2nd Appeals & Sharing of expert views with case studies covering Mock court exercise
- Challenges in Management of exemptions & Perspective of Larger Public Interest under RTI
- Management of Personal Information & Third-Party Information
- Managing disclosures of Commercial Information by CPSEs
- Interphase between RTI Act Visa-Viz DPDP & Other Laws
- Sharing of Good Practices by CPSE's on RTI Implementation & Learnings
- Sharing of major Honorable Higher Courts / CIC decisions on RTI
- Managing of frequent Information Seekers under the act, is it abuse of RTI Act?
- Interactive sessions with Present & Former Information Commissioners of CICs & SICs

METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCE PERSONS:

The National Meet will include deliberations, Practical Exercise, Mock Court, panel discussions and presentations on recent developments in the area of RTI. In order to derive maximum benefits by the participants, the eminent speakers have been invited from DoPT, Center (CIC) & State Information Commissions, (SIC), experienced academician and CPSEs professionals with rich knowledge on the subject.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Hon'ble Shri Heeralal Samariya, IAS (Retd.)
Chief Information Commissioner, CIC

Hon'ble Shri H. Nongpluh, IPS (Retd.)
State Chief Information Commissioner
Meghalaya State Information Commission

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

First Appellate Authorities (FAA), Chief Public Information Officers (CPIOs) / Public Information Officers (PIOs), Asst. Public Information Officers (APIOs), Nodal Officers, Senior Executives, Officers who are custodians of information & associated with the Implementation of RTI Act in their respective PSEs.

RESOURCE PERSONS:

SCOPE has invited the followings eminent speakers:

- Prof. M.M. Ansari, Former Information Commissioner, CIC
- Dr. Pankaj KP Shreyaskar, Dy DG, M/o Programme Implementation, Government of India
- Mr. Ajitkumar Vasantrya Sontakke, Joint Secretary, CIC
- Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Jha, AVSM (Retd), Director (P), NEEPCO
- Mr. A. Jaganath Rao, Sr. GM (CP) & CPIO, PGCIL
- Mr. P U Rao, GM (RTI & PG), HPCL
- Mr. O.P. Khorwal, Program Facilitator & Visiting Consultant, SCOPE

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

- Mr. S. A. Khan, Lead Associate (CA), SCOPE
- Mr. O. P. Khorwal, RTI Consultant, SCOPE
- Mr. Satyendra Rai, Executive Director (Personnel) & PIO, NMDC
- Mr. M Ganeshan, CGM (HR) & CPIO, Guwahati, ONGC
- Ms. Seema M Bara, GM (HR) & CPIO, ONGC
- Mr. Rajender Prasad, CGM (TA & ER) & CPIO, IOCL
- Mr. Hitajit Bhattacharyya, CGM(HR) & CPIO, Guwahati, IOCL
- Mr. Dinesh Prasad Vidyarthi, CGM (LPG) & CPIO, Guwahati, IOCL
- Dr Kajal Saikia, CGM (HR & Legal), NRL
- Mr. Rupjyoti Phukan, CGM (A&C) & CPIO, OIL INDIA
- Mr. Madhurjya Baruah, CGM (HR&A) & CPIO, Guwahati, OIL
- Mr. A Jaganath Rao, Senior GM (CP) & CPIO, POWERGRID
- Mr. Anupam Borah, GM (HR) & CPIO, EIL
- Mr. D.K. Gautam, GM (HR) & CPIO, NHPC
- Mr. P U Rao, GM (RTI & PG), HPCL
- Mr. Shantimoy Nandan, AGM (CP) & CPIO, NTPC
- Ms. Manjeeta Mahajan, AGM (HRM) & CPIO, NBCC
- Mr. Nawal Kishore Subarno, Dy. General Manager (HR-Legal/ Discipline) & CPIO, GAIL
- Mr. Madhukar Pacharne, DGM (CC) & CPIO, RCF
- Mr. Dheeraj Kumar Tilwari, DGM (Pers.) & CPIO, SAIL
- Mr. Debashis Das, D.G.M. Retailing Initiatives (Retail), NE & CPIO, BPCL
- Ms. Angelica Pohshna, D.G.M. (E/M) & CPIO, NEEPCO
- Ms. Lata Rani, Senior Manager (CSR) & CPIO, BHEL



PROGRAM FACILITATORS:

Mr. S. A. Khan
Lead Associate (CA)
SCOPE
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Ph.: 011-24361745

Mr. O. P. Khorwal
Visiting Consultant
SCOPE
E-mail: okhorwal@yahoo.com
Mobile: + 91-9650990241

FINANCIALS:

Program fee is ₹ 18,900/- per participant plus GST as applicable (18%). The program is being held on **Non-residential** basis. This would cover pedagogy, study material, lunch, tea etc. **A group discount of ten percent of the program fee is offered in case of three or more nominations being received from same CPSE.** Sponsoring CPSEs are requested to furnish their GST IN while forwarding nominations.

MODE OF PAYMENT :



Payment to be made by Cheque/DO favouring “**Standing Conference of Public Enterprises**” and payable at Delhi/New Delhi or through ECS mode to Bank of Baroda, SCOPE Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110 003.
(Saving Bank Account-No.72870I00000794/MICR Code -11 00 12239/IFSC/RTGS code-BARB0DBSCOP (5th digit is Zero).
PAN NO. AAPFS7390N GSTIN 07 AAPFS7390N 1 Z7.

REGISTRATION:

Nominations may please be forwarded latest by **26th February, 2024** to **Ms. Hema Koul**, Program Coordinator (Corp. Affairs), SCOPE at

E-mail: ca@scopeonline.in,

Mobile: +91 - 9560799550, Ph.: 011-24365418, 24361745.



CERTIFICATION:



Certificate of participation would be awarded by SCOPE to the participants.

HOTEL BOOKING

SCOPE has been offered special tariff by the Hotel for SCOPE and CPSEs. In case the participants would like to stay in the Hotel Vivanta, Shillong (Meghalaya), the Hotel may be contacted directly for booking the accommodation in the hotel as per their entitlements in their respective organisations.

Contact Executive:

Ms. Elora Hazarika,
Sales Executive - Sales and Marketing
M: **9707659982;**
Email: **elora.hazarika@tajhotels.com**

OTHER OPTIONS

Courtyard By Marriott Shillong

Meghalaya - 793 001

Ms. Nirmali Baruah

Assistant Sales Manager

M: **(+91) 6009307164**

Hotel Alpine Continental

Police Bazar, Thana/Quinton Road,

Shillong - 793 001,

Meghalaya (India)

Phone: **+91 364 2220991 -5 lines, 2223617**

Pinewood Hotel

European Ward, Rita Road,

Shillong, Meghalaya - 793 001

Mr. Sharman Gupta,

Mob: **9685401124**

Tel: **(0364) 222 3116, 222 3263**

LOCAL COORDINATORS IN SHILLONG

The participants can also contact the following local programme coordinators at Shillong for any assistance or information:

Shri Anjan Sanyal

Sr. GM(HR)

POWERGRID, Shillong, Meghalaya

Email: **anjan.sanyal@powergrid.in**

Mob: **8826896861**

Shri Pradeep Varun Ragiri

DGM (HR)

POWERGRID, Shillong, Meghalaya

Email: **pvragiri@powergrid.in**

Mob: **9480822590**



Sandeep Kumar Gupta
Chairman, SCOPE

“To make SCOPE Inspiring, Innovative, Impactful!”



Atul Sobti
Director General,
SCOPE

AN APEX BODY OF INDIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

Policy Advocacy & Representation

- Providing an interface to PSEs with Government and statutory bodies like Ministry of Labour & Employment; DPE, Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Corporate Affairs; PESB; CAG; CVC; CIC; MSDE etc.
- Representing Indian PSEs on international forums like OECD, IOE, UN etc.
- Member of Council of Indian Employers representing employer interests of Indian PSEs on forum of International Labour Organization, Geneva (ILO)
- Representing PSEs on statutory bodies like Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) etc.
- Providing platform for inter-PSE interaction
- CEOs Conclave
- Representing on Board of Governing Councils/ Governing bodies of National Forums like National Productivity Council (NPC), National Safety Council (NSC), Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development (DTNBWED) & United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI)

Brand Building

- Public Sector Day
- SCOPE Eminence Awards
- SCOPE's monthly Publication KALEIDOSCOPE
- Literature on Economy and Public Sector - Performance Contribution & Achievements
- State-of-the-art infrastructure and conference facilities
- Publications- highlighting PSEs initiatives towards Nation Building
- Films highlighting initiatives/ achievements of PSEs
- Write ups and articles on PSEs and it's various aspects

Capacity Building & Skill Development

- Conducting Studies and Research in domains like Climate Change, Leadership, CSR, Digitalization, Women Empowerment, Lifelong Learning, Skills etc.
- International Program on leadership role and development for senior level management
- Academy of Public Sector Enterprises (APSE)
- SCOPE Forum for Conciliation & Arbitration (SFCA)
- Women in Public Sector (WIPS) under the aegis of SCOPE
- Network of Champions for Women Empowerment

Programs & Workshops

- Corporate Governance
- Right to Information
- Digitalization & Technologies
- Climate Change
- Women Empowerment & Gender Diversity
- Legal & Arbitration
- Succession Planning for Board Level Positions
- Future of Work
- Corporate Communication Summit
- Investors & Media Relations
- Health Awareness
- International HR Summit
- CSR
- Procurement
- Other contemporary and relevant subjects



Besides above, SCOPE has been organizing interactive meetings and various events on issues of concern to CPSEs with Policy makers, Statutory Bodies and Government representatives.

Central Information Commission

The Central Information Commission has been constituted with effect from 12-10-2005 under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The jurisdiction of the Commission extends over all Central Public Authorities.

The Commission has certain powers and functions mentioned in sections 18, 19, 20 and 25 of the RTI Act, 2005. These broadly relate to adjudication in second appeal for giving information; direction for record keeping, suo motu disclosures receiving and enquiring into a complaint on inability to file RTI etc; imposition of penalties and Monitoring and Reporting including preparation of an Annual Report.

The decisions of the Commission are final and binding.

Dear *Chief Executive*

Sub.: National Meet on RTI Act Focusing on: "Emphasis on Transparency in Disclosure, Transparency Audit & Managing Exemptions" on 1st – 2nd March, 2024 at Shillong

As you are aware, Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has been organizing programs on pertinent subjects from time to time and programs on Right to Information (RTI) has been one of the key areas in this regard. During a recent interaction with Shri Heeralal Samariya, Chief Information Commissioner a need emerged to create more awareness about transparency in sharing of information as well as the challenges to CPSEs in management of Transparency Audit apart from RTI Act implementation by organizing periodic interaction at regional level.

SCOPE in the recent past had also organized RTI Meet at Lucknow where, Mr. Y. K. Sinha, the then Chief Information Commissioner, (CIC) and Mr. K. Ravinder Naik, IAS, Principal Secretary, U.P. Government had addressed & interacted with the participants on the subject apart from other eminent speakers. The Workshop received an overwhelming response.

Taking into account the discussions with CIC and request from various CPSEs, SCOPE is organizing Two-days **National Meet on RTI Act on 1st (Afternoon) – 2nd March, 2024 at Hotel Vivanta, Meghalaya, Shillong.**

Shri Heeralal Samariya, Chief Information Commissioner, CIC Delhi has kindly consented to be the **Chief Guest** and address the participants during the **Valedictory Session**. **Mr. H. Nongpluh, IPS (Retd.) State Chief Information Commissioner, Meghalaya** shall be the **Guest of Honour** and has also consented to address during the **Inaugural Session** in the National Meet. Eminent and experienced resource persons have also been drawn from Academic Institutions, practicing professionals from CPSEs, Former Information Commissioner, (CIC), State Information Commissioner (SIC) and other experts in the field.

The Meet will provide an unique opportunity to the participants to update their knowledge on RTI and seek clarity on various aspects of legislation & its implementation as well as to share their experience including best practices if any among themselves. Hence, it is requested to nominate CPIOs/ PIOs/ APIOs/ Nodal Officers & Executives from relevant functions at various levels from your organization to participate in the above "National Meet on RTI Act". A copy of the brochure is attached for your reference.

The nominations may please be forwarded to Ms. Hema Koul, Prog. Coordinator (Corp. Affairs), SCOPE, Mobile: +91 9560799550 at ca@scopeonline.in latest by the 26th February, 2024.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Atul Sobti)

Encl.: As above

To: Chief Executives of CPSEs

Copy to: 1. Director (HR) of CPSEs
2. Legal Heads of CPSEs
3. SCOPE Nodal Officers

STANDING CONFERENCE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(An apex body of Public Enterprises)