

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 3-4, 2008

The two-day Annual Convention made the following recommendations:-

1. Govt. of India considers setting up Advisory Council in the DoPT to advise on the evolution of effective implementation of RTI across the country.
2. Appropriate Governments consider strengthening the Information Commissions with adequate budgetary support and also in respect of personnel so that they may dispose of pending cases within stipulated time frames.
3. Appropriate Governments consider developing adequate infrastructure for the Information Commissions.
4. Appropriate Governments should make adequate budgetary provisions for developing and implementation of public awareness programmes on RTI Act.
5. The appropriate Governments enforce the full implementation of provisions of section 4, including maintaining and cataloguing of records by the Public Authorities. It should also ensure that public authorities must publish and place on their websites all relevant facts while formulating important policies, or announcing the decisions that affect the public.
6. The appropriate Governments must integrate RTI with all flagship programmes, as has been initiated with NREGA so that the monitoring mechanism of the programmes becomes more efficient and also that the public has minimum resort to use of the RTI Act to obtain information in respect of a particular flagship programme of the Government.
7. All State Governments work with Ministry of Panchayati Raj to ensure staffing all Panchayats with responsible PIOs.
8. All Departments, both at the Central and State levels to work on restructuring established work processes to make these compatible with RTI.
9. An institutional framework to be developed by GOI for SAARC countries to coordinate implementation of RTI.
10. Govt. of India considers moving a legislation to protect the right to individual privacy on the lines of UK's Data Protection Act 1998 and the US Restatement of the Law, Second, Torts, 652 , in line with apex court rulings on the subject