

**TRANSPARENCY AUDIT REPORT
OF**



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HOMOEOPATHY
ON
PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE UNDER RTI ACT, 2005**

2023

SUBMITTED BY



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TERMINOLOGIES

Information: Any material in any form. It includes records, documents, memos, e-mails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in any electronic form. It also includes information relating to any private body which can be accessed by the public authority under any law for the time being in force.

Right to Information: The right to information includes an access to the information which is held by or under the control of any public authority and includes the right to inspect the work, document, records, taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents / records and certified samples of the materials and obtaining information which is also stored in electronic form.

Who can seek information: Section 3 of the Right to Information Act provides as under: “Subject to the provisions of this Act, all citizens shall have the right to information.” - Normally, an applicant is not required to submit any proof of citizenship. However, if the CPIO has any doubt about the identity of the applicant he can seek for his proof of identification. The Act gives the right to information only to the citizens of India. It does not make provision for giving information to Corporations, Associations, and Companies etc. which are legal entities / persons but not citizens. However, if an application is made by an employee or office bearer of any Corporation, Association, Company, NGO etc. indicating his name and such employee or office bearer is a citizen of India, information may be supplied to him / her. In such cases, it would be presumed that a citizen has sought information at the address of the Corporation.

Public Authority: A “public authority” is any authority or body or institution of self government established or constituted by or under the Constitution; or by any other law made by the Parliament or a State Legislature; or by notification issued or order made by the Central Government or a State Government. The bodies owned, controlled or substantially financed by the Central Government or a State Government and non-Government organizations substantially financed by the Central Government or a State Government also fall within the definition of public authority.

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context

The Right to Information Act, which was introduced in 2005, has the basic objective to empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Government, contain corruption, and make our democracy work for the people in real sense. Its underlying premises is that an informed citizen is better equipped to keep necessary vigil on the instruments of governance and make the government more accountable to the governed. The Act has allowed the citizen unprecedented access to information under the control of public authorities.

Right to Information Act 2005 has two dimensions. The first is provision of machinery through which a citizen could seek information from public offices. For this purpose, an information seeker submits her/his queries to a public information officer nominated/appointed in each public office under RTI Act, and in the subsequent process if not satisfied to first and second appellate authority. This is the demand aspect of RTI i.e. on demand the information is provided. The other dimension is voluntary disclosure of information by public authorities (PAs) through a variety of means, principal among which is the disclosure through websites i.e. supplying information. This dimension is covered under Section 4 of the RTI Act and provides the broad outline of the contents of the websites.

Section 4 of the RTI Act comprehensively deals with supply side of information held or under the control of Government and its instrumentalities. Aware that the Right to information cannot be made operational in letter and spirit without the government's initiative to proactively disclose maximum information, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) directed all the PAs, vide its order dated April 15, 2013, to ensure regular audit of mandatory disclosures by a third party. Specifically, the DoPT directed as under:

Right to Information Act 2005 mandates timely response to citizen requests for government information. It is an initiative taken by Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to provide a– RTI Portal Gateway to the citizens for quick search of information on the details of first Appellate Authorities, PIOs etc. amongst others, besides access to RTI related information / disclosures published on the web by various Public Authorities under the government of India as well as the State Governments.

Disclosures under this section are expected to:

- (i) enable the citizen to access the information held by Public Authorities without their having to take recourse to the provisions of RTI Act; and,
- (ii) promote transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government to promote participatory governance.

1.2 Suo-motu Disclosure under RTI Act

Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act lays down the information which should be disclosed by Public Authorities on a suo motu or proactive basis. Section 4(2) and Section 4(3) prescribe the method of dissemination of this information. The purpose of suo motu disclosures under Section 4 is to place large amount of information in public domain on a proactive basis to make the functioning of the Public Authorities more transparent and also to reduce the need for filing individual RTI applications.

1.2.1 Guidelines on *suo motu* disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act

Sub-section 4(2) of the RTI Act, 2005 requires every public authority to take steps in accordance with the requirements of clause (b) of sub-section 4(1) to provide as much information *suo motu* to the public at regular intervals through various means of communication, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to use the Act to obtain information. Accordingly, the Public Authorities may proactively disclose the following items also under the *suo motu* disclosure provisions of Section 4:

1. Information related to Procurement

- Information relating to procurement made by Public Authorities including publication of notice/tender enquiries, corrigenda thereon, and details of bid awards detailing the name of the supplier of goods/services being procured or the works contracts entered or any such combination of these and the rate and total amount at which such procurement or works contract is to be done should be disclosed.
- All information disclosable as per Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure's O.M. No 10/1/2011-PPC dated 30th November, 2011 on Mandatory Publication of Tender Enquiries on the Central Public Procurement Portal and O.M. No. 10/3/2012- PPC dated 30th March, 2012 on Implementation of comprehensive end-to-end e-procurement should be disclosed under Section 4.
- At present the limit is fixed at Rs. 10.00 lakhs.
- In case of procurements made through DGS&D Rate Contracts or through Kendriya Bhandar/NCCF, only award details need to be published.
- However, information about procurement which fall within the purview of Section 8 of the RTI Act would be exempt.

2. Public Private Partnerships

- If Public services are proposed to be provided through a Public Private Partnership (PPP), all information relating to the PPPs must be disclosed in the public domain by the Public Authority entering into the PPP contract/concession agreement.
- This may include details of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), if any set up, detailed project reports, concession agreements, operation and maintenance manuals and other documents generated as part of the implementation of the PPP project.
- The documents under the ambit of the exemption from disclosure of information under section 8(1)(d) and 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act would not be disclosed *suo motu*.
- Further, information about fees, tolls, or other kinds of revenue that may be collected under authorization from the Government, information in respect of outputs and outcomes, process of selection of the private sector party may also be proactively disclosed.
- All payments made under the PPP project may also be disclosed in a periodic manner along with the purpose of making such payment.

3. Transfer Policy and Transfer Orders

- Transfer policy for different grades/cadres of employees serving in Public Authority should be proactively disclosed.
- All transfer orders should be publicized through the website or in any other manner listed in Section 4(4) of the Act.
- These guidelines would not be applicable in cases of transfers made keeping in view sovereignty, integrity, security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State and the exemptions covered under Section 8 of the Act. These instructions would not apply to security and intelligence organizations under the second schedule of the RTI Act.

4. RTI Applications

All Public Authorities shall proactively disclose RTI applications and appeals received and their responses, on the websites maintained by Public Authorities with search facility based on key words.

- RTI applications and appeals received and their responses relating to the personal information of an individual may not be disclosed, as they do not serve any public interest.

5. CAG & PAC paras

- Public Authorities may proactively disclose the CAG & PAC paras and the Action Taken Reports (ATRs) only after these have been laid on the table of both the houses of the Parliament.
- However, CAG paras dealing with information about the issues of sovereignty, integrity, security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State and information covered under Section 8 of the RTI Act would be exempt.

6. Citizens Charter

- Citizens Charter prepared by the Ministry/Department, as part of the Result Framework Document of the department/organization should be proactively disclosed.
- Six monthly reports on the performance against the benchmarks set in Citizens Charter should also be displayed on the website of public authorities.

7. Discretionary and Non-discretionary grants

- All discretionary /non-discretionary grants/ allocations to state governments/ NGOs/Other institutions by Ministry/Department should be placed on the website of the Ministry/Department concerned.

- Annual Accounts of all legal entities who are provided grants by Public Authorities should be made available through publication, directly or indirectly on the Public Authority's website.
- Disclosures would be subject to provisions of Section 8 to 11 of the RTI Act.

8. Foreign Tours of PM/Ministers

- A large number of RTI queries are being filed on official tours undertaken by Ministers or officials of various Government Ministries/Departments. Information regarding the nature, place and period of foreign and domestic tours of Prime Minister are already disclosed on the PMO's website.
- As per DoPT's OM No. 1/8/2012-IR dated 11/9/2012, Public Authorities may proactively disclose the details of foreign and domestic official tours undertaken by the Minister(s) and officials of the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India and above and Heads of Departments, since 1st January, 2012. The disclosures may be updated once every quarter.
- Information to be disclosed proactively may contain nature of the official tour, places visited, the period, number of people included in the official delegation and total cost of such travel undertaken.
- Exemptions under Section 8 of the RTI Act, 2005 may be kept in view while disclosing the information. These instructions would not apply to security and intelligence organizations under the second schedule of the RTI Act, 2005 and CVOs of public authorities.

1.2.2 Guidelines for digital publication of proactive disclosure under Section 4

Section 4 lays down that information should be provided through many mediums depending upon the level of the public authority and the recipient of information (for example, in case of Panchayat, wall painting may be more effective means of dissemination of information), and that more and more proactive disclosure would gradually be made through Internet. There is need for more clear guidelines for web-based publication of information for disclosure.

The Department of Information Technology has been working on setting of technical standards for government websites and the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances has published guidelines for websites of Government Departments. These guidelines prescribe the manner in which websites need to be designed and how information should be disclosed. While adhering to the standards of government guidelines as laid down

by Department of Information Technology and Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, the following principles additionally should also be kept in view to ensure that websites' disclosures are complete, easily accessible, technology and platform neutral and in a form which conveys the desired information in an effective and user-friendly manner.

- a) It should be the endeavor of all public authorities that all entitlements to citizens and all transactions between the citizen and government are gradually made available through computer based interface. The 'Electronic Delivery of Services Bill, 2012' under formulation in Government of India would provide the necessary impetus.
- b) Websites should contain detailed information from the point of origin to the point of delivery of entitlements/services provided by the Public Authorities to citizens.
- c) Orders of the public authority should be uploaded on the website immediately after they have been issued.
- d) Website should contain all the relevant Acts, Rules, forms and other documents which are normally accessed by citizens.
- e) Websites should have detailed directory of key contacts, details of officials of the Public Authority.
- f) It is obligatory under Section 4(1)(b)(xiv) of the RTI Act for every Public Authority to proactively disclose 'details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form'. The website should therefore indicate which digitally held information is made available publicly over the internet and which is not.
- g) As departments reorganize their systems and processes to enable themselves for electronic service delivery, it is recommended that the requirement of bringing due transparency as provided in the RTI Act is given adequate consideration at the design stage itself.
- h) To maintain reliability of information and its real time updation, information generation in a digital form should be automatically updated on the basis of key work outputs, like a muster roll and salary slip (NREGA in Andhra Pradesh) or formalization of a government order (Andhra Pradesh). Such an approach will lead to automation of proactive disclosure.
- i) Information must be presented from a user's perspective, which may require re-arranging it, simplifying it etc. However, original documents in original formats should continue to be made available because these are needed for community monitoring of government's functioning.

- j) The ‘National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy’ by the Department of Science and Technology is based on the principle that all publicly funded information should be readily available. The policy has been notified in March, 2012 and the schedule should be strictly adhered to.
- k) Information and data should be presented in open data formats whereby it can be pulled by different Application Protocol Interfaces to be used in different fashions more appropriate to specific contexts and needs. Information/ data can, for instance, be presented in powerful visual ways using visualisation techniques. Such visual representation of information/ data can give insights that may remain largely hidden in a textual or tabular presentation of data. In some contexts, pictures and audio/videos recordings etc may be more useful. There have been moves in some parts of the country to video record Gram Sabha meetings. A picture of a NREGA worksite, for instance, may tell much more than words can. All such different media and forms should be used for proactive disclosure.
- l) Every webpage displaying information or data proactively disclosed under the RTI Act should, on the top right corner, display the mandatory field ‘Date last updated (DD/MM/YY)’.

1.2.3 Guidelines for certain clauses of Section 4(1)(b) to make disclosure more effective

The elements of information listed in the various sub-clauses of Section 4(1)(b) must be disclosed in an integrated manner. For example, the functions and responsibilities of a public authority cannot be understood in isolation from the powers and functions of its employees, the norms that inform its decision making processes and the rules, instructions and manuals that are used in the discharge of its functions. Description of one element presupposes the existence of another. So every public authority must endeavour to integrate the information mentioned in these sub-clauses while preparing voluntary disclosure materials.

Considering that disclosure in regard to certain sub-clauses have been relatively weak, detailed guidelines for four sub-clauses are given below:

A. Guidelines for section 4(1)(b)(iii) - “the procedure followed in the decision-making processes, including channels of supervision and accountability”.

All government departments have specific duties and responsibilities under the respective Allocation of Business Rules (AOB) issued by the appropriate Government. The constitutional provisions and statutes each department is required to implement are clearly laid down in the AOB. The manner of disposal of matters assigned to each Department/Ministry is described in the Transaction of Business Rules (TOB). Additionally,

every department would have a specific set of schemes and development programmes which they are required to implement directly or through their subordinate offices or other designated agencies. These documents contain the specific operations that every Public Authority is required to undertake in the course of implementing the programme or scheme. Every operation mandated under the AOB read with the TOB would be linked to a specific decision-making chain. All government officers have to follow laid down office procedure manual or the other rules which gives details of how representations, petitions and applications from citizens must be dealt with. Templates, formats, and basic steps of decision-making are briefly explained in such manuals. These descriptions constitute the elements of decision-making processes in general.

Additionally, in the routine work of governance, government functionaries are required to make decisions in a discretionary manner but broad guiding principles are laid down in some rule or the other. For example, the General Financial Rules lay down procedures for a variety of operations relating to government finances. How sanction must be accorded for incurring expenditure; how losses to government must be reported; how responsibility for losses may be fixed on any government servant; how budgets, demand for grants are prepared and submitted; how public works must be sanctioned and executed; how commodities and services may be procured by a public authority; are all explained in these manuals which are updated from time to time. The challenge is to present a simplified version of the decision-making procedure that is of interest to the common citizen.

In view of the above, the guidelines for detailing the decision-making processes are as follows:

- (a) Every public authority should specifically identify the major outputs/ tangible results/ services/ goods, as applicable, that it is responsible for providing to the public or to whosoever is the client of the public authority.
- (b) In respect of (a) above, the decision-making chain should be identified in the form of a flow chart explaining the rank/grade of the public functionaries involved in the decision-making process and the specific stages in the decision-making hierarchy.
- (c) The powers of each officer including powers of supervision over subordinates involved in the chain of decision-making must also be spelt out next to the flow chart or in a simple bullet-pointed format in a text-box. The exceptional circumstances when such standard decision-making processes may be overridden and by whom, should also be explained

clearly. Where decentralization of decision-making has occurred in order to grant greater autonomy to public authorities, such procedures must also be clearly explained.

- (d) This design of presentation should then be extended to cover all statutory and discretionary operations that are part of the public authority's mandate under the AOB read with the TOB.
- (e) In the event of a public authority altering an existing decision-making process or adopting an entirely new process, such changes must be explained in simple language in order to enable people to easily understand the changes made.

B. Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(iv) - “the norms set by it for the discharge of its functions”.

- Primarily, the intention of this clause is that every public authority should proactively disclose the standards by which its performance should be judged. Norms may be qualitative or quantitative in nature, or temporal or statutory norms. In order to ensure compliance with this clause, public authorities would need to disclose norms for major functions that are being performed.
- Citizen Charters, which are mandatory, for each central Ministry/Department/Authority, are good examples of vehicles created for laying down norms of performance for major functions and for monitoring achievements against those standards.
- Wherever norms have been specified for the discharge of its functions by any statute or government orders, they should be proactively disclosed, particularly linking them with the decision-making processes as detailed earlier. All Public Authorities should proactively disclose the following:
 - a) Defining the services and goods that the particular public authority/office provides directly (or indirectly through any other agency/contractor).
 - b) Detailing and describing the processes by which the public can access and/or receive the goods and services that they are entitled to, from the public authority/office along with the forms, if any prescribed, for use by both the applicant and the service providing agency. Links to such forms (online), wherever available, should be given.
 - c) Describing the conditions, criteria and priorities under which a person becomes eligible for the goods and services, and consequently the categories of people who are entitled to receive the goods and services.

- d) Defining the quantitative and tangible parameters, (weight, size, frequency etc.) and timelines, that are applicable to the goods and services that are accessible to the public.
- e) Defining the qualitative and quantitative outcomes that each public authority/office plans to achieve through the goods and services that it was obligated to provide.
- f) Laying down individual responsibility for providing the goods and services (who is responsible for delivery/implementation and who is responsible for supervision).

C. Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(xi)- “the budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made”.

The public authorities while disclosing their budgets shall undertake the following:

- (a) Keeping in view of the technical nature of the government budgets, it is essential that Ministries/Departments prepare simplified versions of their budgets which can be understood easily by general public and place them in public domain. Budgets and their periodic monitoring reports may also be presented in a more user-friendly manner through graphs and tables, etc.
- (b) Outcome budget being prepared by Ministries/Departments of Government of India should be prominently displayed and be used as a basis to identify physical targets planned during the budgetary period and the actual achievement vis-à-vis those targets. A monthly programme implementation calendar method of reporting being followed in Karnataka is a useful model.
- (c) Funds released to various autonomous organizations/ statutory organizations/ attached offices/ Public Sector Enterprises/ Societies/ NGOs/ Corporations etc. should be put on the website on a quarterly basis and budgets of such authorities may be made accessible through links from the website of the Ministry/Department. If a subsidiary does not have a website then the budgets and expenditure reports of such subsidiary authority may be uploaded on the website of the principal Public Authority.
- (d) Wherever required by law or executive instruction, sector specific allocations and achievements of every department or public authority (where feasible) must be highlighted. For example, budget allocation and target focusing on gender, children, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and religious minorities should be specially highlighted. The sector-wise

breakup of these targets and actual outcomes must be given in simplified form to enable the vulnerable segments of society to better understand the budgets of public authorities.

D. Guidelines for Section 4(1)(b)(xiv) – details in respect of information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form.

On one hand, this clause serves as a means of proactively disclosing the progress made in computerizing information under Section 4(1)(a) of the RTI Act in a periodic manner. On the other, it provides people with clarity about the kinds of electronic information that, although not held by the public authority, is available to them. For example the stocks of ration available with individual fair price shops may not be held by the District Civil Supplies office, but may be available at a subordinate formation.

- Keeping in view the varied levels of computerization of records and documents in public authorities, data about records that have been digitized may be proactively disclosed on the respective websites, excluding those records /files /information that are exempted under Section 8.
- The data about digitized record may include the name of the record and any categorization or indexing used; the subject matter and any other information that is required to be compiled in relation to a file as prescribed by Manual of Office Procedure (and to be prescribed by MOP for electronic records that is under finalization by DARPG), the division/ section/ unit/ office where the record is normally held; the person, with designation, responsible for maintaining the record; and the life span of the record, as prescribed in the relevant record retention schedule.

1.2.4 Compliance with Provisions of *suo motu* (proactive) disclosure under the RTI Act

- Each Ministry/Public Authority shall ensure that these guidelines are fully operationalized within a period of 6 months from the date of their issue.
- Proactive disclosure as per these guidelines would require collating a large quantum of information and digitizing it. For this purpose, Ministries/Public Authorities may engage consultants or outsource such work to expeditiously comply with these guidelines. For this purpose, the plan/non-plan funds of that department may be utilized.

- The Action Taken Report on the compliance of these guidelines should be sent, along with the URL link, to the DoPT and Central Information Commission soon after the expiry of the initial period of 6 months.
- Each Ministry/ Public Authority should get its proactive disclosure package audited by third party every year. The audit should cover compliance with the proactive disclosure guidelines as well as adequacy of the items included in the package. The audit should examine whether there are any other types of information which could be proactively disclosed. Such audit should be done annually and should be communicated to the Central Information Commission annually through publication on their own websites. All Public Authorities should proactively disclose the names of the third party auditors on their website. For carrying out third party audit through outside consultants also, Ministries/Public Authorities should utilize their plan/non-plan funds.
- The Central Information Commission should examine the third-party audit reports for each Ministry/Public Authority and offer advice/recommendations to the concerned Ministries/ Public Authorities.
- Central Information Commission should carry out sample audit of few of the Ministries/ Public Authorities each year with regard to adequacy of items included as well as compliance of the Ministry/Public Authority with these guidelines.
- Compliance with the proactive disclosure guidelines, its audit by third party and its communication to the Central Information Commission should be included as RFD target.

The compliance mechanism as per DOPT OM dated 15 April 2013 stipulates as under:

- Each Public Authority shall ensure that these guidelines are fully operationalized within the specified time limit.
- The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the compliance of these guidelines should be sent to the Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT) and Central Information Commission (CIC).
- Each Public Authority should get its pro active disclosure package audited through third party every year.
- Third Party audit of the suo-motu disclosure should cover compliance with the pro active disclosures prescribed in the guidelines of Section 4 of the RTI Act, 2005 including adequacy of the items included in the package. The audit should examine whether there are any other types of information which could be pro actively disclosed.

Such audit should be done annually and should be communicated to the Central Information Commission (CIC) and published on the web site of the Ministry / Public Authority concerned. All Ministries / Public Authorities are required to pro actively disclose the names of the third party auditors on their web sites. The Central Information Commission (CIC) is required to examine the third party audit reports and offer advice / recommendations to the concerned Ministry / Public Authority.

In view of the instructions stated above, National Institute of Homoeopathy has approached NILERD for conducting the third-party transparency audit.

In this background NILERD has conducted the third-party transparency audit of NIH and the data collected, data analyzed and conclusion of the recommendations are given in the subsequent sections.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the task are to:

1. To study the information disclosed by the NIH proactively under Section 4(1)(b).
2. To examine the level of compliance of the detailed guidelines regarding implementation of suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act by NIH
3. To help identify the information gaps in the proactive disclosures; and
4. To suggest appropriate measures to foster better compliance with the provisions of the RTI act relating to proactive disclosure and make the implementation of the guidelines more effective.

1.4 Methodology

A comprehensive format for containing all the relevant indicators has been designed and developed by Central Information Commission (CIC) for evaluating disclosure by Public Authorities (PAs). The entire process is done online where the PA first submits a self appraisal which is then audited by a third party who submits the third party audit report to CIC. The format has six broad categories namely;

1. Organsiation and Function
2. Budget and Programmes
3. Publicity and Public Interface
4. E-Governance

5. Information as Prescribed

6. Information Disclosed on Own Initiative.

It is under these six categories, National Institute of Homoeopathy (NIH) was audited in June 2023.

Chapter 2
Audit Report

Name of the Authority Being Audited: National Institute of Homoeopathy

Website: <https://www.nih.nic.in/>

1. Organisation and Function

S. No.	Item	Details of Disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable will be treated as fully met/partially met)	Available at
1.1	Particulars of its organisation, functions and duties [Section 4(1)(b)(i)]	1.1.1 Name and address of the Organization	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/contactus
		1.1.2 Head of the organization	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
		1.1.3 Vision, Mission and Key objectives	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/121-about-us
		1.1.4 Function and duties	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.1.5 Organization Chart	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
		1.1.6 Any other details-the genesis, inception, formation of the department and the HoDs from time to time as well as the committees/ Commissions constituted from time to time have been dealt	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/ , and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/121-about-us , and https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
1.2	Power and duties of its officers and employees [Section 4(1)(b)(ii)]	1.2.1 Powers and duties of officers (administrative, financial and judicial)	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.2.2 Power and duties of other employees	Fully Met	Duties of Faculty provide at https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/122-academic-departments
		1.2.3 Rules/ orders under which powers and duty are derived and	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf

		1.2.4 Exercised	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.2.5 Work allocation	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
1.3	Procedure followed in decision making process [Section 4(1)(b)(iii)]	1.3.1 Process of decision making Identify key decision making points	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.3.2 Final decision making authority	Fully met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.3.3 Related provisions, acts, rules etc.	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.3.4 Time limit for taking a decisions, if any	Not Applicable	The main work of the institute is providing academic inputs for which time period is already specified. For medical services provided by the hospital, fixing a time limit for taking a decision may be difficult.
		1.3.5 Channel of supervision and accountability	Partially met	Organizational Chart at https://www.nih.nic.in/
1.4	Norms for discharge of functions [Section 4(1)(b)(iv)]	1.4.1 Nature of functions/ services offered	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/HospitalAnnualReport.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/200
		1.4.2 Norms/ standards for functions/ service delivery	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.4.3 Process by which these services can be accessed	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/200
		1.4.4 Time-limit for achieving the targets	Not Applicable	https://main.ayush.gov.in/citizen-charter/
		1.4.5 Process of redress of grievances	Fully met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
1.5	Rules,	1.5.1 Title and nature of the	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/

	regulations, instructions manual and records for discharging functions [Section 4(1)(b)(v)]	record/ manual /instruction.		files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.5.2 List of Rules, regulations, instructions manuals and records	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.5.3 Acts/ Rules manuals etc.	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.5.4 Transfer policy and transfer orders	Not Applicable	As the institute has specialized departments, this does not seem to be applicable.
1.6	Categories of documents held by the authority under its control [Section 4(1)(b) (vi)]	1.6.1 Categories of documents	Fully Met	The kind of documents institute should have custody of is specified in the bye-laws.
		1.6.2 Custodian of documents/categories	Fully Met	The Director of the institute is custodian in all cases.
1.7	Boards, Councils, Committees and other Bodies constituted as part of the Public Authority [Section 4(1)(b)(viii)]	1.7.1 Name of Boards, Council, Committee etc.	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		1.7.2 Composition	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf . The Boards, Councils and Committees formed for functioning of the institute are clearly indicated under "About-us" and bye-laws. These are Governing Body and Standing Finance Committee. The institute may give details of any other committees formed for smooth functioning of the institute also on the website
		1.7.3 Dates from which constituted	Fully Met	The term of Governing Body and SFC are coterminous with the institute https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		1.7.4 Term/ Tenure	Fully Met	The term of Governing Body and

				SFC are coterminous with the institute and https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		(v) Powers and functions	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf
		(vi) Whether their meetings are open to the public?	Not Applicable	The institute does not formulate public policies and therefore it seems that 1.7.6, 1.7.7 and 1.7.8 are not applicable to the mandate of the institute.
		(vii) Whether the minutes of the meetings are open to the public?	Not Applicable	The institute does not formulate public policies and therefore it seems that 1.7.6, 1.7.7 and 1.7.8 are not applicable to the mandate of the institute.
		(viii) Place where the minutes if open to the public are available?	Not Applicable	The institute does not formulate public policies and therefore it seems that 1.7.6, 1.7.7 and 1.7.8 are not applicable to the mandate of the institute.
1.8	Directory of officers and employees [Section 4(1) (b) (ix)]	(i) Name and designation	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/Faculty_Members.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/123-staff
		ii) Telephone, fax and email ID	Partially Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/Faculty_Members.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/123-staff
1.9	Monthly Remuneration received by	(i) List of employees with Gross monthly remuneration	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf .
		(ii) System of compensation as	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/

	officers & employees including system of compensation [Section 4(1) (b) (x)]	provided in its regulations		files/NIHByLawupdt160623.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/RR%20NIH.pdf
1.10	Name, designation and other particulars of public information officers [Section 4(1) (b) (xvi)]	(i) Name and designation of the public information officer (PIO), Assistant Public Information (s) & Appellate Authority	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/224
		(ii) Address, telephone numbers and email ID of each designated official.	Partially Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf does not provide telephone numbers
1.11	No. of employees against whom Disciplinary action has been proposed/ taken (Section 4(2))	No. of employees against whom disciplinary action has been (i) Pending for Minor penalty or major penalty proceedings	Partially Met	Number of employees against whom vigilance cases are pending is available on Page 9 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		(ii) Finalised for Minor penalty or major penalty proceedings	Not Met	Information not available
1.12	Programmes to advance understanding of RTI (Section 26)	1.12.1 Educational programmes	Partially Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		1.12.2 Efforts to encourage public authority to participate in these programmes	Partially Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		1.12.3 Training of CPIO/APIO	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		1.12.4 Update & publish	Not Met	Information not provided under RTI

		guidelines on RTI by the Public Authorities concerned		Menu
1.1 3	Transfer policy and transfer orders [F No. 1/6/2011- IR dt. 15.4.2013]		Not Applicable	As the institute has departments with specific functions and specialized skills, it seems that 1.13 is not applicable to the institute.

2. Budget and Programme

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable)	
2.1	Budget allocated to each agency including all plans, proposed expenditure and reports on disbursements made etc. [Section 4(1)(b)(xi)]	2.1.1 Total Budget for the public authority	Fully met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		2.1.2 Budget for each agency and plan & programmes	Fully met	Page 9 of Annual Report 2021-22 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/AnnualReportNIH_Eng21-22.pdf

		2 . 1 . 3 Proposed expenditures	Partially met	Information available till 2016-17 at https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/213
		2 1 . 4 Revised budget for each agency, if any	Not Applicable	Does not pertain to PA
		2.1.5 Report on disbursements made and place where the related reports are available	Fully met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/AnnualReportNIH_Eng21-22.pdf
2.2	Foreign and domestic tours (F.No. 1/8/2012- IR dt. 11.9.2012)	2.2.1 Budget	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		2.2.2 Foreign and domestic Tours by ministries and officials of the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government and above, as well as the heads of the Department. Places visited The period of visit The number of members in the official delegation	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		2.2.3 Information related to procurements Notice/tender enquires, and corrigenda if any thereon, Details of the bids awarded comprising the names of the suppliers of goods/ services being procured The works contracts concluded – in any such combination of the above-and The rate /rates and the total amount at which such procurement or works contract is to be executed.	Partially Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/tenders/archive
2.3	Manner of execution of subsidy programme	2.3.1 Name of the programme of activity	Not Applicable	Does not pertain to PA as PA has no subsidy Subsidy programme.
		2.3.2 Objective of the programme		
		2.3.3 Procedure to avail benefits		

	[Section 4(i)(b)(xii)]	2.3.4 Duration of the programme/ scheme 2.3.5 Physical and financial targets of the programme 2.3.6 Nature/ scale of subsidy /amount allotted 2.3.7 Eligibility criteria for grant of subsidy 2.3.8 Details of beneficiaries of subsidy programme (number, profile etc)		
2.4	Discretionary and non-discretionary grants [F. No. 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.04.2013]	2.4.1 Discretionary and non-discretionary grants/ allocations to State Govt./ NGOs/other institutions 2.4.2 Annual accounts of all legal entities who are provided grants by public authorities	Not Applicable	Does not apply to the PA
2.5	Particulars of recipients of concessions, permits of authorizations granted by the public authority [Section 4(1) (b) (xiii)]	2.5.1 Concessions, permits or authorizations granted by public authority 2.5.2 For each concessions, permit or authorization granted a) Eligibility criteria b) Procedure for getting the concession/ grant and/ or permits of authorizations c) Name and address of the recipients given concessions/ permits or authorisations d) Date of award of concessions /permits of authorizations	Not Applicable	There are no Concessions, Permits or Authorizations of Grants by PA

2.6	CAG & PAC paras [F No. 1/6/2011- IR dt. 15.4.2013]	2.6.1 CAG and PAC paras and the action taken reports (ATRs) after these have been laid on the table of both houses of the parliament.	Partially met	CAG report available https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/AnnualReportNIH_Eng21-22.pdf but no report on action taken on prior comments/observations is available.
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3. Publicity Band Public interface

S.No.	Item	Details of disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable will be treated as fully met/partially met)	
3.1	Particulars for any arrangement for consultation with or representation by the members of the public in relation to the formulation of policy or implementation thereof [Section 4(1)(b)(vii)] [F No 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.04.2013]	3.1.1 Arrangement for consultations with or representation by the members of the public Relevant Acts, Rules, Forms and other documents which are normally accessed by citizens	Fully Met	As the institute offers teaching, research hospital and medical services, all information related to the same is available at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/HospitalAnnualReport.pdf , https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/200 , https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/USER_CHARGES_REVENUE17.pdf and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/217 and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/163

		3.1.2 Arrangements for consultation with or representation by a) Members of the public in policy formulation/ policy implementation b) Day & time allotted for visitors c) Contact details of Information & Facilitation Counter (IFC) to provide publications frequently sought by RTI applicants	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA as PA is not involved in policy decision
		3.1.3 Public- private partnerships (PPP) Details of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), if any	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.4 Public- private partnerships (PPP) Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.5 Public- private partnerships (PPP) Concession agreements	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.6 Public- private partnerships (PPP) – Operations and maintenance manuals	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.7 Public- private partnerships (PPP) - Other documents generated as part of the implementation of the PPP	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.8 Public- private partnerships (PPP) - Information relating to fees, tolls, or the other kinds of revenues that may be collected under authorisation from the government	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.9 Public- private partnerships (PPP) - Information relating to outputs and outcomes	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA

		3.1.10 Public- private partnerships (PPP) - The process of the selection of the private sector party (concessionaire etc.)	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
		3.1.11 Public- private partnerships (PPP) - All payment made under the PPP project	Not Applicable	Does not relate to functions of the PA
3.2	Are the details of policies/ decisions, which affect public, informed to them [Section 4(1) (c)]	3.2.1 Publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing decisions which affect public to make the process more interactive; Policy decisions/ legislations taken in the	Not Applicable	PA is not involved in policy Formulation
		3.2.2 Publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing decisions which affect public to make the process more interactive - Outline the Public consultation process	Not Applicable	PA is not involved in policy Formulation
		3.3.3 Publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing decisions which affect public to make the process more interactive- Outline the arrangement for consultation before	Not Applicable	PA is not involved in policy Formulation
3.3	Dissemination of information widely and in such form and manner which is easily accessible to the public [Section 4(3)]	3.3.1 Use of the most effective means of communication Internet (website)	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
3.4	Form of accessibility of information manual/ handbook [Section 4(1)(b)]	3.4.1 Information manual/handbook available in Electronic format	Fully Met	All information related to the institute is available at https://www.nih.nic.in/

		3.4.2 Information manual/handbook available in format	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/publications
3.5	Whether information manual/ handbook available free of cost or not [Section 4(1)(b)]	3.5.1 List of materials available Free of cost	Fully Met	Page 8 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		3.5.2 List of materials available reasonable cost of the medium	Fully Met	The website provides detailed information about the functioning of the institute

4. E. Governance

S.No.	Item	Details of disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable will be treated as fully met/partially met)	
4.1	Language in which Information Manual/Handbook Available[F No. 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.4.2013]	4.1.1 English	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
		4.1.2 Vernacular/ Local Language	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/

4.2	When was the information Manual/Handbook last updated? [F No. 1/6/2011-IR dt 15.4.2013]	4.2.1 Last date of Annual updation	Not Met	Information is not available
4.3	Information available in electronic form [Section 4(1)(b)(xiv)]	4.3.1 Details of information available in electronic form	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
		4.3.2 Name/ title of the document/record/ other information	Fully Met	Annual Reports, Publications, Hospital and Medical Services, Research Activities, Bye-Laws, User Charge Revenue, Tenders
		4.3.3 Location where available	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/
4.4	Particulars of facilities available to citizen for obtaining information [Section 4(1)(b)(xv)]	4.4.1 Name & location of the facility	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/view/42/64-library-information-services and https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/127-library
		4.4.2 Details of information made available	Fully Met	Information related to seating capacity, teachers and staff, No. of text books, Number of journals , daily usage etc is available

		4.4.3 Working hours of the facility	Not Met	Information not available
		4.4.4 Contact person & contact details (Phone, fax email)	Partially Met	Names of the library contact persons available at https://www.nih.nic.in/pages/display/123-staff
4.5	Such other information as may be prescribed under section 4(i) (b)(xvii)	4.5.1 Grievance Redressal mechanism	Fully Met	Page 9 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		4.5.2 Details of applications received under RTI and information provided	Fully Met	Page 9 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		4.5.3 List of completed schemes/ projects/ Programmes	Fully Met	Information related to courses conducted and services offered is available on the website and Annual Report
		4.5.4 List of schemes/ projects/ programme underway	Fully Met	List of ongoing academic programmes is available on website
		4.5.5 Details of all contracts entered into including name of the contractor, amount of contract and period of completion of contract	Not Met	Information not available on website

		4.5.6 Annual Report	Fully Met	https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/AnnualReportNIH_Eng21-22.pdf
		4.5.7 Frequently Asked Question (FAQs)	Not Met	Information not available on website
		4.5.8 Any other information such as (a) Citizen's Charter b) Result Framework Document (RFD) c) Six monthly reports on the (d) Performance against the benchmarks set in the Citizen's Charter	Not Met	Information not available on website
4.6	Receipt & Disposal of RTI applications & appeals [F.No 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.04.2013]	4.6.1 Details of applications received and disposed	Fully Met	Page 9 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
		4.6.2 Details of appeals received, and orders issued	Partially Met	Information about appeals received is only available at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
4.7	Replies to questions asked in the parliament [Section 4(1)(d)(2)]	4.7.1 Details of questions asked and replies given	Not Met	Information not available on website

5. Information as may be prescribed

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable will be treated as fully met/partially met)	
5.1	Such other information as may be prescribed [F.No. 1/2/2016-IR dt. 17.8.2016, F No. 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.4.2013]	5.1.1 Name & details of (a) Current CPIOs & FAAs, (b) Earlier CPIO & FAAs from 1.1.2015	Fully Met	Page 8 at https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf
5.1.2 Details of third party audit of voluntary disclosure (a) Dates of audit carried out (b) Report of the audit carried out		Fully Met	Page 8 https://www.nih.nic.in/writereaddata/files/suomotodisclosure.pdf	
5.1.3 Appointment of Nodal Officers not below the rank of Joint Secretary/ Additional HoD (a) Date of appointment (b) Name & Designation of the officers		Not Met	Information not available	
5.1.4 Consultancy Committee of key stakeholders for advice on suo-moto disclosure (a) Dates from which constituted (b) Name & Designation of the Officers		Not Met	Information not available	
5.1.5 Committee of PIOs/FAAs with rich experience in RTI to identify frequently sought information under RTI - (a) Dates from which constituted, (b) Name & Designation of the Officers		Not Met	Information not available	

6. Information Disclosed on own Initiative

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	Remarks/ Reference Points (Fully met/partially met/ not met- Not applicable will be treated as fully met/partially met)	
6.1	Item / information disclosed so that public have minimum resort to use of RTI Act to obtain information	6.1.1 Item / information disclosed so that public have minimum resort to use of RTI Act to obtain information	Fully Met	The website https://www.nih.nic.in/ provides all information related to functions of the institute, faculty, staff, departments, hospital services, courses offered, user charges, annual reports so that public has minimum resort to obtain information
6.2	Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) is followed (released in February, 2009 and included in the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedures (CSMOP) by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions, Govt. Of India)	6.2.1 Whether STQC certification obtained and its validity. 6.2.2 Does the website show the certificate on the Website?	Not Met	STQC certificate not available on website

CHAPTER-4

OBSERVATIONS

Following areas for improving contents and the quality of the disclosure have been identified:

1. Particulars of Organization, Functions and Duties

- 1.1 The website of NIH provides substantial information on particulars of its organization, functions and duties.
- 1.2 The powers and functions of its officers and employees is provided in different documents on the website.
- 1.3 Most information related to the procedure followed for decision making is available except channel of supervision and accountability which has to be drawn from organization chart. Time limit for decisions taken does not seem to be applicable to NIH because of its nature of work.
- 1.4 Information related to norms for discharge of functions are mainly drawn from Bye laws of the institute and are available on website.
- 1.5 Rules, regulations, instructions manual and records for discharging functions are also available on the website of NIH.
- 1.6 The website provides information about categories of documents available with it and the custodian of the documents.
- 1.7 Details of Boards, Councils, Committees and other Bodies constituted as part of the Public Authority and who supervise and regulate the functioning of the institute are provided on the website. However, as NIH is not involved in policy formulation, the minutes of the meetings of these committees are not available to public.
- 1.8 The contact details of its faculty is available on the website but for staff except designation no other information is available.
- 1.9 Monthly Remuneration received by officers & employees is available on website.
- 1.10 Information related to Name, designation and other particulars of public information officers is available on the website.
- 1.11 Suo moto disclosure no. of employees against whom Disciplinary action has been proposed/taken is provided but no information about pending cases is available on website of NIH.
- 1.12 Information about Programmes conducted by NIH to advance understanding of RTI among PIO/CPIO is available but not any other efforts to encourage understanding of RTI is available on the website. Website does not provide details about the RTI Act, 2005 and its various provisions.
- 1.13 Transfer policy and transfer order does not seem applicable to NIH as it has specialized departments with specific nature of work.

2. Particulars about Budget and Programmes

- 2.1.1 Total Budget for the public authority has been provided on the website.
- 2.1.2 Budget for each agency and plan & programmes is provided.
- 2.1.3 Current information related to proposed expenditure is not available on the website.
- 2.1.4 As PA has no agency 2.1.4 is not applicable
- 2.1.5 Information on Report on disbursements made and place where the related reports are available is specified on website.

- 2.2.1 Information available
- 2.2.2 Foreign and domestic tours information is available on the website.
- 2.2.3 The website only lists the tenders invited and has no information related to procurements Notice/tender enquires, and corrigenda, details of the bids awarded, the number of work contracts concluded and the amount of award.
- 2.3 As the PA does not execute any subsidy programme 2.3 is not applicable.
- 2.4 is not applicable to PA.
- 2.5 There are no Concessions, Permits or Authorizations of Grants by PA and thus 2.5 is not applicable.
- 2.6 Details of CAG report is available at Annual Report but action taken reports are not available.

3. Publicity Band Public interface

- 3.1 & 3.2 As NIH is not involved in policy formulation, public band public interface is not applicable to it.
- 3.3& 3.4 &3.5 As a teaching and medical service provider any information related two these two aspects are available on the website for the public.

4. E. Governance

- 4.2 Information about last date of annual updation of the Manual/Handbook is not available on the website.
- 4.3 Working hours of facility (4.4.3) and contact details of the concerned person is not available.
- 4.4 The NIH website does not provide information about contracts entered, name of contractor and value of contracts (4.5.5), Frequently asked questions (4.5.7), citizens's charter and result framework (4.5.8).
- 4.6 No information about orders issued is displayed on the website (4.6.2).
- 4.5
- 4.7 No information about replies to questions asked in the parliament is available on the website.

5. Information as may be prescribed

- 5.1.3 Under Such other information as may be prescribed no information about appointment of nodal officers is given.
- 5.1.4 No information about committee of key stakeholders for advice on suo-moto disclosure is available on the website.
- 5.1.5 No information about committee of PIOs/FAAs with rich experience in RTI to identify frequently sought information under RTI is available on the website.

6.Information Disclosed on Own initiative

Although NIH website discloses a lot of information on its own initiative yet it does not provide STQC certificate on its website.

CHAPTER-4

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A perusal of the website of the NIH indicates that a substantial amount of information is available. However, the disclosure of Information under Section 4(7)(b) of the RTI Act is incomplete and partial and the information is not being updated regularly on the website.

There is scope for improvement in a number of areas. In order therefore to make the website more user friendly and citizen centric, the following conclusions / observations may be considered for implementation:

- (a) Work allocation, procedure followed in decision making, norms of discharge of functions should be uploaded on the website under suo moto disclosure manual.
- (b) It should be clearly specified under suo moto disclosure that as PIA is not involved in policy formulation there is no scope for public interface.
- (c) The details of Committees, Councils, Boards should be uploaded on the website wherever feasible.
- (d) Information about disciplinary pending cases should be available on the website if feasible/.
- (e) Information regarding last date of annual updation should be available on the website.
- (f) Press releases should be uploaded regularly on the website.
- (g) Details of appeals and orders issued under RTI should be made available on the website.
- (h) Details of questions asked, and replies given to the questions asked in the parliament should be available on the website.
- (i) Third party audit report of auditor should be uploaded on the website.
- (j) Details about Committee of key stakeholders PIOs/FAAs which rich experience in RTI to identify frequently sought information under RTI should be uploaded on the website.
- (k) Action taken on CAG report should be made available on the website.
- (l) STQC certificate should be obtained and be shown on website as per Indian Government guidelines.

Recommendations:

For better implementation of the suo-motu disclosure of information following modifications and updations are needed on the NIH website:

- (a) Every information displayed on the website should indicate the last date of updation prominently in a DD/MM/YYYY format.
- (b) In order to facilitate citizen's requirement, all information which are to be disclosed suo-motu should be either available under RTI heading or should be accessible through a link through RTI heading.
- (c) The website should be made more user friendly and the information is required to be proactively disclosed under the Act and guidelines to enhance transparency and openness.
- (d) To maintain the reliability of information. timely updating of the information is must. Therefore, it is required that a system is created for automatic updation of information. based on key word outputs. The date of last updation should be displayed on the website.
- (e) Different media and forms should be used for proactive disclosure.
- (f) STQC certification should be adhered to as per government guidelines.
- (g) Separate manuals for each section of disclosure may be prepared and uploaded on RTI page.