



PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY

(A Central University Established under the Act of Parliament, 1985)

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OFFICE ORDER

Sub: Appointment of Transparency Officer under RTI Act – Reg.

As per instructions of the Central Information Commission, for promotion of institutional transparency within Pondicherry University and for effective implementation of the provisions of Section 4 of the RTI Act 2005, which include effective record management, digitization of records, and networking and incremental proactive disclosures, Shri S. Raghavan, Finance Officer, Pondicherry University is nominated as the Transparency Officer.

The CPIOs will be free to seek guidance from the Transparency Officer about disclosure norms – both in its general and specific aspects, related to Right to Information.

The Job Chart of the Transparency Officer is enclosed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Loganathan'.

(S. LOGANATHAN)
REGISTRAR

6. Job Chart of Transparency Officer

Transparency Officer (TO) shall be the main centre of all actions connected with promotion of institutional transparency commensurate with the letter and spirit of the RTI Act. In performing this role, the TO shall:

Vijaya
Poudyal University

- i. Act as the interface for the Commission vis-à-vis the public authority on the one hand, and on the other vis-à-vis the public authority and the general public/information seeker.
- ii. Engage continuously, in implementing the Commission's directive dated 15.11.2010 regarding pro-active disclosures under section -4 of RTI Act, vis-à-vis the public authority concerned.
- iii. Regularly monitor decisions of the Central Information Commission (<http://cic.gov.in>) with a view to identify areas of openness both generic and specific as a result of such decisions.

Ensure that all levels of employees of the public authority are sensitized about these decisions and their implications.

Be responsible for issuing advisories, to officers/staff about need for sensitivity to institutional transparency and act as a change agent.

Be responsible for sensitizing the officers/staff that the time limit stipulated in the RTI Act are outer limit for matters raised under RTI Act and officers/staff are required to be mentally tuned to disclose all informations, predetermined as open, within the shortest possible time on receiving request.

- iv. Be the contact point for the CPIO/FAA/Divisional Heads in respect of all RTI related matters of the Organisation. He will be the clearing house in all matters about making transparency the central point of organizational behaviour.
- v. Constantly remain in touch with the top management in the public authority about the strategy and the action to promote transparency within the organisation.

Promote good management practices with the organisation centered on transparency.

- vi. Devise transparency indices for various wings of the public authority in order to introduce healthy competition in promoting transparency.

- vii. Help set up facilitation centres within the premises of the public authority, where members of the public can file their requests for disclosure of specific information and can inspect the records and documents etc.
- viii. Work out, in consultation with the departmental officers, the parameters of record management- its classification and indexing, plan of action for digitization of documents and records, networking etc and oversee and help implement the functions laid down in section 4 (1) (a) and 4 (1) (b) of the RTI Act.
- ix. Prepare information matrix based on analysis of RTI applications filed before the public authority and response thereof and, suggest to the top management the need for process reengineering, wherever necessary, as well as work out modalities of suo motu disclosure of such information.
- x. Be responsible for creating condition(s) in the organisation to establish an information regime, where transparency/disclosure norms are so robust that the public is required to have only the minimum resort to the use RTI Act to access information.
- xi. Be responsible for operating a user-friendly website for various information relating to the public authority concerned, including inter alia search option.
- xii. With the help of the appropriate wing of the public authority, set-up arrangements for training of the personnel to promote among them higher transparency orientation away from intuitive reflex towards secrecy, now common.
- xiii. Establish dialogue with the top management and key officials of the public authority regarding prevention of unnecessary confidentiality classification of documents and records under the Official Secrets Act and to check over classification.