

4.7 Replies to questions asked in the parliament

Parliament Questions and Replies

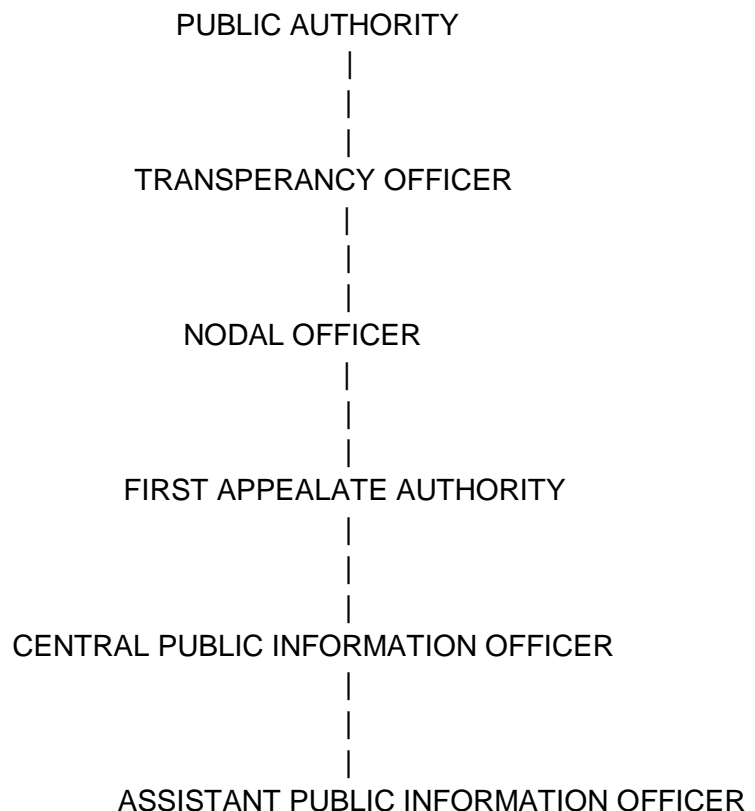
RIGHT TO INFORMATION

1. **What is the existing mechanism in your establishment to deal with RTI? Whether a separate RTI Cell is functional in your Organization? If yes, furnish details of the structure, mandate and functioning thereof. If no, reasons there for.**

All Divisions of the Company have appointed APIOs, PIOs and First Appellate Authorities to handle RTI Applications. Apart from the above, Corporate Office has appointed Transparency Officer & Nodal Officer also.

Separate RTI Cells are functioning in the Company. The Structure of the Cells are as follows:

Corporate Level



Divisional Level

FIRST APPEALATE AUTHORITY



CENTRAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

ASSISTANT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

2. **What is the percentage / number of Appeals of RTI Applications in the last three years? Give justifications thereof.**

Year	No. of RTI Applications received	No. of Appeals received	% of Appeals to RTI Applications
2022-23	1312	101	7.69%
2021-22	1426	118	8.27%
2020-21	1019	73	7.16%
Average Per annum	1252	97	7.74%

As can be seen, the number of appeals is in single digit in % terms and averaged around 7.74% during the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2023. Appeals are primarily against decision of CPIO denying information under Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005 (personal information, third party information etc.) or details sought in the application is not covered under Section 2(f) of RTI Act, 2005 wherein the term 'information' is defined.

3. **Please specify the details with regard to proactive disclosure on the guidelines issued by DoPT. To what extent the Organization was able to comply therewith and also explain the difficulties in doing so.**

Proactive disclosures as per DOPT Guidelines and are as per Section 4(1) (b) of the RTI Act – 2005 are made by HAL in its website www.hal-india.co.in.

Information on the website is updated periodically. The Organization has been able to comply with the directives given on proactive disclosures. No difficulties are faced by the Organization in respect of proactive disclosures.

- 4. Whether the Organization has ever reviewed the RTI mechanism in the Organization with a view to assess the efficiency of its functioning, whether proactive disclosure resulted in reduction in the number of RTI applications, if so, the details of steps taken with regard to the speedier collection and supply of the information.**

The Organization had reviewed the RTI mechanism and conducted a Workshop during 2011, which was attended by CMD, Directors and other Senior Officers. The then CIC Dr M M Ansari had guided the Workshop.

Proactive disclosures are made and general information is available to the public, thereby reducing related queries. Efforts are being made to dispose the RTI Applications earlier than the stipulated period of 30 days. Furthermore, Applications received online are being disposed of online only, to save time.

- 5. Please comment on the need regarding the number of first appeals and second appeals against the CPIO decisions.**

Generally, appeals are pertaining to information which falls under Section 8(1) of the Act; personal information; and clarifications, grievances & complaints which do not fall under the purview of the RTI Act.

Correct knowledge on RTI among the general public as to information which cannot be sought under the Act could reduce the number of 1st Appeals and 2nd Appeals.

- 6. Whether the Organization feels that the workload of the Organization has increased owing to handling of RTI Applications.**

No.

- 7. Please comment if there have been systemic improvements in the Organization and its impact *vis-à-vis* RTI applications.**

No Policy & Rules have been changed in the Organisation on account of RTI Applications. However, various Manuals and SOPs are being updated from time to time.

- 8. Whether there have been any occasion that resulted in penalty on CPIO. If yes, cite nature of the case.**

No.

- 9. Whether the CPIO in the Organization have adequately been trained / equipped to handle the responsibility. If not, reasons thereof and constrains, if any.**

PIOs in the Organisation have been adequately trained. No constraints are faced in providing the information sought.