

Chapter - I

Introduction

1.1 Tripura Information Commission presents the Annual Report for the year 2013-14 as mandated under section 25(1) of the RTI Act 2005. This is a status report for the implementation of the provisions of this Act undertaken during the period. This is the ninth Annual Report of the Commission and the other eight reports have been forwarded to the State Government at the end of each year mentioning all initiatives undertaken during the relevant period with recommendations of the Commission with a view to arranging of the report to be laid down before the State Legislature, as required under section 25(4) of the RTI Act.

1.2 The Annual Report for the year 2013 – 14 has been prepared on the basis of information furnished by the public authorities of the State Government as has been analyzed by the Commission and on the basis of second appeals and complaints as are being received from the citizens. Analysis of some key aspects like number of applications received during the period, details of SPIOs, trend of disposal of applications of information seekers and nature of information sought over the years have been made, which have been compared with the data in respect of the preceding years with a view to ascertaining the pattern, emerging from implementation of the Act.

1.3 The Commission was headed by Smt. Shamalima Banerjee, IAS (Retd), State Information Commissioner during the year.

1.4 As provided under section 27(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the appropriate government may, by notification in Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the provisions of the Act. The Government of Tripura vide notification F.3(5)-GA(AR)/2005(L) dated 29-01 2008 had issued rules to carry out the provisions of

the Act, prescribing details regarding the application fees, cost of materials and mode of payment to government departments for obtaining information from the public authorities including many other related issues. The government had published **“The Tripura Right To Information Rules, 2008”** in the Gazette of the State through an extra-ordinary issue of the Tripura Gazette on February 4, 2008.

1.5 To avoid dislocation of files and other important official documents and to ensure smooth supply of information with the statutory time limit, the Commission has designed the **“Record Management Information System (RMIS)”** with technical support from the National Informatics Centre (NIC). The Commission has recommended adoption of RMIS by all State govt. departments with technical support from NIC customizing the system as it may be required by the individual departments for easy implementation of RTI Act 2005 in the State and also to bring efficiency in office management.

1.6 The Commission has carefully examined the **“Record Retention Schedule”**, common to all departments of the government which was issued in 2000 by the GA (AR) Department of Govt. of Tripura. The State Govt. may review the existing Record Retention Schedule to provide clear directions on weeding out of records on all such important issues. This has caused hardship to the public authorities of departments to retrieve records, as would be sought under the Act by the citizens from piles of records / files / documents accumulated over the years in record rooms, in absence of clear directions on retention period of such files / records for timely weeding out of old and obsolete records. As retention period of many important issues have not been spelled out, the public authorities have obligation to preserve all such old records to provide copies on demand to information seekers. Further, in absence of clear directions to destroy useless and irrelevant records to make space for new documents being created every day, departments are facing problems to arrange government records

methodically. These issues deserve immediate intervention of the General Administration (AR) Department of the State Government. Apart from decision on retention of records covering to all Departments of the Govt, retention period of records specific to each Department needs to be decided immediately to settle department specific issues of the state.

1.7 The facility for 'online filing' of RTI complaints has been provided in the Commission. During the year, the website of the Commission has been upgraded in two languages in English and also in Bangla while all arrangements has been made to launch the website in kokborok language also. The website in Kokborok would include RTI Act, Tripura RTI Rules, Guides for all stakeholders and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) in Kokborok along with all other related matters. The website of the Commission facilitates disclosure of information as has been envisaged in sec. 4(1)(b) of the Act, and is under constant upgradation on a dynamic mode. The website provides information in a structured manner to facilitate easy public access on status of complaints / appeals filed, cause list including the archive of cause list, and the decisions of the Commission alongwith all related activities.

1.8 During the period the Commission has prepared several booklets to guide SPIOs, FAAs and the Public Authorities in furtherance of its endeavour to implement the Act effectively. These booklets prepared on the guidelines of the Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension, Government of India, have been circulated among the State govt. departments and the Public Information Officers up to the field level offices of the State Govt.

i) 'Taithyer Adhikar' a book on RTI Act previously prepared in Bangla has now been prepared in Kokborok.

ii) Bangla website has been launched and is being modified to provide better services to the citizens.

iii) The Record Management Information System (RMIS) is in place for efficient management of files and old documents.

iv) All arrangements have been taken to launch the 3rd website in Kokborok, which would be inaugurated soon.

1.9 The Commission has also requested the State Government to add a chapter on RTI Act, 2005 at high school level and a write up has been forwarded to the State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) for its purpose.

1.10 The Tripura Information Commission endeavours to provide prompt response to the petitions of the citizens and admits appeals and complaints sometimes ignoring procedural shortcomings on the part of the Appellants/Complainants to decide such petitions after hearing both the parts in open Court. The orders of the Commission are issued on the very day of hearing and are provided to the information seekers and the State Public Information Officers free of cost and are being placed on the website of the Commission.

1.11 The SPIOs and FAAs of some of the selected departments having large public interface had attended several inter-active sessions as had been organised by the Commission with a view to removing the doubts on implementation of provisions of the Act. Several discussions were held in the Commission with the Public Authorities of departments to guide them to upload information pertaining to the departments, mandatory under section 4(1) of the RTI Act, 2005. All these activities of the Commission have borne results in educating the information providers of the State Government departments to discharge their duties effectively.

1.12 During the year the Commission with support from Tripura Info.com, had arranged a Quiz Competition involving students from Schools and Colleges on Right to Information Act. There were several talks by SIC, as organized by some departments of the State government & Door Darshan Kendra, Agartala to educate the SPIOs to remove confusion of RTI ACT and to bring awareness among the citizens of the State.

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Chapter II

Tripura Information Commission during 2013-14

2.1 RTI Act in India has given a new hope to citizens who have been facing problems to know the status of some routine matters. The Act has drastically changed the mindset of service providers.

Role and Power of the Commission: Tripura Information Commission is a quasi judiciary body established as per provision of section 15(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005. It enjoys the power of the Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure. The Commission has power to issue summons and enforce the attendance of a person and compel him to give oral or written evidence as also to produce documents or other evidence requiring the discovery and inspection of records, apart from receiving evidence on affidavit, sending requisition for any public records and copies thereof from any government department.

The Information Commission is responsible for the following:

2.1.1 Handling of Complaints and appeals: It is the duty and responsibility of the Commission to receive and enquire a complaint from any person who has been unable to submit a request for information to a Public Information Officer for reasons that no such officer has been appointed; Public Information Officer has refused to receive and accept the application for information or appeal; citizen has been refused access to any information; SPIO has not given response to a request for information within specified time; SPIO has demanded unreasonable fee; and applicant believes that he has been given incomplete, misleading or false information. It is also the duty and responsibility of the Commission to receive Second Appeal filed against the decision of the First Appellate Authority within a period of 90 days from the date on which the 1st Appellate Authority disposed of the 1st appeal. The Commission has the power to require the Public Authority to

take steps to comply with the provisions of the RTI Act; direct the public authority to designate State Public Information Officer and proactively disclose certain information; pass direction about record management and for deciding retention period of particular records; direct the public authority to enhance the provision of training on the Right to Information for its officials; providing an annual report to the Commission by every public authority; require the public authority to supply information and to compensate the complainant/appellant for any loss or other detriment suffered; impose penalty and recommend for instituting departmental proceeding against the erring Public Information Officers.

2.1.2 The annual reports are being prepared by the State Information Commission on the basis of information and data furnished by the Public Authorities and also on activities carried out by the Commission. The report in prescribed format has to be furnished by the Public Authority after the end of each year as required under the provisions as have been laid down under section 25(2) of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

2.1.3 It has been noticed by the Commission that some information of the officials of the Police Department are not disclosed citing the notification of the Government. As contained under section 24(4) of the Act, the State Government, in exercise of the power as conferred upon it, may exempt the intelligence and security organization from the purview of the Right to Information Act by issuing a notification in the official gazette from time to time. The Government of Tripura, by virtue of this provision of section 24(4) of the Act has exempted the Police Organization including its Forensic Laboratory from the purview of this Act. However, in respect of the information pertaining to the allegation of violation of human right, violation, the Police Organization is required to disclose information with approval of the State Information Commission. That apart, the Police Organization including its Forensic Laboratory is also bound to furnish information pertaining to the allegation of corruption, even though it is exempted from the

purview of the Right to Information Act. The Notification issued by the government in Tripura Gazette is enclosed at Annexure – II.

2.2 Handling of appeals and complaints in the Commission:

2.2.1 Tripura Information Commission decides both complaint under section 18 and second appeal under section 19(3) of the Right to Information Act. In course of deciding complaint as well as appeal, the Commission calls for attendance of both the complainant / appellant and the respondent issuing notice and summon in the prescribed form allowing reasonable time for making written rejoinder and representation by the complainant / appellant and the respondent as the case may be and also for personal hearing.

2.2.2 The Commission conducts hearing in open court calling both the parties and announces its order in open court before the parties and after concluding the hearing the judgment and order is pronounced on the same day. The copy of the judgment and order is provided to both the parties free of cost either by hand or by post as opted by the appellant / complainant and the Public Information Officers of the departments with due authentication from the Commission. The copy of the judgment and order is also uploaded on the website of Tripura Information Commission (www.rtitripura.nic.in) on the next day and such judgment and order of the Commission is easily accessible to the citizens.

2.2.3 The Right to Information Act, 2005 does not provide any time limit for deciding an appeal or a complaint by the Information Commission. However, Tripura Information Commission decides an appeal or a complaint within very short time after the admission of an appeal or complaint. The cases are generally disposed of after a single hearing following the entire process of issue of summons and notices to parties and conducting enquiry including scrutiny of records. The Commission during hearing also explains the relevant provisions of the Act with a

view to educating the State Public Information Officers as also the information seekers for effective implementation of the Act.

2.2.4 Commission does not close every case upon hearing and the matter is followed up till compliance to the satisfaction of the Commission. When it is ensured that the judgments and orders are complied, the files are closed and sent to Record Room of the Commission.

2.2.5 The proceedings of the Commission are held in congenial atmosphere in the court room of the Commission to enable the information seekers to feel free to represent their points and also to express their views without any fear or hesitation.

2.2.6 The Commission, has analyzed the trends of appeal petitions and complaints being lodged by the information seekers before the Commission over the last nine years and noted that there is a rise in lodging of complaints and appeals in the year 2007 – 08 from the number as recorded during 2005 – 06 and this position of 2007 – 08 has remained the same up to the year 2009 – 10. The position, however, has increased substantially during 2010 – 11, mainly due to a situation that large number of applicants approached Government Departments seeking information in respect of recruitment by the government in some departments of the state. The number during the year of report shows marginal increase from the preceding year. This is an indication of effective handling of petitions under the Act by the public authorities.

Budget of Tripura Information Commission :-

2.2.7 The G.A.(AR) Department, being the Administrative Department of the Commission, places the proposal before Finance Department. The budget for 2013 – 14 for the Commission is given below:

Budget for the Commission for 2013-14

Sl. No	Item of Expenditure	Rupees in Lakhs
1.	i) Salaries	35.00
	ii) Wages	2.00
2.	Non-salary i) Travel Expenses	1.50
	ii) Office Expenses	3.85
	iii) Electricity charges	1.20
	iv) Cost of fuel	2.00
	v) Hiring charge of pvt. vehicle	1.80
	Total	47.35

(Table No. 1 Ref. para 2.2.7)

Secretariat of the Commission: In consistence with section 16(6) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the State Government has posted one Senior TCS Officer to function as Secretary to the Commission. Besides, the Commission has been provided with the following category of staff on deputation from other departments:-

SL No	Designation	Number
1.	PS-II to the State Information Commissioner	1
2.	P.S. –IV to the Secretary	1
3.	PA-I to the State Information Commissioner	1
4.	Section Officer	1
5.	Head Assistant	1
6.	L.D. Assistant	1
7.	Driver	1
8.	Group-D	6

(Table No. 2 Ref. para 2.2.7)

2.2.8 Website of the Commission (www.rtitripura.nic.in) contains all orders and judgments of the Commission, as also the 'cause list' including the 'archive of the cause list'. The RTI Act, Tripura RTI Rules and guidelines issued for State Public Information Officers, First Appellate Authorities and Public Authorities of the State and instructions of the Commission to guide all stakeholders are also posted on the website. The 'online' lodging of grievances and appeals is of great help to the citizens, particularly the citizens living outside the State who seek information from state government departments to avail the benefit without appearing before the Commission for information.

2.2.9 The Commission has designated the State Public Information Officer(SPIO) and the First Appellate Authority(FAA) for the Commission. All information about the Commission are placed in the public domain, in its website.

2.2.10 The website of the Commission also serves as a portal on RTI Act. It contains list of SPIOs and FAAs and Public Authorities of all departments of the State and keeps on updating the list in the event of transfer / superannuation of SPIOs / FAAs / Public Authorities.

2.2.11 As is required under section 4(1)(b) of the Act, the Commission has made its proactive disclosures on 16 items of information about the Commission which has been placed in the Commission's website (www.rtitripura.nic.in), to enable any citizen to view details about the Commission.

2.2.12 The Bangla website of Tripura Information Commission with all such documents in Bangla has become quite useful and popular as it has been supporting the citizens who are more comfortable to read and write in Bangla.

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Chapter – III

Implementation of RTI Act, 2005

3. The Tripura Information Commission collects information from all the Public Authorities data about applications for information received and disposed. During the year under report, there were 45 Public Authorities in the State and there were 1365 State Public Information Officers (SPIOs) functioning in the State. During the year, the SPIOs under the various Public Authorities have received 2757 applications for information as per the data collected from the Public Authorities. Out of the 2757 applications received, 2692 applications were disposed of by the SPIOs with 65 applications pending for disposal.

3.1 Out of the applications disposed during the year under report, information was provided in respect of 2615 applications while information was disallowed in case of 77 applications which indicates that only 2.86% of the application for information were fully rejected by the SPIOs.

3.2 The information about the Public Authority-wise requests for information received, request disposed, rejected, allowed and pending is indicated in Table No.3. From the Table, it indicates that Tripura Public Service Commission (TPSC), Directorate of Panchayats, Directorate of Health Services, Directorate of Higher Education and Directorate of School Education have received the larger number of applications for information.

Disposal of request for information by the SPIOs during the period under report:

Status of disposal of the requests for information by the State Public Information Officers based on the Annual Reports furnished by the different Departments stands as under (2013-14) :-

Sl. No	Name of Department	No. of Requests Received during the Year	No. of Requests Disposed	No. of Requests Rejected	No. of Requests allowed	No. of requests pending at the end of the year
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Directorate of Animal Resources Dev.	17	17	1	16	NIL
2	Rural Development Department	11	11	NIL	11	NIL
3	Panchayat Department	298	298	NIL	298	NIL
4	Directorate of Health Services	237	236	NIL	236	1
5	The ICFAI University	5	4	NIL	4	1
6	Directorate of Handloom Handicrafts & Sericulture	3	3	NIL	3	NIL
7	Urban Development Department	6	6	NIL	6	NIL
8	Planning Department	2	2	NIL	2	NIL
9	Labour Department	2	2	NIL	2	NIL
10	Education (YAS)	18	18	NIL	18	NIL

11	Office of The Director Fire Service	12	12	NIL	12	NIL
12	Governor's Secretariat	14	14	NIL	14	NIL
13	The Police Accountability Commission, Tripura	2	2	NIL	2	NIL
14	Prisons Directorate	17	17	NIL	17	NIL
15	Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs	24	24	NIL	24	NIL
16	Fisheries Department	12	12	NIL	12	NIL
17	Deptt. Of Science, Technology, & Environment	8	8	NIL	8	NIL
18	High Court Of Tripura	25	25	NIL	25	NIL
19	Tripura State Co-operative Bank Limited	5	5	NIL	5	NIL
20	GA (P & T) Department	63	63	NIL	63	NIL
21	Chief Minister's Secretariat	42	32	NIL	32	10
22	Agriculture Department	65	65	NIL	65	NIL
23	Directorate of Family Welfare & P.M.	112	107	3	104	5
24	Office of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies	27	26	1	25	1
25	Tripura Public Service Commission	347	337	NIL	337	10

26	GA (SA) Department	18	18	NIL	18	NIL
27	Education (School) Department	178	178	NIL	178	NIL
28	Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs	177	163	4	159	14
29	Directorate of Tribal Rehabilitation In Plantation & Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group	6	6	NIL	6	NIL
30	Tripura Legislative Assembly Secretariat	29	29	NIL	29	NIL
31	Public Works Department (R & B)	114	111	3	108	3
32	Revenue Department	19	19	NIL	19	NIL
33	Tripura Board of Secondary Education	19	17	NIL	17	2
34	GA (C & C)	4	4	NIL	4	NIL
35	Transport Department	58	57	1	56	1
36	Education (Higher) Department	180	180	NIL	180	NIL
37	Directorate of Social Welfare & Social Education	54	54	NIL	54	Nil
38	Election Department	49	49	NIL	49	NIL
39	GA (AR) Department	17	17	NIL	17	NIL

40	Law Department	38	38	2	36	NIL
41	GA (P & S)	9	9	NIL	9	NIL
42	Directorate of Industries & Commerce	26	26	NIL	26	NIL
43	Directorate of Welfare for Sch. Tribes	43	38	NIL	38	5
44	Home Department	206	205	62	143	1
45	Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.	139	128	NIL	128	11
	Total	2757	2692	77	2615	65

(Table No. 3 Ref para 3.2)

3.3 Data about category-wise information was also analysed by the Commission. The broad categories for which data was categorised are service related information, project related information, Government Scheme related information, information relating to examinations, information relating to delivery of services, information relating land related issues and information on recruitment related issues and other information. The data is presented in Table-4 below.

Classification of Information sought by the petitioners Information Seekers

SL. No	Name of Department	Service related information	Project related information	Govt. Scheme related information	Govt. policy related information	Examination related information	On delivery of services by Govt. departments	Land related issues	Recruitment related information	Any Others
1	Directorate of Animal Resources Dev.	6	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	8
2	Rural Development Department	1	NIL	9	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
3	Directorate Of Panchayats	15	NIL	283	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
4	Directorate Of Health Service	48	9	9	105	17	NIL	NIL	26	23
5	ICFAI University	5	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
6	Directorate Of Handloom Handicrafts & Sericulture	1	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	01
7	Urban Development Department	1	3	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
8	Planning Department	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
9	Labour Department	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2
10	Directorate Of Youth Affairs & Sports	3	3	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	10	NIL
11	Office Of The Director Fire Service	3	4	1	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
12	Governor's Secretariat	1	NIL	2	4	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	6
13	The Police Accountability Commission, Tripura.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2
14	Prisons Directorate	4	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	10
15	Directorate Of Information & Cultural Affairs	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	20
16	Department of Fisheries	1	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	10	NIL
17	Department Of Science Technology & Environment	1	2	2	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	NIL
18	High Court Of Tripura	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	25
19	Tripura State Co-Operative Bank Limited	2	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	1
20	G.A (P & T) Department	60	NIL	NIL	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1
21	Chief Minister's Secretariat	26	NIL	6	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	10
22	Department of Agriculture	15	15	20	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	15	NIL
23	Directorate of Family Welfare & P.M.	23	6	9	11	1	NIL	NIL	62	NIL

24	Office Of The Registrar Of Cooperative Societies	6	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	20
25	Tripura Public Service Commission	8	NIL	NIL	NIL	339	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
26	General Administration(SA) Department	2	1	NIL	07	NIL	NIL	NIL	8	NIL
27	Directorate of School Education	38	13	14	11	9	NIL	NIL	93	NIL
28	Directorate Of Food, Civil Supplies And Consumer Affairs	6	1	3	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	164
29	Directorate Of Tribal Rehabilitation In Plantation & Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group	NIL	1	1	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	NIL
30	Tripura Legislative Assembly Secretariat	16	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	13	NIL
31	Public Works Department (R & B)	38	45	10	16	NIL	NIL	NIL	5	NIL
32	Revenue Department	1	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	16
33	Tripura Board Of Secondary Education	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	16
34	GA (CONFIDENTIAL & CABINET) Department	4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
35	Transport Department	6	4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	48
36	Directorate Of Higher Education	45	10	15	5	42	NIL	NIL	32	31
37	Directorate Of Social Welfare & Social Education	10	10	20	5	2	NIL	NIL	7	NIL
38	Election Department	4	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	44
39	General Administration (AR) Department	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	16
40	Law Department	19	NIL	7	8	NIL	NIL	NIL	4	NIL
41	G.A. (Printing & Stationery) Department	7	NIL	NIL	02	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
42	Directorate Of Industries & Commerce	5	2	3	5	1	NIL	NIL	1	9

43	Directorate of Welfare for SCH. Tribes	6	2	8	9	12	NIL	NIL	6	NIL
44	Home Department	17	6	2	2	5	NIL	NIL	NIL	174
45	Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.	64	9	19	19	NIL	NIL	4	24	NIL
	Total	524	149	454	219	428	00	05	331	647
	Grand Total	2757								

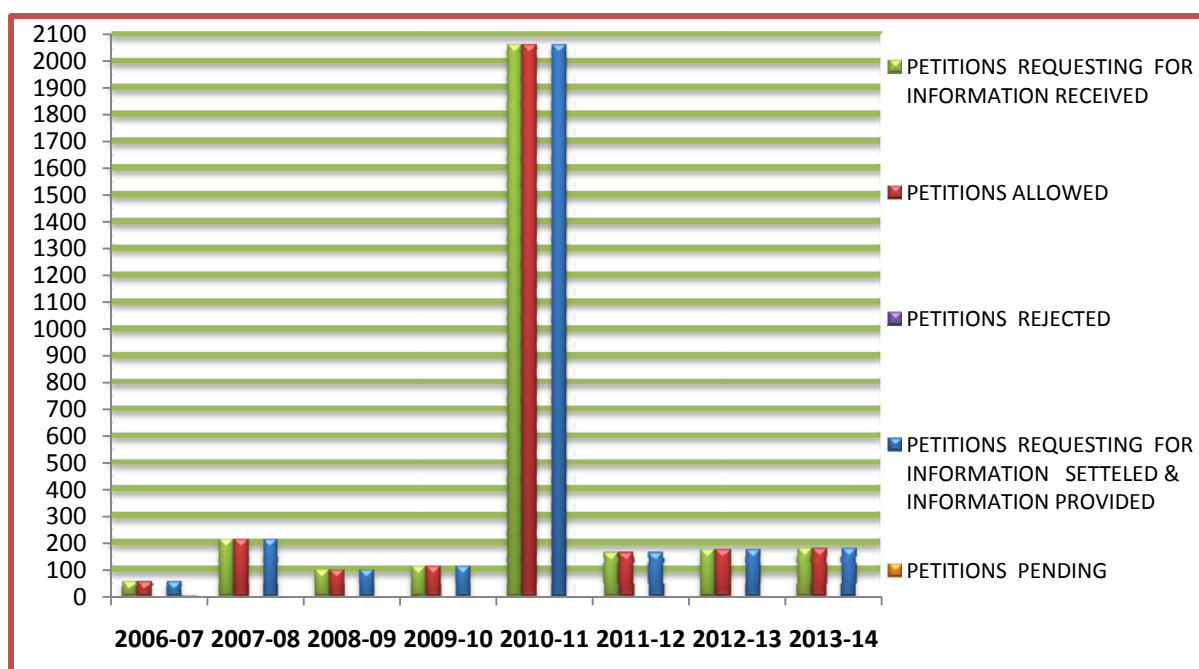
(Table No. 4 Ref. para 3.3)

3.4 Reports, as have been received by the Commission on different aspects of implementation of the RTI Act from the Public Authorities have been analyzed in the Commission. It has been observed that the number of petitions seeking information from the citizens, as has been received by the State Government departments have shown steady increase over the years. The Commission has scrutinized the situation in respect of five major departments and the position is given as below :-

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED UNDER RTI ACT FROM
2006-2014 BY DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION**

YEAR	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	PETITIONS ALLOWED	PETITIONS REJECTED	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	PETITIONS PENDING
2006-07	54	54	0	54	3
2007-08	213	213	0	213	0
2008-09	99	99	0	99	0
2009-10	112	112	0	112	0
2010-11	2061	2061	0	2061	0
2011-12	162	162	0	162	0
2012-13	174	174	0	174	0
2013-14	178	178	0	178	0

(Table No. 5 Ref. para 3.4)



(Fig No. 1 Ref. para 3.4)

The data shows sudden rise in request for information during the year 2010-11 which is due to queries of information seekers on selection of teachers during the year. However, after the unusual upward trend, there is sudden decrease in the year 2011-12 (162) and from next year onwards the number of request for information has maintained normal increase.

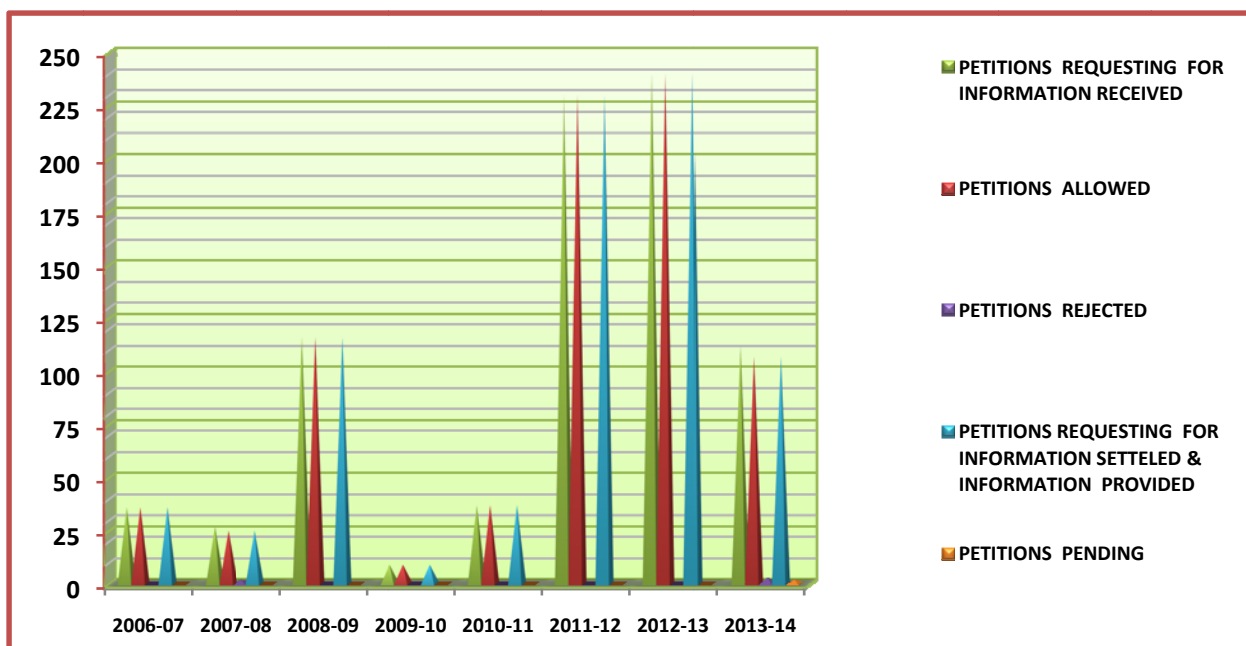
The status in respect of Department of Health and Family Welfare is as below:

Status of applications received under the RTI Act from 2006 – 07 to 2013 – 14 by Directorate of Family Welfare

YEAR	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	PETITIONS ALLOWED	PETITIONS REJECTED	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	PETITION S PENDING
2006-07	36	36	0	36	0
2007-08	27	25	2	25	0
2008-09	116	116	0	116	0
2009-10	9	9	0	9	0
2010-11	37	37	0	37	0
2011-12	230	230	0	230	0
2012-13	240	240	0	240	0
2013-14	112	107	3	107	2

(Table No. 6 Ref. para 3.4)

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY Directorate of FAMILY WELFARE UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014



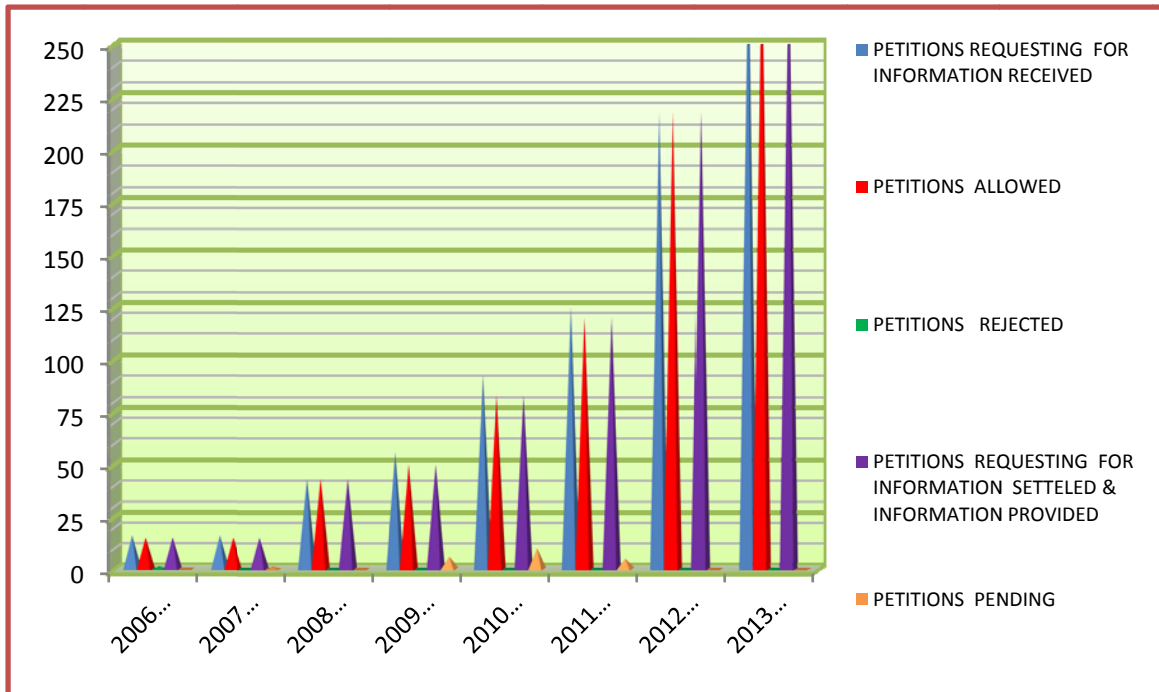
(Fig No. 2 Ref. para 3.4)

**Status of applications received under the RTI Act from
2006 – 07 to 2013 – 14 by Panchayat Department**

YEAR	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	PETITIONS ALLOWED	PETITIONS REJECTED	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	PETITIONS PENDING
2006-07	16	15	1	15	0
2007-08	16	15	0	15	1
2008-09	43	43	0	43	0
2009-10	56	50	0	50	6
2010-11	93	83	0	83	10
2011-12	125	120	0	120	5
2012-13	218	218	0	218	0
2013-14	298	298	0	298	0

(Table No. 7 Ref. para 3.4)

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY PANCHAYAT DEPARTMENT
UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014**



(Fig No. 3 Ref. para 3.4)

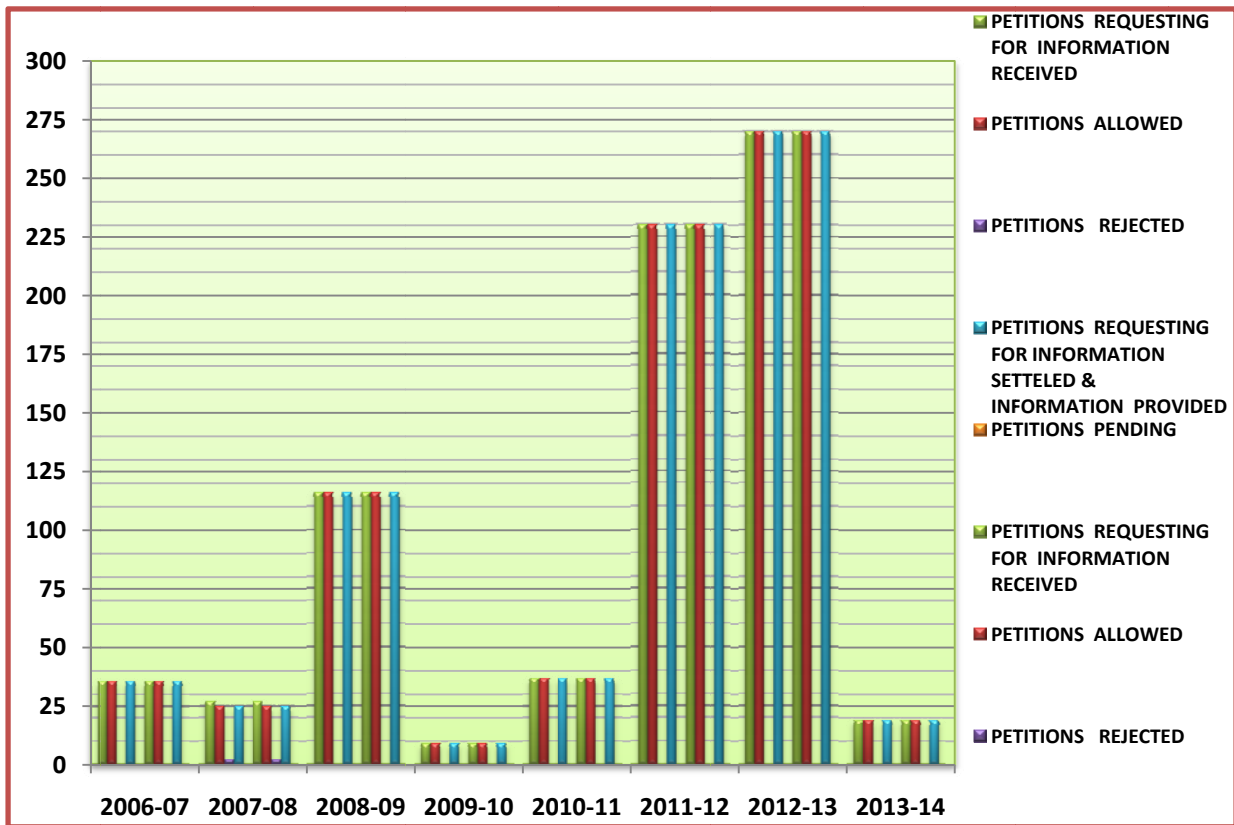
The number of applications seeking information is shown there is rise during 2013-14 (Table-7) part, sudden fall is seen in respect of Department of Revenue, as given below (Table - 8)

**Status of applications received under the RTI Act from
2006 – 07 to 2013 – 14 by Revenue Department**

YEAR	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	PETITIONS ALLOWED	PETITIONS REJECTED	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	PETITIONS PENDING
2006-07	36	36	0	36	0
2007-08	27	25	2	25	0
2008-09	116	116	0	116	0
2009-10	9	9	0	9	0
2010-11	37	37	0	37	0
2011-12	230	230	0	230	0
2012-13	270	270	0	270	0
2013-14	19	19	0	19	0

(Table No. 8 Ref. para 3.4)

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY REVENUE DEPARTMENT
UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014**



(Fig No. 4 Ref. para 3.4)

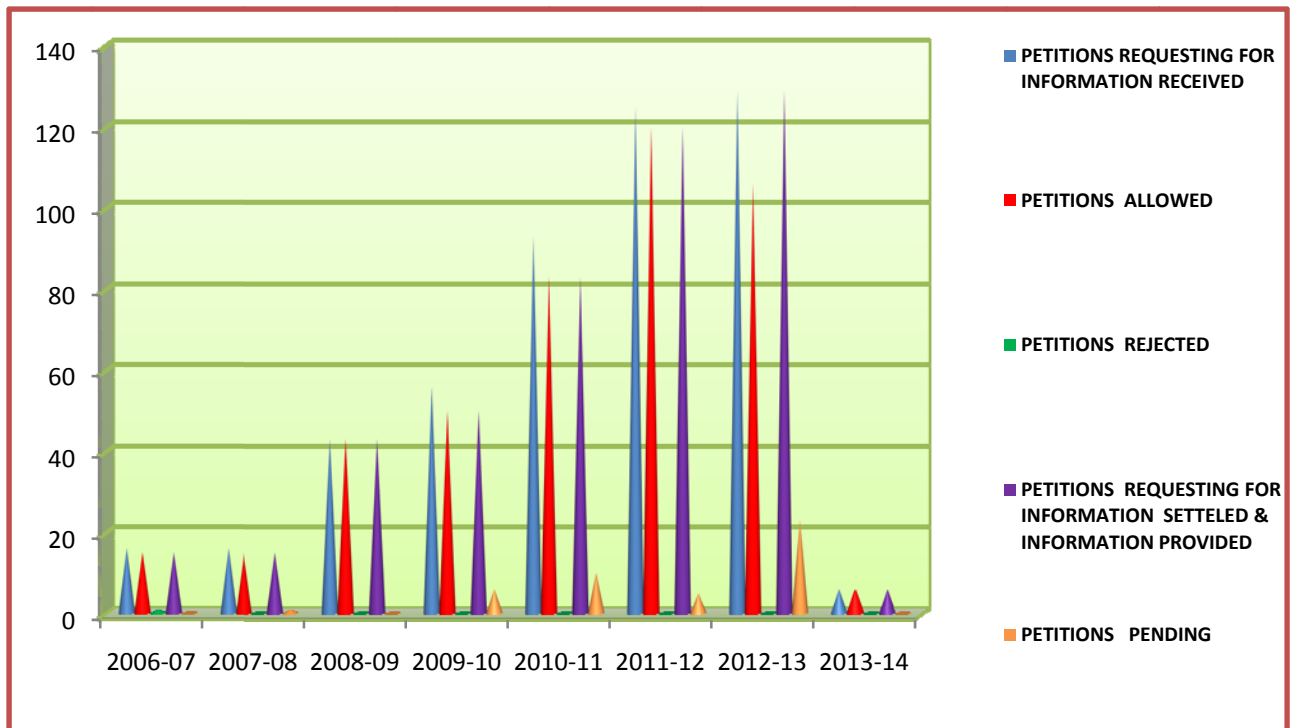
This is an indication that citizens are aware of their right and are approaching the departments of the government to get information on various issues. Further, this is a positive trend to show that the SPIOs are discharging their duties under the Act and the citizens are encouraged to seek information under the act.

**Status of applications received under the RTI Act from
2006 – 07 to 2013 – 14 by Urban Development Department**

YEAR	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	PETITIONS ALLOWED	PETITIONS REJECTED	PETITIONS REQUESTING FOR INFORMATION SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	PETITIONS PENDING
2006-07	16	15	1	15	0
2007-08	16	15	0	15	1
2008-09	43	43	0	43	0
2009-10	56	50	0	50	6
2010-11	93	83	0	83	10
2011-12	125	120	0	120	5
2012-13	129	106	Nil	129	23
2013-14	6	6	0	6	0

(Table No. 9 Ref. para 3.4)

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014**



(Fig No. 5 Ref. para 3.4)

The upward trend of number of information seekers from the department throughout the years is maintained. But, it is drastically reduced during the year 2013-14.

3.5.1. The Commission has called for reports on receipt of petitions under the RTI Act and status of their disposal from all departments and organizations of the Government for analysis and incorporation in the Annual Report of the Commission. During the period under reference the Commission has received returns from 45 departments of the State indicating status of disposal of the petitions. The list of the departments, furnishing information as has been called for by the Commission is given at Table No. 4.

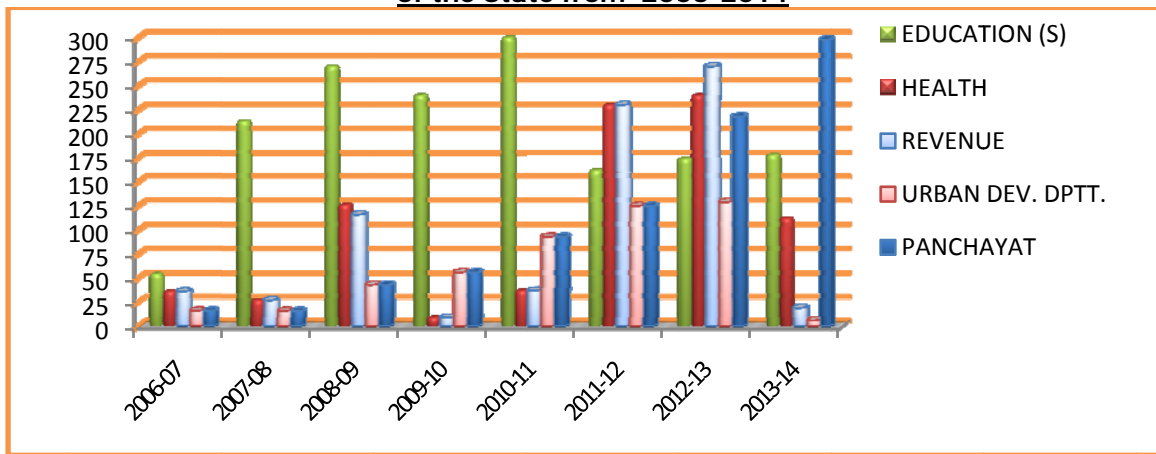
3.5.2. The Commission has closely examined the status in respect of five departments of the government having large public interface. A comparative analysis of the position in respect of petitions received under the Act and their disposal by these five major departments are given as below:

Number of applications received under the Act by five major departments of the State from 2006-2014

YEAR	EDUCATION (S)	HEALTH	REVENUE	URBAN DEV. DPTT.	PANCHAYAT
2006-07	54	36	36	16	16
2007-08	213	27	27	16	16
2008-09	270	126	116	43	43
2009-10	240	9	9	56	56
2010-11	2061	37	37	93	93
2011-12	162	230	230	125	125
2012-13	174	240	270	129	218
2013-14	178	112	19	6	298

(Table No. 10 Ref. para 3.5.2)

Number of applications received under the Act by five major departments of the State from 2006-2014



(Fig No. 6 Ref. para 3.5.2)

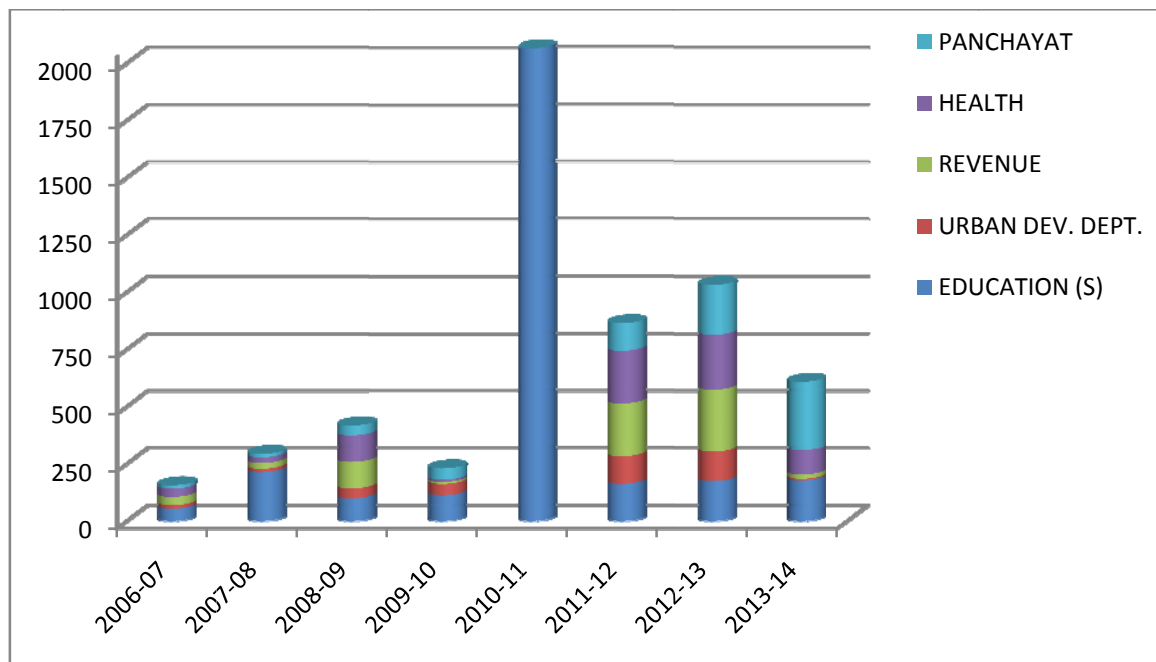
3.5.3. The Commission has considered disposal of petitions under the RTI Act by five major departments of the State having large public interface. For the purpose, the inputs received from the department of Forest, Health, Urban Development, Revenue and Education (School) were considered. The overall position since 2006-07 to 2013-14 is shown as below:

Applications disposed under the Act from 5 departments having large public interface since 2006-2014

YEAR	EDUCATION (S)	URBAN DEV. DEPT.	REVENUE	HEALTH	PANCHAYAT
2006-07	54	15	36	36	15
2007-08	213	15	25	25	15
2008-09	99	43	116	116	43
2009-10	112	50	9	9	50
2010-11	2061	83	37	37	83
2011-12	162	120	230	230	120
2012-13	174	129	270	240	218
2013-14	178	6	19	107	298

(Table No. 11 Ref. para 3.5.3)

Applications disposed under the Act from 5 departments having large public interface since 2006-2014



(Fig No. 7 Ref. para 3.5.3)

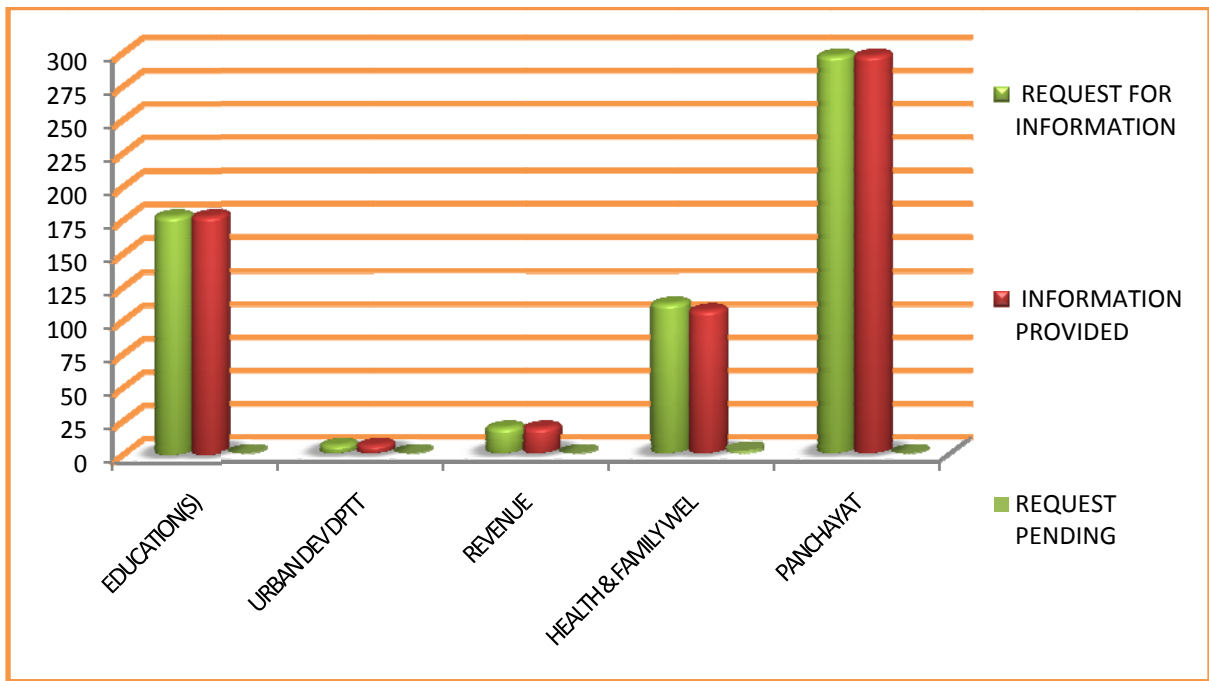
3.5.4. The status of disposal of request for information by different departments has been analyzed in the Commission. The position in respect of five major departments are as given below:

Status of applications received under the Act from 5 departments having large public interface vis-à-vis their status of disposal during 2013-2014

NAME OF DEPARTMENT	REQUEST FOR INFORMATION	INFORMATION PROVIDED	REQUEST PENDING
EDUCATION(S)	178	178	0
URBAN DEVELOPMENT	6	6	0
REVENUE	19	19	0
FAMILY WELFARE	112	107	5
PANCHAYAT	298	298	0

(Table No. 12 Ref. para 3.5.4)

Applications received under the Act from 5 departments having large public interface vis-à-vis their status of disposal during 2013-2014



(Fig No. 8 Ref. para 3.5.4)

3.5.5. The Commission finds that five of the above five departments have kept no request for information pending during the year. However, out of 112 requests for information, Department of Health & Family Welfare had 5 requests pending during the period.

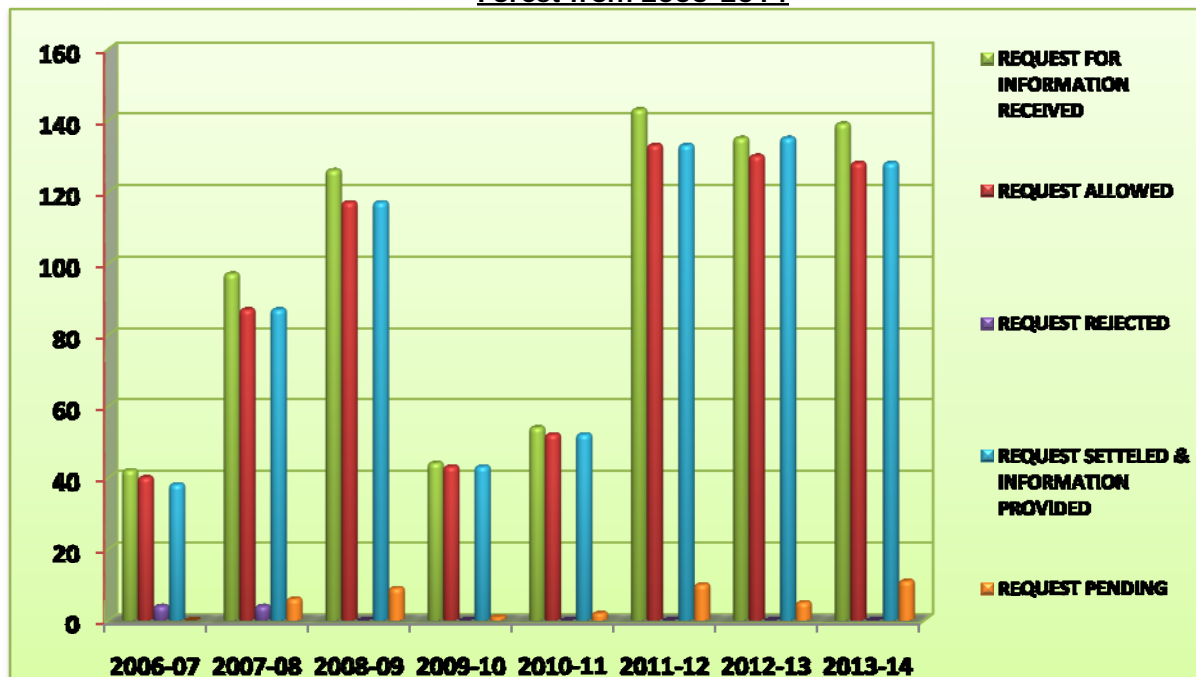
3.5.6. Further analysis of data pertaining to the Department of Forest reveals that in 2013 – 14, 139 applications seeking various information have been received by the Department of Forests. A statement showing the analysis of data covering the period from 2006-07 to 2013-14 as has been prepared, is placed in the tabular form below.

APPLICATIONS UNDER RTI ACT RECEIVED AND DECIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST FROM 2006-2014

YEAR	REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	REQUEST ALLOWED	REQUEST REJECTED	REQUEST SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	REQUEST PENDING
2006-07	42	40	4	38	0
2007-08	97	87	4	87	6
2008-09	126	117	0	117	9
2009-10	44	43	0	43	1
2010-11	54	52	0	52	2
2011-12	143	133	0	133	10
2012-13	135	130	0	135	5
2013-14	139	128	0	128	11

(Table No. 13 Ref. para 3.5.6)

An analysis of status of applications seeking Information received by Department of Forest from 2006-2014



(Fig No. 9 Ref. para 3.5.6)

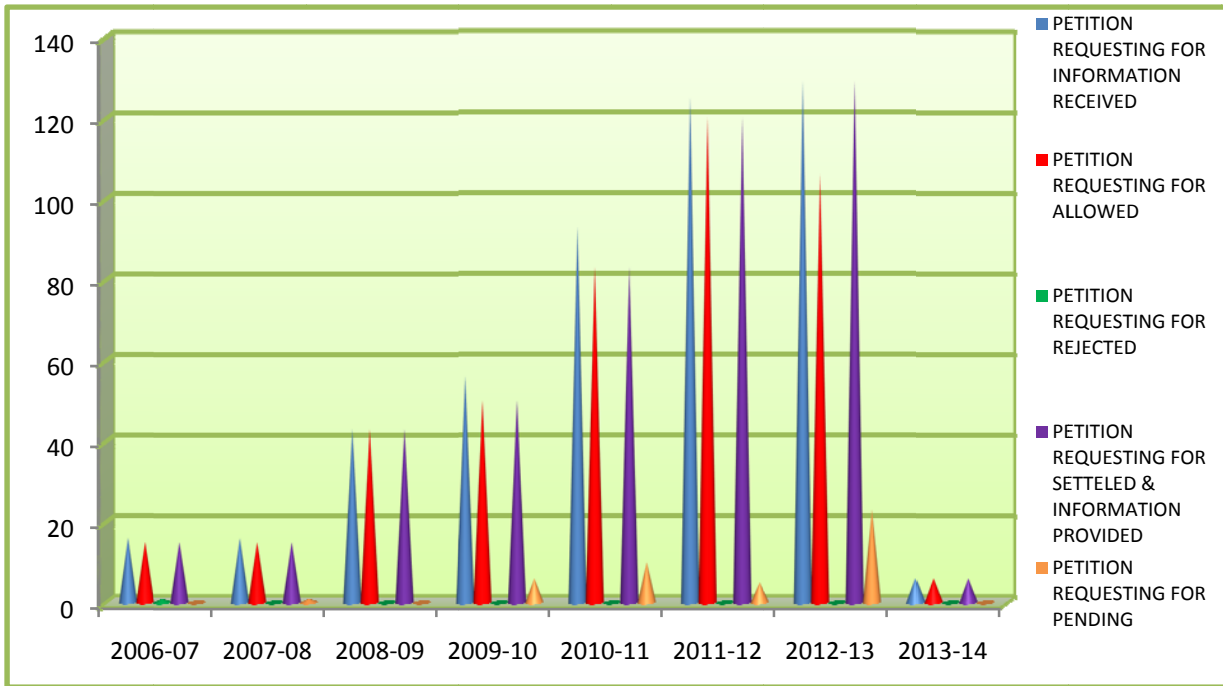
3.5.7. The Commission has also considered the data as has been received from the Department of Urban Development and noted that number of petitions over the years have shown a very steady and consistent rise. While in the year 2012 – 13, 129 petitions under the Act have been received, the department has received 6 petitions seeking various information by the citizens from the Department of Urban Development during 2013 – 14. The data prepared in the tabular form is given below :-

**STATUS OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY URBAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014**

YEAR	REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED	REQUEST ALLOWED	REQUEST REJECTED	REQUEST SETTELED & INFORMATION PROVIDED	REQUEST PENDING
2006-07	16	15	1	15	0
2007-08	16	15	0	15	1
2008-09	43	43	0	43	0
2009-10	56	50	0	50	6
2010-11	93	83	0	83	10
2011-12	125	120	0	120	5
2012-13	129	129	0	106	23
2013-14	6	6	0	6	0

(Table No. 14 Ref. para 3.5.7)

**STATUS OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY URBAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT UNDER RTI ACT FROM 2006-2014**



(Fig No. 10 Ref. para 3.5.7)

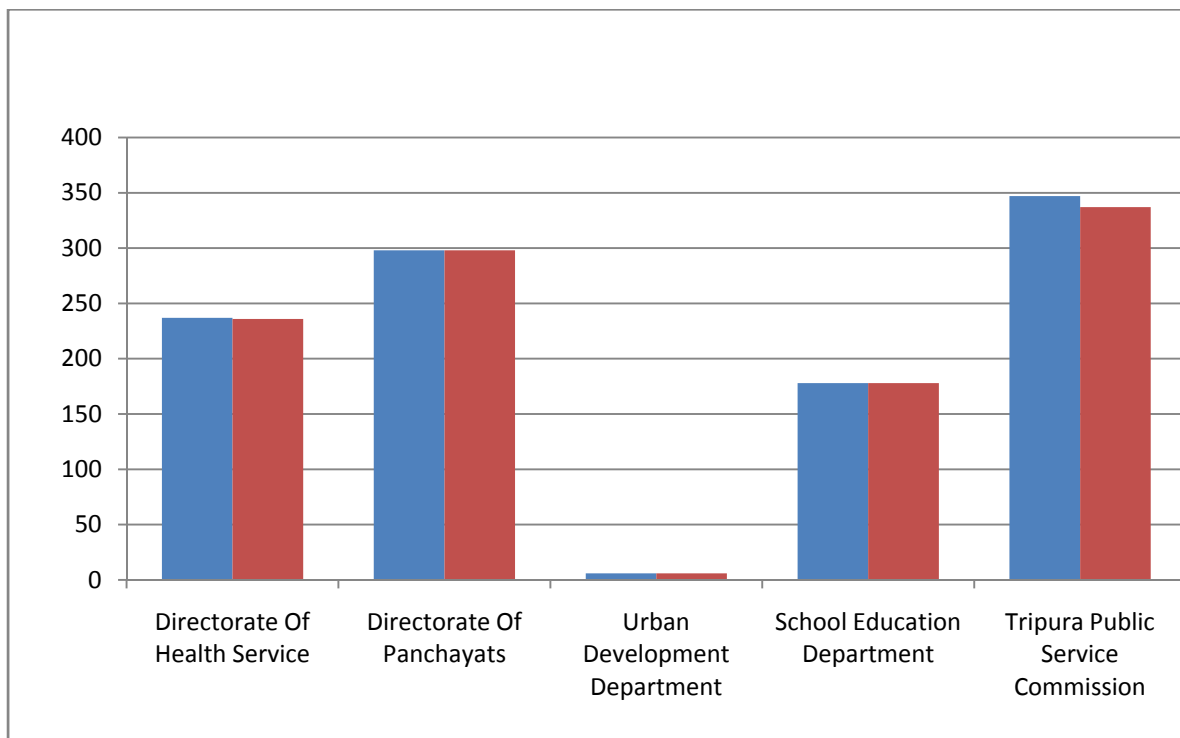
3.5.8. The Commission has also analysed the position in respect of applications received under the Act of five departments having large public interface as identified vis-à-vis their status of disposal during 2013 – 14. The position is given below:

Analysis of petitions received under the Act by 5 departments having large public interface as identified vis-à-vis their status of disposal during 2013-14

Name Of Departments	YEAR	PETITIONS RECIVED	PETITION DISPOSED
Directorate Of Health Service	2013-14	237	236
Directorate Of Panchayats	2013-14	298	298
Urban Development Department	2013-14	6	6
School Education Department	2013-14	178	178
TPSC	2013-14	347	337

(Table No. 15 Ref. para 3.5.8)

Analysis of petitions received under the Act by 5 departments having large public interface as identified vis-à-vis their status of disposal during 2013-14



(Fig No. 11 Ref. para 3.5.8)

3.5.9 Commission would like to highlight that however, when a Public Information Officer fails to provide information sought within the statutory period of 30 days, the information is to be provided free of cost as provided under Section 7(6) of RTI Act. The Commission has noted that more often the Public Information Officers do not initiate any action towards supply of information within the statutory period resulting in supply of voluminous information free of cost causing loss to the Government.

3.5.10 The position about fees collected and additional fees collected under Section 7(1) read with with Rule 7 of Tripura Right to Information Rules , 2008 by various departments during 2013-14.

Sl. No	Name of Department (Public Authorities) Since	Fees Collected Section 6(1) (Rs)	Addl. Fees Collected Section 7(1) (Rs)
1	Directorate of Animal Resources Dev.	90	278
2	Rural Development Department	50	00
3	Directorate Of Panchayats	951	5309
4	Directorate of Health Services	2130	8394
5	ICFAI University	50	00
6	Directorate Of Handloom Handicrafts & Sericulture	01	00
7	Urban Development Department	10	00
8	Planning Department	20	00
9	Labour Department	160	3352
10	Directorate Of Youth Affairs & Sports	00	00
11	Office Of The Director Fire Service	00	00
12	Governor's Secretariat	10	00
13	The Police Accountability Commission, Tripura.	10	00
14	Prisons Directorate	70	04
15	Directorate Of Information & Cultural Affairs	200	534
16	Department of Fisheries	70	116
17	Department Of Science Technology & Environment	40	22
18	High Court Of Tripura	210	45
19	Tripura State Co-Operative Bank Limited	40	00
20	G.A (P & T) Department	550	2142
21	Chief Minister's Secretariat	410	00
22	Department of Agriculture	540	150
23	Directorate of Family Welfare & P.M.	250	510
24	Office Of The Registrar Of Cooperative Societies	220	412
25	Tripura Public Service Commission	3470	286
26	General Administration(SA) Department	150	238
27	Directorate of School Education	1560	2766
28	Directorate Of Food, Civil Supplies And Consumer Affairs	1220	1014
29	Directorate Of Tribal Rehabilitation In Plantation & Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group	40	02
30	Tripura Legislative Assembly Secretariat	32 1149	884
31	Public Works Department (R & B)	630	1480
32	Revenue Department	190	126

33	Tripura Board Of Secondary Education	140	00
34	GA (CONFIDENTIAL & CABINET) Department	10	18
35	Transport Department	570	570
36	Directorate Of Higher Education	860	1134
37	Directorate Of Social Welfare & Social Education	280	88
38	Election Department	410	7278
39	General Administration (AR) Department	170	1329
40	Law Department	330	168
41	G.A. (Printing & Stationery) Department	90	50
42	Directorate Of Industries & Commerce	210	178
43	Directorate of Welfare for SCH. Tribes	230	412
44	Home Department	1280	86
45	Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.	1165	3305
Grand Total		20,236	42,680

(Table No. 16 Ref. para 3.5.10)

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Chapter- IV
Disposal of Appeals and Complaints

The request for information made by a person under Section 6(1) or 6(3) has to be disposed in a specific time schedule as mandated under Section 7(1) of the Act. The relevant Section of the RTI Act is reproduced below :

“ 6(1) a person who desires to obtain any information under this Act, shall make a request in writing or through electronic means in English or Hindi or in the official language of the area in which the application is being made, accompanying such fee as may be prescribed, to (a) the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be of the concerned public authority; (b) the Central Assistant Public Information Officer or State Assistant Public Information Officer, as the case may be, specifying the particulars of the information sought by him or her; provided that where such cannot be made in writing, the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, shall render all reasonable assistance to the person making the request orally to reduce the same in writing”.

The RTI Act has also provided right of appeal to the information seeker who does not receive the decision or is aggrieved by the decision of the SPIO. He has the recourse to filing a first appeal to the First Appellate Authority (FAA) who is an officer senior in rank to the SPIO under each Public Authority. The relevant provision is reproduced below:

“19(1) Any person who does not receive a decision within the time specified in sub-section (1) or clause (a) of sub-section (3) of Section 7 or is aggrieved by a decision of the Central Public Information officer or State Public Information

Officer, as the case may be, may within thirty days from the expiry of such period or from the receipt of such a decision prefer an appeal to such officer who is senior in rank to the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer as the case may be, in each public authority. Provided that such officer may admit the appeal after the expiry of the period of thirty days if he or she is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal in time. 19(2) Where an appeal is preferred against an order made by a Central Public Information Officer or a State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, under Section 11 to disclose third party information, the appeal by the concerned third party shall be made within thirty days from the date of the order ”.

During the year, information was collected from various Public Authorities about the number of first appeals received on the decisions of the SPIOs. Information received from 45 Public Authorities. During the year under report 137 first appeals were received by 164 First Appellate Authorities. Out of the first appeals received during the year, 128 were disposed and 9 were pending at the end of the year. The same is presented in Table below:

SL. NO	ITEMS	
1.	No of Public Authority	45
2.	No of Appeals Received by FAA	137
3.	No. of Appeals Disposed of by FAA	128
4.	No. of Appeals pending in by FAA	9

(Table No. 17)

The Commission has also collected data about disposals of applications within schedule time and beyond the schedule time of 30 days.

The Act has also mandated that appeals under sub-Section (1) or sub-Section(2) of Section 19 relating to the first appeals before the First Appellate Authorities shall be disposed of within 30 days of the receipt of the appeal or within such extended period not exceeding 45 days from the date of filing thereof.

The RTI Act contains provision for filing the Second Appeal before the Tripura Information Commission upon orders of the SPIOs and FAAs under Section 19(3) of the Act. There is also a provision in the Act to receive complaints and enquire into such complaints by the State Information Commission under Section 18(1) of the Act .The relevant Sections for receiving Complaints and Second appeals are reproduced below:

"18(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall be the duty of the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, as the case may be, to receive and inquire into a complaint from any person, - (a) who has been unable to submit a request to a Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, either by reason that no such officer has been appointed under this Act , or because the Central Assistant Public Information Officer or State Assistant Public Information officer as the case may be, has refused to accept his or her application for information or appeal under this act for forwarding the same to the Central Public Information Officer or state Public Information officer or senior officer specified in sub-section (1) of Section 19 or the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be; (b) who has been refused access to any information requested under this Act; (c) who has not been given a response to a request for information or access to information within the time limit specified under this Act; (d) who has been required to pay an amount of fee which he or she considers unreasonable; (e) who believes that he or she has been given incomplete, misleading or false information under this Act and (f) in respect of any other matter relating to requesting or obtaining access to records under this Act ".

“ 19(3) A second appeal against the decision under sub-section(1) shall lie within ninety days from the date on which the decision should have been made or was actually received, with the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission. Provide that the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be, may admit the appeal after the expiry of the period of ninety days if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal in time”.

During the year under review, the Commission has received a total of 43 complaints/second appeals from the aggrieved parties. Out of the 43, 18 were received as appeals under Section 19(3) while 25 complaints were received and admitted as complaints under Section 18 of the Act.

All the 43 complaints and appeals received by the Commission during the year were disposed of by the Commission. The Commission has also captured data from inception about the number of complaints and appeals received during the year 2005-06 onwards and upto 2013-14 and disposal thereof. The data is in Table 16.

The number of complaints and appeals received during 2013-14 more or less hovered around the figures during 2012-13 with marginal increase.

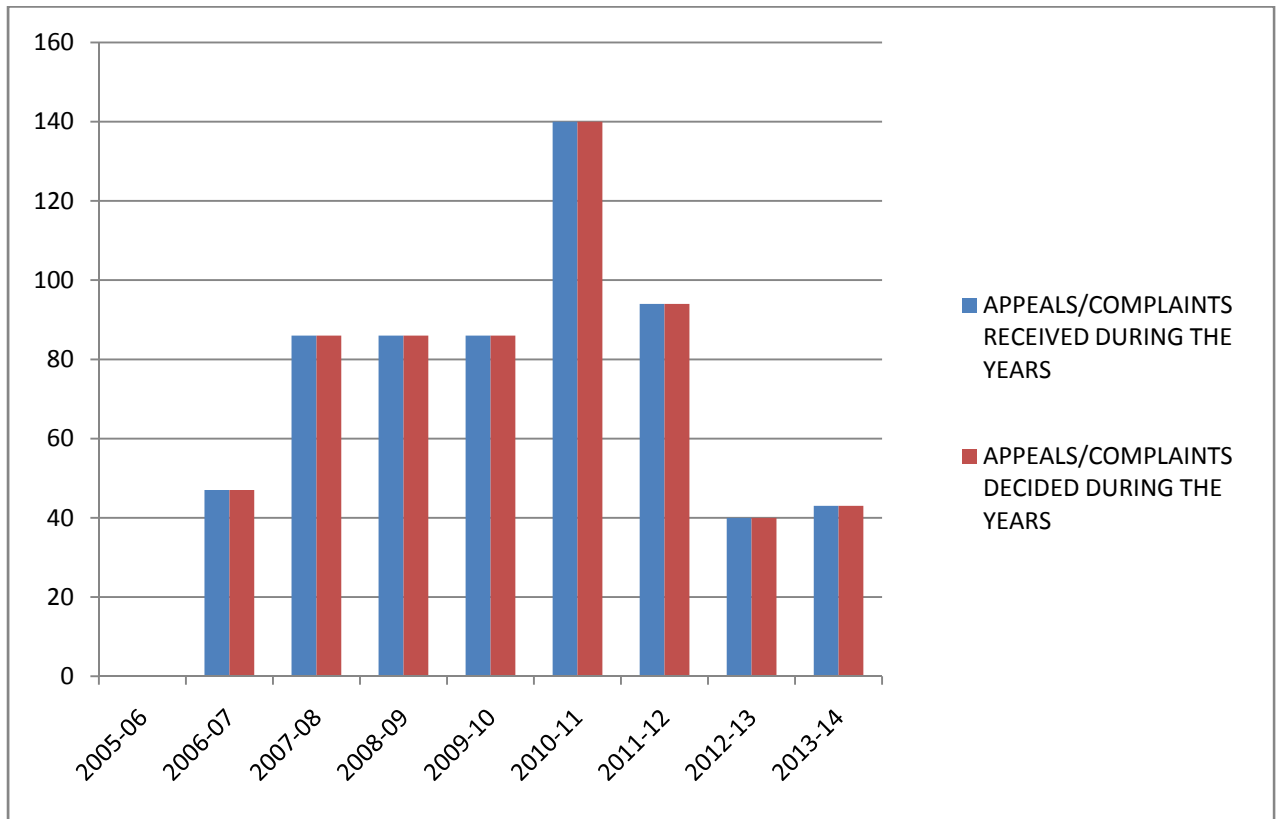
It is the endeavour of the Commission to dispose of complaints and appeals expeditiously duly giving adequate opportunity to the parties involved. The Commission will continue its efforts in this direction.

STATUS OF APPEALS & COMPLAINTS RECEIVED/DECIDED BY THE COMMISSION OVER THE YEARS

<u>FINANCIAL YEAR</u>	<u>APPEALS/COMPLAINTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEARS</u>	<u>APPEALS/COMPLAINTS DECIDED DURING THE YEARS</u>
2005-06	0	0
2006-07	47	47
2007-08	86	86
2008-09	86	86
2009-10	86	86
2010-11	140	140
2011-12	94	94
2012-13	40	40
2013-14	43	43

(Table No. 18)

NUMBER OF APPEALS & COMPLAINTS RECEIVED/DECIDED BY THE COMMISSION OVER THE YEARS



(Fig No. 12)

Chapter V

Observations and Recommendations

5.1 Tripura Information Commission in its Annual Reports for the years 2005 - 06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and also in this report for 2013-14 made some observations and had offered several recommendations to the State Government for early implementation. Some of the recommendations that have been made are to be implemented by the Central Government, while the implementation of the rest are the obligation of the State Government.

5.2 Section 19(7) of the right to Information Act, 2005 stipulates that the decision of the Information Commission shall be binding. The Act, however, is silent about the action to be contemplated, in case there is non-compliance. There are instances of non-compliances of the orders passed earlier by the Commission. Therefore, it is suggested that a new sub-section to the Section 20 of the Act needs to be inserted empowering the Commission to enforce its decisions including penalizing the head of the Public Authority for continued contempt of its orders. The amount of penalty imposed or compensation awarded by the Commission should be made recoverable as an arrear of land revenue. It is, therefore, suggested that a separate sub-section of Section 20 may be added for the purpose.

5.2.1 Systemic Reforms in Record Management: Indexing of record is an integral part to locate important information for quick disposal of appeals with in the time frame. Without managing and indexing of records, it would not be possible to effectively provide access information to the citizen as contemplated in the Act. Generating awareness and increased use of computers for strong data base will go a long way to ensure proper dissemination of information with a gradual shift to

automated environment and would bring overall efficiency in governance. The Record Management Information System(RMIS) has been developed in the Commission with technical support from the NIC is to be introduced in all government departments. The Commission has requested the State Government to introduce such system after taking support from the NIC after customizing the System to suit requirements of individual departments of the government. Digitization of file index is an immediate requirement in all departments of the government. However, no department has as yet attempted any such action towards digitization of file index or adopting any of the state of the art record management system.

5.2.2 The Commission has examined the 'Record Retention Schedule' common to All Departments as published on 06-04-2000 by the General Administration(A.R.) Department, Government of Tripura, and is of the view that this Schedule does not cover maintenance and management of all public records by various Departments / agencies of the government, public sector undertakings, statutory bodies, corporations and commissions. The Commission has noted that retention period of files and many important issues like acquisition of private land for government projects etc. have not been discussed in the Record Retention Schedule of the government nor the method of destruction of very old records have been spelled out. Moreover, it is only an executive instruction for retention of records without having any legal cover for the responsibilities of the record creating agencies with respect to arrangement, management, custody, weeding out and preservation of public records. The above instructions also do not provide instruction on the method regarding weeding out of old records. The Commission, therefore, recommends for revisiting the issue by the GA (AR) Departments of the State Government for issue of specific guidelines to individual departments to prepare Record Retention Schedule Specific to the Departments (RRSSD). While information seekers request for information from very old records, SPIOs cannot refuse to provide such record as without adhering to Record Retention Schedule,

no record is allowed to be destroyed and the SPIOs are bound to provide the information subject to the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

5.3 Support to the Tripura Information Commission: For efficient and smooth functioning of Tripura Information Commission, the State Government may consider to extend the following support to the Commission on priority:-

Required number of posts at appropriate levels may be created for Tripura Information Commission with a view to adequately staff the Commission for due discharge of its functions.

5.4 Tripura Information Commission observes that some of SPIOs are not serious to dispose of the applications seeking information within time limit as contemplated in the Act. More often, only when the information seekers approach the Commission, and the Commission issues summons, the SPIOs initiate action on the petitions. As a result the information is provided after the statutory period of 30(thirty) days, either by the SPIOs on their own or after the directions to provide information are received from the Commission. In the process the information seekers, though suffer from delay in receiving information, get the benefit of section 7(6) of the Act and are not required to pay further fees towards cost of providing information causing loss of revenue to the Government. The authorities responsible to provide information need to ensure that cost of providing information in the form of copying the documents are realized and deposited to Government exchequer by disposal of applications for information within the statutory period prescribed under Section 7(1) of the Act. State Government may sensitize the SPIOs and public authorities in this regard.

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APPENDIX - IV

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION(ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS) DEPARTMENT

NoF.3(5)-GA(AR)/2005/P-III Dated, Agartala the 10th October, 2005

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of Section 15(2) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 the Governor is please to decide that the Tripura Information Commission shall consist of one State Chief Information Commissioner and one State Information Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.

2. The above decision take immediate effect.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(S. C. Das)

Commissioner & Secretary to the
Government of Tripura

APPENDIX-III

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS) DEPARTMENT

No.G.3(5)-GA(AR)/2005/VI

Dated, Agartala the 27th Sept., 2005

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 24(4) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, it is hereby notified that the Right to Information Act, 2005 shall not apply to the Home(Police) Department of the Government of Tripura including its Forensic Science Laboratory;

Provided that the said Act, 2005 shall apply to the Home(Police) Department in respect of any information pertaining to any allegation of corruption and human rights violation.

Provided further that if the information sought for is in respect of allegations of violation of human rights, the information shall only be provided after the approval of the State Information Commission and, notwithstanding anything contained in section 7, such information shall be provided within forty-five days from the date of the receipt of request.

2. This takes immediate effect.

Sd/-
(L. H. Darlong)
Addl. Secretary to the
Government of Tripura

No.G.3(5)-GA(AR)/2006/(P-I)/1481-82
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS) DEPARTMENT

Dated, Agartala the 9th August, 2005

It has been decided by the State Government that SIPARD shall be the Implementing Agency of RTI Act, 2005 in the State of Tripura.

Henceforth, the SIPARD shall be responsible for organizing educational & training programmes, preparation of teaching materials including compilation and publication of the guidelines relating to RTI Act.

This shall have with immediate effect.

Sd/-
(A. Debnath)
(Under Secretary to the Government of Tripura)