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ICAR-INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

NEW DELHI-12

No.TRP-2/2025-RTI(Misc.)14

Dated: 21-07-2025

**RTI Third Party Audit Report (2024-25) of
Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, New Delhi**

RTI Act, 2005 provisions for proactive disclosure of information related to each Govt. institution/entity by concerned public authority under section 4(1). For implementation of Suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of RTI Act, 2005 a detailed guideline, explaining each point of disclosable information, was issued by DoPT, GoI vide No. 1/6/2022-IR dated 15th April, 2013. Further, DoPT vide OM dated 10-12-2013 and 22-9-2014 requested all the Ministries/Departments to comply with O.M. guidelines dated 15-4-2013 and also the proactive disclosure package to be got audited by a third party.

DoPT O.M. No. 1/34/2013-IR dated 29-6-2013 instructs the public authority for uploading the details of public authority on website, user friendly access to get provided information, setting up effective system to redress the grievance to minimize RTI application, as well as the information relating to service matter should be brought into public domain. Further, to strengthen the implementation of Section 4 of the RTI Act, 2005 DoPT vide O.M. dated 30-6-2016 guides the Public Authorities to constitute Consultative Committee consisting of stakeholders, to set up of Information and Facilitation Centre, to constitute committee of experienced officer to categorize frequently asked questions, and to provide proactive disclosure properly categorized and organised etc.

In each Public authority, the responsibility to prepare and update the proactive disclosure packet remain with junior and middle level officers and their subordinates as well.

While filling up the self-appraisal form on CIC portal, a go through of DoPT O.M.'s guidelines dated 15-4-2013 and subsequent O.M.s would ensure the maximum information feeding correctly with quality. The proactive disclosure packet under 'RTI Head' may contain information, supporting documents & annexures and the correct & functional path to reach the information.

The auditor has gone through the website of the institution looking into the availability of the information claimed as per submitted filled in self-appraisal form. There has been detailed and easily accessible information about all the functions and activities of the Institution. The institution is dedicated to protection of plant varieties and farmers rights. It encourages the farmers, plant breeders, Govt. and private institutions for the development of the new varieties and also conducts awareness cum training programme. Well organized

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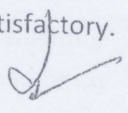
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mechanism of registration/protection of plant varieties is there for apply, registration and to solve out the disputes. The Farmers/FPOs, Central/State Govt research institutions and the private institutions and the general public will be much benefitted with the information. However, the following observations may be kept in mind for future reference: -

1. RTI Proactive Disclosure Packet given under head "RTI Manual/disclosure" contains information as on 25-9-2024 only. The proactive disclosure packet may be updated with the latest information pertaining to 2024-25.
2. RTI awareness cum training programme may be organized for the benefits of staff associated with RTI work as well as the stakeholders. iGOT Karmayogi Platform may be used for training to RTI associated staff/officers. Training completion certificate may be put on the website.
3. Information on tour of higher officers available up to 2019 only, the same may be updated.
4. Information on disciplinary action may be shown as NIL, if no disciplinary process is on.
5. The documents available may be categorized and their custodian may be shown on the website.
6. Clarity on transfer policy and Office Order thereof may be placed in proactive disclosure packet.
7. The information on parliamentary question and replies thereon may be given. In case of NIL, the same may be reflected in Proactive disclosure packet.
8. The Annual Report from 2008-09 to 2023-24 and the Annual Accounts from 2012-13 to 2023-24 are available. The same in respect of 2024-25 may be published on the website as and when it got completed.
9. The Consultancy Committee/Committee of PIOs/FAAS as per DoPT O.M. dated 30-6-2016 may be constituted.
10. STQC Certificate is given by Standardization Testing & Quality Certificate, Directorate, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, GoI which provides assurance services for quality and security in electronics and IT, including website quality certification. STQC has developed a Website Quality Certification Scheme based upon National and International Standards/Best practices. The same may be obtained

The information provided by public authority on the website is enough & satisfactory.


(P. K. Jain)

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