

No. 3/1/2008-PIGR
Government of India
Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

Sardar Patel Bhavan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi - 110001, dated 4-11-2008

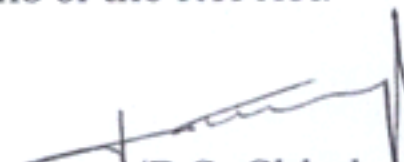
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Communications to the applicants & others under RTI Act, 2005.

It has been observed that replies/information being sent to the applicants under RTI Act, 2005 are sometimes signed by officers other than the CPIOs. The matter was discussed with DOPT and it has been decided that all communiqué to the applicants and to others under the RTI Act should invariably be signed by the concerned CPIO only unless the concerned CPIO is not available.

2. It may also be emphasised to all officers/staff of the Ministry that Sec.5 (4) of the RTI Act provides that for the proper discharge of his duties, a CPIO can seek the assistance of any other officer as he considers it necessary, and as per Sec. 5 (5) such an officer shall render all assistance to the CPIO and for the purpose of any contravention of the provisions of the Act, such officer shall be treated as CPIO. This means that the Information Commission may impose penalty on such officer or recommend disciplinary action against him the same way as the Commission may impose penalty on or recommend disciplinary action against the PIO. It would be advisable for the CPIOs to inform the officer whose assistance is sought about the above provision, at the time of seeking his assistance.

3. It may also be emphasized again the in the event of CPIOs/ACPIOs availing leave or their absence due to post lying vacant or for any other reason, the concerned seniormost officer in the chain of officers down the line would act as CPIO or CAPIO to fulfill the duties laid under the RTI Act and would be fully responsible for implementing the provisions of the RTI Act.


(B.S. Chhabra)
Director (Coord) &
RTI Nodal Officer
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To

1. All officers/staff of MOSPI;
- ✓ 2. Computer Centre with the request to post the above letter on 'Home-page' of MOSPI for wide circulation/publicity amongst officers/staff till 30th Nov., 2008. Thereafter it may be shifted under 'Office Orders' within 'RTI Act'.