

Workshops, Meetings and list of CGCC:

Annex. 3.A State Level Launch Meeting (SLLM)

3.1. Background:

3.1.1 A State Level Launch cum Brainstorming Workshop of the project ‘Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State, India, by Applying RTI Act as a Tool’ on April 18, 2007 at Conference Hall, Patel Bhawan, HCM-RIPA, Jaipur.



3.1.2 The project was in partnership with the Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF), an international NGO based in Washington DC, USA dedicated to helping civil society to play an effective role in the design, implementation and monitoring of national anti-corruption programs.

3.1.3 The project is being implemented in two administrative districts of Rajasthan state viz., Jaipur and Tonk with a rural community based approach. Its overall objective is awareness generation, provoking /encouraging the common citizens towards application of RTI Act; empowering the CSOs and the vulnerable sections at the grassroots supporting in improving functioning of the existing accountability mechanisms; and advocate with the policy makers for effective implementation of RTI Act for ensuring good governance and accountability.

3.2 Participants:

3.2.1 The dignitaries participated in the event were Shri. Wajahat Habibullah, Central Chief Information Commissioner, New Delhi, Shri C.D. Arah, Chief Information Commissioner Andhra Pradesh, Shri J.V.R. Murty, The World Bank, Mumbai and Ms. Sonal Thacker, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Gujarat.

3.2.2 The event witnessed an active participation of around hundred relevant stakeholders representing various CSOs, Government Officials of concerned department, media persons and other individuals working/interested on the RTI issue.

3.3 Proceedings:

3.3.1 Inaugural Session:

3.3.1.1 The Workshop commenced with welcome and introductory remarks by Shri George Cheriyan, Associate Director, CUTS-CART. Shri Cheriyan stated that the event to launch the Project is very important, since it is coinciding with the First Anniversary of the constitution of Rajasthan Information Commission. Speaking on the importance and relevance of the RTI Act, Shri Cheriyan opined that RTI is one of the most empowering legislations passed in the post Independent India. In contrast to the official secretariat act of 1923, the right to information act alleviates the common man to the status of an informed partner in the matter of governance of the State. He said the act is having a big potential in ensuring the transparency and accountability.

3.3.1.2 Shri R.K. Sharma, CUTS-CART made a power point presentation on the various aspects of the project covering the background, the objectives, major activities, expected outcomes etc.

3.3.1.3 Shri C.D. Arah, Chief Information Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh, who was the Guest of Honour in the event, while delivering the special address spoke about different clauses of Right to Information Act. He pointed out the need to build capacity of general public regarding the usage of Right to Information Act. According to him, selection of mode/method to impart/disseminate knowledge and information regarding Right to Information Act is critical. In a state like Rajasthan, remoteness and backwardness is a challenge to disseminate the awareness about Right to Information Act, opined Shri Arah.

3.3.1.4 Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Central Chief Information Commissioner, who was the Chief Guest in the meeting, formally launched the project and delivered the inaugural address. While delivering the inaugural address, Shri Habibullah said “Right to Information Act is a tool no a weapon”. He opined that RTI Act should be used in a cordial manner that could address corruption up to some extent and ensure transparency and accountability. Further, he added that there is ardent necessity to orient public as well as public servants about RTI Act so that it can be collectively used for the development of the country. He highlighted that combined force of Consumer Protection Act and Right to Information Act in hands of common men could prove to be a big tool to combat corruption. He also expressed that there is a need to develop ‘Information Technology’ in government departments to facilitate the process of information dissemination under Right to Information Act. Ensuring use of modern methods of communications such as emails etc. could provide a breakthrough and unlock new dimensions to transparency and accountability in Public Sector.

3.3.1.5 Mr. Habibullah responded to a number of questions raised by participants after his inaugural address. Mr. R.K. Sharma had done the comb airing of the inaugural session and proposed the vote of thanks to the dignitaries at the end of the session

3.3.2 Technical Session:

3.3.2.1 Mr. R.K. Sharma introduced the Technical Session on ‘RTI Act (2005) and its Potential being a tool to ensure transparency and accountability in the government system’ to the participants. Mr. Murty moderated the session. Mr. J.V.R. Murty, The World Bank, Mumbai made a brief presentation on “A Framework of Accountability Relationships”

3.3.2.2 While facilitating the technical session, Ms. Sonal Thacker from CHRI, Gujarat introduced various aspects and clauses of Right to Information Act and its implications. She also presented various success as well as failure stories, related to the use of RTI Act.

3.3.2.3 The presentation was followed by an interactive session. Mr. Murty and Ms. Sonal responded to various questions raised by the participants. Simultaneously, the participants also provided very useful suggestions that will help in the implementation of various activities under the project.

3.3.2.4 Ms. Ritu Agarwal proposed the vote of thanks in end and the workshop concluded with lunch.

3.4 Outcomes:

3.4.1 The presence of the Chief Information Commissioner of India and other dignitaries in the launch meeting helped in attracting the attention of the Government, media and the general public in to the design of the project and initiated a public debate regarding the potential of the act in combating corruption.

3.4.2 The event provided an adequate forum to propagate projects’ aims and objectives among relevant stakeholders and also discussing related issues.

3.4.3 This meeting provided an opportunity to build a synergy between different stakeholders, representatives of target groups from the grassroots of the respective districts and to discuss collectively on the issues related to the effective implementation of Right to Information Act.

3.4.4 The meeting also provided an opportunity to the representatives of CSOs, Government Officials of concerned departments and other individuals to get acquainted with various technical aspects and clauses of Right to Information Act.

3.4.5 The event witnessed a very good participation of both electronic and print media Journalists and resulted in wider coverage.

Annexure-3.B

Brief Report on Orientation Workshop for Surveyors –

3.B.1 Background

Under the project, a Field Survey has been planned for making a “Critical Analysis ” of the RTI Act along with certain other Acts and selected Citizen Charters, in order to assemble perceptions on corruption and know about its factual status; assessing level of understanding on above Acts and Charters of the common citizens, government officials, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) etc. So a two days Orientation Workshop for selected surveyors on June 28-29, 2007 at Centre’s premises Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur.

3.B.2 Objectives:

To orient surveyors thoroughly in order to assemble responses of the common citizens and relevant persons about the issues mentioned in the questionnaire in an appropriate manner.

To train how to make useful visits to selected government departments at divisional level for the purpose of conducting the questionnaire survey.

To train on collection of adequate supporting data, data feeding in the questionnaire format and primary analysis of the data.

To make them aware about their survey areas, samplings, time limitations etc for timely complete the survey.

3.B.3 Participants

Prior to the Orientation Workshop for filling of questionnaires and administering the Filed Survey, a careful selection of surveyors was done in operational area of the project. For that, the network of CUTS CART was used as a tool and besides that the Project Management Team (PMT) made regular visits in the field area and met with different stakeholders to get a feedback on the potential surveyors.

The key criteria for selecting the surveyors was their individual creditability in their respective area/localities, general understanding to identify corrupt practices, so far interventions in governance related issues, eagerness to reveal corruption in the society, fundamental knowledge/information about functioning of various service providing departments/agencies of the government and willingness to associate with CUTS CART, especially in its key programmatic area of “good governance”.

Besides the PMT and their senior colleagues from CUTS CART and primarily selected 14 surveyors from different blocks of the Jaipur and Tonk districts, Kavita Verma from the Department of Good Governance, Harish Chandra Mathur – Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration (HCM-RIPA) participated as Resource Person.

Proceedings:

3.B.4 Day One - June 28, 2007

3.B.4.1 Registration:

The invited participants were formally registered for the Orientation Workshop. During the registration session, participants discussed informally the work being done by them in their respective areas (geographical & thrust).

3.B.4.2 Inaugural Session

The Orientation Workshop commenced with welcome and introductory remarks by George Cheriyan of CUTS CART. After a brief introduction of CUTS International and its different Centres located in and outside the country, Cheriyan introduced the aims and objectives of the project by stating that “approach is not to use the project as a weapon against the government machinery but as a tool to curb corruption and related practices that ultimately assure a high degree of accountability in functioning of the government”.

Then Cheriyan introduced Kavita Verma to the audience and invited her to lead the technical session on ‘Right to Information and Good Governance’.

3.B.4.3 Technical Sessions

Kavita Verma began the technical session by explaining the role of “participatory approach” in good governance. She further explained some key characteristics of good governance i.e. accountability, transparency etc. She also explained the people’s accountability factor towards assuring good governance.

Next, she explained salient features of the RTI Act including definitions of various terms envisaged in the Act such “proactive disclosure”, “penalties’ and process of getting information, duration for providing the requisite information to applicant, fees etc.

In order to ensure the internalisation of key provisions of the RTI Act by the participants, she presented certain examples of evoking the Act effectively. She also clarified the queries that were raised by the audience. In conclusion, she expressed her good wishes to the target audience for the success of Field Survey in their respective areas.

Taking an opportunity of the event, the audience requested Kavita Verma to release the first quarterly newsletter under the project titled, *Soochna Hi Shakti Hai* (Information is Power). The newsletter was distributed amongst the audience, which they find it very useful.

Following the technical *session*, Ajnish Bishwas and Siba Prasad from CUTS CART jointly took sessions on the *Lokayukta Act 1973*, *Anti Corruption Act 1988* and *Citizens Charters* that have been selected for Critical Analysis under the project.

Ajnish Bishwas and Siba Prasad explained the legal remedies to combat corruption as well as how to evoke them as and when required. They clarified various queries that were raised by the participants during the session. After the conclusion of the session, the participants were invited for lunch.

In post lunch session, R K Sharma presented a detail overview of the project. He explained the methodologies/techniques that have to be applied while conducting the Field Survey, which included identifying appropriate interviewees, how to approach them in a convincing manner, the tone and tenor while asking questions etc.

The participants were thoroughly oriented on the draft questionnaire that has been developed by CUTS CART, including explanation of each question with its relevance, its sequence etc.

Following that the surveyors were divided into two groups: one group as “interviewer” and the other as “interviewee”. This practical exercise was done as a rehearsal of the Field Survey and field test of the questionnaire also in order to develop confidence amongst the surveyors for asking questions on sensitive issues such as “prevailing corruption in different department of the government”.

After this exercise, the surveyors were assembled again and were asked to share their feelings/observations while practicing the rehearsal and also to suggest suitable changes/amendment, if any. Further, the draft questionnaire was modified by incorporating the valuable suggestions from the surveyors, along with a briefing of the day-long proceeding. At this, the workshop concluded for its first day.

Day Two - June 29, 2007

3.B.4.4 Recap of Previous Day:

The second day of the Orientation Workshop started with quick recap of the activities of day one. The participants were very enthusiastic towards the Field Survey, and in addition to their previous day’s suggestions, they provided a few more good suggestions that emerged out of their collective informal discussion they had after the formal conclusion the Orientation Workshop.

These suggestions were mainly for the Part B of the questionnaire that is being developed exclusively for the government officials representing different departments.

3.B.4.5 Group Exercise

After being grouped into two, the target group was assigned with the task for practicing the modified questionnaire. Finally, a detail collective discussion by involving the PMT took place and various other necessary modalities for the Field Survey were discussed and explained to the surveyors.

Each surveyor was assigned with a particular block where she/he has to conduct the survey, the duration in which the task has to accomplish, as per budget and also the numbers of forms were fixed for each block. For details, please see

3.B.4.6 CGCC Formation Process

An encouraging development also took place on day two of the Orientation Workshop when the surveyors shown interest in joining the Consortium of Groups Combating Corruption (CGCC). Not only that, they assured to motivate a few more active groups/individuals to associate with the CGCC and also the citizens in their respective area/localities to file applications in different departments under the purview of the RTI Act.

On this the PMT briefed the surveyors on maintaining systematic records of applications that would be filed in from their area. However, the process of CGCC formation was started prior to organization of the Orientation Workshop. With that, a vote of thanks followed by lunch, the Orientation Workshop was concluded.

3.B.5 Outcomes

Creation of awareness about the project and ensuring their active association for the successful accomplishment of the project activities

Forming a better understanding on RTI Act, *Lokayukta* Act 1973, Anti Corruption Act 1988 and Citizens Charters in coherence with the “accountability” and “good governance” factors;

Ensuring not only an effective field survey but also facilitating collection of citizens’ and government officials’ perceptions, including essential ground level primary data that will be used as a key input for an impressive Critical Analysis.

The coverage of the event in media will further strengthen the ties with them and also draw the attention of the policy makers to think about more measures that could help defeat corruption.

Annex. 3.C Divisional level Workshops (DLWs)

1. Background

1.1 Two different Divisional Level Workshops of two-days for the Consortium of the Groups for Combating Corruption (CGCC) formed under the project were held. The first DLW was on July 27 & 28, 2007 at Conference Hall, Rajasthan Institute of Cooperative Education and Management (RICEM), Jaipur and second was on August 6-7, 2007, at the State Institute of Agriculture and Management, Tonk, Rajasthan.

2. Objectives of the two days workshop

2.1 Awareness generation regarding RTI act, encouraging the common citizens towards application of this act as a tool in addressing corruption in the governance.

2.2 Empowering the CSOs/CBOs and vulnerable sections of the community at the grassroots in curbing the corrupt practices by improving functioning of the existing accountability mechanisms and legal measures.

2.3 To advocate with the policy makers to sharpen further specific tools i.e. The RTI Act, ensuring good governance and accountability in order to address the deep-rooted corruption in the state.

2.4 Revealing the corrupt practices and officials pertaining to the selected five departments i.e. Panchayati Raj & Rural Development (PR & RD), Police, Revenue, and Food & Civil Supply, PHED.

2.5 To assign CGCC for achieving a minimum target of submission of two hundred fifty applications under the RTI act by the public. Thus, a total of five hundred RTI applications in the Ajmer and Jaipur divisions will be filed by the public, asking for specific information, related to their grievances and in public interest in entire duration of the project.

3. Participants

3.1 A careful selection of the CGCC was done in the operational area of the project, prior to the divisional workshop for filing the applications under the RTI Act. For this, the network of CUTS CART was used as a tool

[SRK1]

3.2 The key criteria for selecting the members was their individual credibility in their respective area, general understanding to identify corrupt practices, so far interventions in governance related issues, basic knowledge about the functioning of various service-providing departments/agencies of the Government and willing to associate with CUTS CART, especially in its key programmatic area of “Good Governance”.

3.3.1 The dignitaries participated in the event of Jaipur DLW were Justice N.K. Jain, President “State Human Rights Commission”, M.K Khanna, Secretary Rajasthan Information Commission and Dr. Rakesh Ranjan Convener, Soochna Adhikar Abhiyan (SAA), Madhya Pradesh. Besides the Project management team and their senior colleagues from CUTS CART and primarily selected 20 CGCC members from different districts of Jaipur Division have actively participated in the workshop.

3.3.2 The dignitaries who participated in the Tonk DLW event included Dr Rakesh Ranjan Convener, *Soochna Adhikar Abhiyan* (SAA), Madhya Pradesh, and B L Kothari

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), *Zila Parishad*, Tonk. Besides the project management team from CUTS CART, 20 CGCC members from different districts of Ajmer Division actively participated in the workshop.

3.4 The event witnessed an active participation of around 90 (45 each) relevant stakeholders representing various CSOs, CBOs, NGOs and representatives from funding agencies and Government Officials of the concerned departments, the media and other individuals working on and/or interested in the RTI issue.

4. Proceedings of the Workshop

4.1 Day - 1 (Jaipur DLW-July 27, Tonk DLW-07 August 06, 2007)

4.2 Inaugural Session

4.2.1 A Documentary Film was shown to the participants about the potential of RTI Act in fighting against corruption.

4.2.2.1 The Jaipur DLW Workshop held on 18 April 07 commenced with welcome and introductory remarks by R.K. Sharma. He further stated in his address that the Project launch meeting is very important and RTI is one of the most empowering legislations passed in the post Independent India that has huge potential in ensuring the transparency and accountability in governance. George Cheriyan Associate Director CUTS said that organization has been involved intensively in promoting good governance through increased people's participation by using various tools and techniques since twenty years. He also said that Right to Information (RTI) Act came in to force on October 12, 2005. He further added the Ideology and strategy to combat corruption by forming public pressure groups/CGCC in Rajasthan.

4.2.2.2 Siba Prasad, CUTS made a brief power point presentation of various aspects of the project covering the background, the objectives, major activities, expected outcomes etc.

4.2.2.3 Justice N.K. Jain, President "State Human Rights Commission", in delivering the Keynotes Address he stated that 'Awareness at every level is very important for the effective implementation of the 'Right to Information' Act, because the awareness is a key instrument behind in success & failure of the Act". He pointed out the need to generate awareness among people regarding the usage of Right to Information Act.

4.2.2.4 M.K. Khanna, Secretary, Rajasthan Information Commission (RIC), quoted that RTI Act is a weapon like 'sword', who uses it and for whom, all depends upon intension who uses it. Besides he said positive approach is most important while seeking the information and information seekers should follow the procedure. Further, he added that there is ardent necessity to orient public as well as public servants about RTI Act so that

it can be collectively used for the development of the State where resources and infrastructure are limited.

4.2.2.5 Dr. Rakesh Ranjan, Convener, Soochna Adhikar Abhiyan (SAA), Madhya Pradesh has briefed about concept behind Right to Information Act 2005. A brief power point presentation on Right to Information (RTI) Act, made on objectives, background, major activities and expected outcomes etc. And he responded to a number of questions raised by participants during the workshop.

4.2.3. The Tonk DLW workshop commenced with welcome remarks by R K Sharma, who stated that the event was very important and said that , CUTS CART, Jaipur, in partnership with the Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF), has conceptualised this unique project, entitled for a period of one year, focusing on awareness generation at the grassroots, empowering the CSOs, advocacy with the policy makers and encouraging the common citizens towards application of RTI act, as a tool in addressing corruption at various level. Through this project, it is proposed to create an enabling and conducive environment at the grassroots for making governance more transparent and accountable and closer to the common people.

4.2.3.1 George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS, opined that there is a great need to take the RTI to the grassroots level. Hence, there is a need for awareness generation and training for the information seekers and providers for effectively using the Act. Thus, this workshop is aiming to orient the members of the CGCC thoroughly on RTI Act. He outlined the potential of the project in combating corruption and assembling responses of common people and others relevant stakeholders in an adequate manner at the grassroot level.

4.2.3.2 Ajnish made a brief PowerPoint presentation of various aspects of the project, covering the background, the objectives, major activities, expected outcomes, etc.

4.2.3.3 B.L Kothari, the CEO), Zila Parishad delivered the keynote[RT2] Address on RTI Act and pointed out the need to build awareness among the people regarding the use of the Act. Pointing out the need for positive approach, he explained the procedure of filing the application under the RTI Ac.

4.2.3.4 Dr Rakesh Ranjan, Convener, SAA, Madhya Pradesh, briefed the concept behind RTI Act, 2005. Making PowerPoint presentation on the RTI Act, he explained the objectives, background, major activities and expected outcomes etc. He also responded to a number of questions raised by the participants during the workshop.

5. Technical Session

5.1 Dr Rakesh Ranjan introduced the Technical Session on RTI Act, 2005 in both DLWs to the participants, including its potential in becoming a tool to ensure transparency and accountability in the government system.

5.2 In Jaipur DLW Siba Prasad and Ajnish and in Tonk DLW Ajnish with R K Sharma facilitated an open Group Discussion on 'Role of CSOs ensuring governance accountability through the RTI Act'. Dr. Rakesh Ranjan addressed queries from the floor. Female participants were also encouraged to participate in Group Discussion.

5.3 Dr. Rakesh Ranjan made a brief presentation on "A Framework of Accountability Relationships" in both the DLWs. He also presented various success as well as failure stories, loopholes and hindrances in effective implementation of RTI Act and its implication.

6. Day - 2 (August 07, 2007)

6.1 Day two started with a quick recap of the previous day activities. Project Officials made live presentation of case studies. Then, an invitation was extended to the citizens, who have filed the application under the RTI Act, and who shared success and failure in the workshop.

6.2 Next, Project Officials shared the ideology of CGCC and functioning methodology with the participants, who formulated effective strategy of CGCC by group exercise. Female participants took part in-group discussion. Dr Rakesh Ranjan made the expert comments on strategy.

6.3 During the two days workshop, the CGCC members took the following decisions.

6.3.1 In Jaipur DLW Responsibility of downloading proactive disclosure from website of Five departments viz. Revenue, Police, Panchayati Raj and Rural development, Food and Civil supply, P.H.E.D assigned to Rajendra Sen and A.B.Paul upto 10 August 2007. CART will disseminate this information further to CGCC members up to 15 August 2007. The responsibility of the same for Tonk division was assigned to Praladh Rai Vyas, Ganga Dadhich, Sylvester Ariel, Jasvant Singh Rawat and Rajrani Yadav with a deadline up to August 20, 2007. CUTS CART will disseminate this information further to CGCC members up to August 26, 2007.

6.3.2 It was decided that CGCC member will collect the information from the respective departments at the Block/Districts level and send it to CART office by August 30, 2007 with details including: Name of Public Information Officer (PIO)/Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO)^[SRK3]/Appealing officer with Name/Designation and contact number.

6.3.3 Responsibility assigned to the CGCC members was to collect the list of below poverty line (BPL) families and different schemes of respective departments, including procedure for filing the applications under RTI Act. The target of filing 250 applications for each division i.e. Jaipur and Ajmer up to January 31, 2008, was assigned to CGCC.

6.4 It was followed by an interactive session. In which Dr Rakesh Ranjan and Ajnish responded to various questions raised by the participants. Simultaneously, the participants

also provided very useful suggestions that will help in the implementation of various activities under the project.

6.5 At the end of the session, Ajnish proposed the vote of thanks and the workshop concluded with lunch.

7. Outcome of the Two-Day Workshop

7.1 The presence of dignitaries in this two-day workshop helped in attracting the attention of the government, media and the general public in the design of the project and initiated a public debate regarding the potential of the RTI act in combating corruption.

7.2 The event provided an adequate forum for propagating the projects' aims and objectives among the relevant stakeholders and also discussing the related issues.

7.3 The CGCC is enough empowered with resources in terms of knowledge, information, active support from functional network of CSOs/CBOs and the access to the proactive and committed government officials and the corruption defeating agencies.

7.4 The meeting also provided an opportunity to the representatives of CSOs, CBOs, NGOs, the Government Officials of the concerned departments and other individuals to get acquainted with various technical aspects and clauses of the RTI Act.

7.5 The CGCC will be able to support the corruption-combating attempts by the common citizens, especially the poor rural citizen. It will perform the role of a watchdog as well as the local resource centres for application of RTI.

7.6 The CGCC is assigned with achieving a minimum target of submission 250 applications under the RTI Act asking for the specific information related to their grievances. The number of submitted applications in the Ajmer and Jaipur division in the five concern departments will substantially help in reducing corrupt practices.

7.7 In the long term, an enabling and conducive environment would be created at the grassroots, making governance more transparent and accountable. This entire process will, ultimately, help in facilitating the development of the state in reducing the poverty.

7.8 CGCC is formulated with the members present in the two days workshop:

भ्रष्टाचार रोक सकता है सूचना का अधिकार

जयपुर, 15 फरवरी। 'सूचना का अधिकार' जनता का एक महत्वपूर्ण अधिकार है। यह कानून भ्रष्टाचार को रोक पाने में सक्षम है। यह विचार मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त एम.डी. कोशनी ने कट्स की ओर से आयोजित संभाग स्तरीय सूचना के अधिकार की सभा के दौरान व्यक्त किए। मीटिंग सेंटर फॉर कन्वन्शन एवम्, रिसर्च एण्ड ट्रेनिंग (कट्स कार्ट) और पार्टनरशिप फॉर ट्रांसपेरन्सी फण्ड के सहयोग से ओ.टी.एस. में आयोजित की गई थी। मीटिंग में मुख्यसचिव एके. पाण्डे ने कहा कि इस कानून को सशक्त बनाने के लिए लोगों को जागरूक बनाने की जरूरत है। इसके अलावा आरटीआई की परियोजना अधिकारी सोहिनी पॉल ने अपना बक्तव्य दिया। इससे पूर्व कट्स के

सदस्य अजनीश विश्वास, ए.बी. पॉल और आर.के. शर्मा ने परियोजना एवं ऑकड़ों के बारे में जानकारी दी।

अन्य कार्यों के लिए होना चाहिए फाइन- भ्रष्टाचार का मुख्य कारण है, कार्यों में देरी। जब सूचना के अधिकार में दिए गए समय पर सूचना नहीं मिलती है, तो इसके लिए अधिकारी पर फाइन करने का प्रस्ताव है। अन्य सरकारी कार्यों जैसे लाइसेंस बनवाने आदि में भी समय अबाधि का पालन नहीं होता है। इसके लिए सरकारी अधिकारी पर कोई फाइन नहीं होता है। यदि इन कार्यों के लिए भी फाइन होने लग जाए, तब आकर भ्रष्टाचार पर लगाम लग पाएगी। इसके लिए एन्टी डिस्के कानून बनना चाहिए।

Annex. 3.D List of CGCC members:

1. List of CGCC members from Jaipur Division

Sl. No	Name of the Person	Complete Coordination
1.	Shri Tahreem	PRIA State Resource Center (SRC), 58 A, Nandpuri Colony, Bais Godam, Jaipur-302006, Rajasthan. Ph.+ 91-141-2216013. E-mail: Jaipur@pria.org .
2. 3. 4.	Ms. Dimpal Naruka Ms. Raj Shree Hemantika Shri Mukesh Kumar	SAPNA Sansthan, Po; Ladana, Tehsil: Phagi, Dist: Jaipur, Mob: + 91-98296 91768
5. 6.	Shri Deepak Kumar Yogi Ms. Suman Prajapat	Shri Shyam Sanskriti Seva Samiti, Shastri Colony, Chithwari, Jaipur, Rajasthan 303805 Ph: +91-01423 236188, Mob: +91-9828376829, Email: Deepak_yogi2000@yahoo.com .
7. 8.	Shri Tarachand Tailor, Secretary Shri Pappu Ram	Gramin Manav Utthan Samiti, Vil.- Chatarpura, Via- Narainpur, Distt. - Alwar, Rajasthan. Mob: +91-93522 10820; Ph.: +91-1421-324158
9.	Smt. Sapana Devi Prajapat	Gramin Vikas Azad Navyuvak Mandal Samiti, Vil. Post-Sankotra, Via- Andhi, Tehsil: - Jamua Ramgarh, Distt.- Jaipur, Ph.: +91-1426-261144; Mob: +91-98299 43886
10.	Shri Satish Sharma	Samajik Yuva Sangthan Sansthan, J.J. Ice Cream Factory, Near Telephone Exchange, VP & Tehsil: Bassi, Distt.- Jaipur, Rajasthan. Mob: +91-92141 28485
11.	Shri Atmaram Sharma, Secretary	ATMA Sanstha, Vil.- Jagmalpura, P.- Jorpura, Via- Jobner, Distt.- Jaipur, Rajasthan. Mob: +91-94130 63961

12.	Shri Shyodan Gurjar	PRAYATNA Sansthan, Vil.- Sholavata, P.- Shrirampura, Via-Naraina, Distt.- Jaipur Mob.: + 91-92145 24470
13.	Shri Rajendra Sen	Sarathi Sansthan, Vill: Po Suraj Garh Mandi .Via: Chirawa, Distt.- Jhunjhune.Ph.: + 91-1596-237679, Mob.: + 91-94132 20711
14.	Shri Ram Ratan Jangir	Gramodaya Samajik Sansthan, Vil & Po- Thali, Via- Chakshu, Jaipur, Rajasthan. Mob.093141 52497, 094142 07300. Gramoday_sansthan@rediffmail.com
15.	Shri Banwari Lal	Gramin Vikash Evam Paryavaran Sansthan Vil.- Basri Baroda, P.- Udavala Via- Sainthal, Distt.- Dausa Mob: + 91-99285 38060 (BLS), + 91-93142 08779 (NCS)
16.	Sharma Shri Nemi Chand Sharma	
17.	Shri Bhoop Singh	V&P- Jagwas Via- Behror, Dist- Alwar. Mob.98285 59732.
18.	Shri Bhanwar Lal & Shri	CECOEDECON, VP- Madhorajpura, Via- Phagi, Distt.- Jaipur Mob: + 91-98299 09630
19.	Sita Ram Jat	
20.	Shri. Laxmi Narayan	RVHA, A-12-B, Bajaj Nagar Jaipur. Mob: + 91-9928322395, Email: laxmi_narayan@yahoo.com

2. CGCC members from Ajmer Division

Sl. No	Name of the Person	Complete Coordination
1.	Rajarani Yadav	Mahila Jagriti Samiti (MJS), Ward No. 14, Raigaron ka Mohalla, Near Kekadi Walon ki Mill, P.- Newai, Distt.- Tonk, Pin: 304001 Ph: 01432-244898; Fax: 01432 246092; Mob: 99298 13189, 98292 39299
2.	Mr. Kamal Kumar	
3.	Yadav, Pankaj	
4.	Yadav Mr. Deepak Sain	
5.	Smt. Seema Teli	Motivator, Nodal, Satat Shiksha Kendra, Po: Uparada, P.S.: Banneda, Dist: Bhilwada, Mob: 92524 44983
6.	Mr. Pushkar Lal Meena	Vill: Banduni, Block – Mandalgardh, Dist: Bhilwada Ph: 9828868878
7.	Mr. Munna Lal Rao	Samuhik Vikas Sansthan, Patel Bhavan, Patel Marg, Teh: Niwai. Dist: Tonk, Rajasthan, Ph: (01438) 224393; Mob.: 94136 01148
8.	Ms. Ganga Dadhich	CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD), Chittorgarh. (Raj) Ph.: 01472-241 472, Fax: 01472-240 072, Mob: 94148 39315 Email: chd@cuts.org ;
9.	Mr. Jaswant Singh Rawat	Ajmer Zila Gramin Upbhokta Sansthan P.- Masuda, Distt.- Ajmer Ph: 01462-266938, 266992. Fax: 01462-266991, 266861 Mob: 99285 51369 E-mail: azgus_masuda@yahoo.co.in
10.	Mr. Prahladh Rai Vyas	Rajasthan Upbhokta Kalayan Simiti. Bhadada Mohalla, Dist- Bhilwara. Mob: 94143 02738
11.	Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma	Shivaji Sansthan, Lal Bhawan , Shivaji Colony, Gali no.1, Newai. Dist- Tonk.Ph. 01438-223967, 224367. Mob: -94143 48267 E-mail:shivajiorg_newai@yahoo.co.in .

12.	Sylvestor Ariel	Gramin Avem Samajik Vikas Sansthan. Nasirabad road, Parbatpura, Ajmer. Ph.0145-2695871 Mob:- 92145 69944, 98298 34292
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14.	Mr. Ashok Kumar Vaishnava, Secretary	Lok Vikas Sansthan, VP- Sarwar, Distt.- Ajmer Mob.: 99287 65818
15.	Mr. Sitaram Prajapat	Sangharsh Sansthan, PO- Dhandholi, Teh.- Dudu, Distt.- Jaipur Ph.: 01428-513218; Mob.: 94142 07872, 92149 78669
16.	Mr. Radhey Shyam Bagari	Prakratik Paryavaran Evam Shiksha Vikas Samiti (NEEDS), V- Mala, P.- Bhogadit, Distt.- Ajmer Mob.: 94601 92433
17.	Mr. Mohd. Salim	S/o- Modh. Rafiq, Parveen Aari Taari Centre, Babron ka Chowk, Tonk Mob.: 94148 41246
18.	Mr. Abdul Wahid	S/o- Shri Abdul Latif, Swayam Bharat Sahayata Samiti, Tonk Mob.: 99283 09223
19.	Mr. Mohd. Aziz	S/o- Shahzarin Khan, Khidaki Darwaja, Tonk Mob.: 94605 93240

Annex. 3.E Block Level Consultations

Category-1 Joint Report

BLC-1

Name of Block: **Sambher** District: **Jaipur**

Venue: Panchayat Samiti Meeting Hall.

Date: **August 20, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **44**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul/AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Shri Dinesh Kumar BDO of Sambher block has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very different from other acts, already existing on combating corruption, this act is empowered with judicial power of penalty up to 25000 from defaulter PIO and APIOs. And A.B. Paul has enlightened background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and correlated with Fundamental Right /Human Rights.

Issue Emerged: Participants have shared that in Rastriya Rojgaar Yojna Gram Secretaries are misusing the employment card, Atma Ram social Worker has said that he is going to file the application under RTI.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Sambher 44 people were oriented on combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-2

Name of Block: Dudu District: Jaipur

Venue: Block Meeting Hall,

Date: 21th August 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **46**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul/AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Block level Consultation held in the block Dudu on 21st August 2007; venue of the Meeting was Bock meeting Hall of Panchayat Samiti. Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 46 Participants have participated. Shri Rameshwar Lal Kadwa Pradahana of Dudu block has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient information seekers and information providers. Orientation of both will be helpful in smooth and good governance, which is base of Democracy, without which democracy has no meaning. Ajnish A Bishwas enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005 and he briefed that this project is being implemented in

two Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer. A.B. Paul has enlightened background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and correlated this with Fundamental Right as well as with Human Rights.

Issue Emerged: Rames chand said that he approached to BDO office to know the scheme for BPL but no one has provided the schemes/benefits but today has come to know about the RTI Act 2005 in this meeting and he will ask BPL schemes through filing the RTI Application.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Dudu 46 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information from Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-3

Name of Block: Shahpura

Venue: Block Meeting Hall,

Date: 29th August 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **44**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul/AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Shri Shankar lal Yadav, Up- Pradhan of panchayat samiti Shahpura was chief guest and Shri Ram Singh Choudhary Member of panchayat samitis was a Guest of the occasion has said that this Act is more beneficial for the poor community. Further he replied to some cases related to land and water problems and assures the people that Further he suggested that Sarpanchs and Gramsevaks might get oriented on this Act briefly. Ajnish Bishwas has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker.

Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. A.B. Paul has enlightened background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. Further he aided that this act will be much helpful for the poor rural people to solve their grievances.

Issue Emerged: He has said that people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information. He is also willing to ask some questions from government under RTI Act because some problems related to BPL families are getting complicated day by day an need to be solve at earliest with this statement he is considering RTI as a very effective tool to make transparency and accountability in governance.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: Block Shahpura 44 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-4

Name of Block: Kotputli

Venue: Block Meeting Hall,

Date: 30th August 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **42**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul/AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Shri Sawant Singh Shakawat social worker has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very different from other acts, on combating corruption, this act is empowered with judicial power of penalty up to 25000 from defaulter PIO and APIOs. This act bounds Government to give information and gives rights to seekers to get information. Ajnish A Bishwas enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and briefed about RTI Act 2005 and he briefed that this Project is being

implemented in two Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer. And A.B. Paul has enlightened background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and correlated with Fundamental Right /Human Rights.

Issue Emerged: Tara chand Tailor has said that Government schemes to know by down trodden is very difficult at Block level Offices, he is going to file the application to know the schemes are displayed at Block level offices or not and when government is going to put on the display board.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Kothputli 42 people were oriented on combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-5

Name of Block: Chakshu District: Jaipur

Venue: Block Meeting Hall,

Date: 23rd August 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **47**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceeding: Shri Johri Lal Neniwal Pradhan of SC/ST Mandal Chaksshu has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block, further he suggested that Sarpanchs and Gramsevaks may get oriented. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker.

Issue Emerged: Ladu Ram Secretary from Gaandhi Vikasss Samity NGO has said that this act will be much helpful to poor rural people to solve their land related issues further he said that he is going to file the application RTI to know that how many land related cases of SC/ ST are pending at Tehshi Leve since Last two years.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Chakshu 47 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

Suggestion came out from Block Level Consultation: In the Consultation Shri Johari Lal Neniwal appreciated the efforts of CUTS-CART to making aware people on RTI Act 2005 to combating corruption Applying RTI Act as a Tool in Rajasthan, further with suggestion he invited CUTS to organize one more Block level Orientation for people in which he will make all arrangements with participants about 100 Sarpanchs /Gramsevaks.

BLC-6

Name of Block: **Amer**

Venue: Maharani Girl's senior secondary School Amer.

Date: **September 3, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **41**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Amer on September 3, 2007, venue of the Meeting was Maharani Girl's senior secondary School Amer. Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 41 Participants have participated. Shri Abdul Azia from Zila Congress committee Jaipur has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block, further he suggested that this program should be conducted at mass level. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds

Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker.

Issue emerged: Abdul Azia from Zila Congress committee Jaipur said that in Amer Block there is a big problem of Graveyard for Muslim community, in Amer Muslim community were using the Graveyard last 200 years but this time Municipal Corporation has set their ownership right on graveyard land and appointed guard to restrict the burial land for Muslim, under RTI Act 2005, Application will be lodged that asking about land ownership to resolve this problem.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Amer 41 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-7

Name of Block: **Bassi.**

Venue: Near CHC Gangadham Basti Bassi.

Date: **September 4, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **32**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Bassi September 4, 2007, venue of the Meeting was Near CHC Gangadham Basti. Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 32 Participants have participated. Shri Nathu Ram Kholiya SC/ST Mandal Bassi has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer,

focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and correlated this with Fundamental Right as well as with Human Rights.

Issue emerged: Prakash Raigar from the community shared the problem of his widow daughter who is a in BPL category, she tried to get widow pension scheme and other BPL schemes but after may efforts still benefits from government are awaited but this RTI Act 2005 have given the hope to get the benefits form government, he said that he will file the application under this act to get information for her benefit what are the schemes available for BPL and for widow poor women in the Panchayat Samittee.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Bassi 32 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience.

BLC-8

Name of Block: **Jamua Ram Garh.**

Venue: Block Meeting Hall Jamua Ram Garh.

Date: **September 5, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **71**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Jamua Ramgarh on September 5, 2007, venue of the Meeting was Panchayat Samiti Meeting Hall. Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 71 Participants have participated. Shri V.D. Sharma BEEO Jamua ramgarh has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer,

focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and correlated this with Fundamental Right as well as with Human Rights. Smt. Suman Chaudhri Principa Government Upper Primary School Thoulai was chief guest of the occasion has said that this Act is more beneficial to down trodden of the community.

Issue emerged: Sapna Kumawat Social Worker from Vikas Azad Navyuvak Mandal Samittee Andhi has said that BPL category people are not getting the benefits form the Block because their cards have been not issued yet but their names are in the list of BPL, she said that Application under RTI Act 2005 shall be filed to get information about cards.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Jamua Ramgarh 71 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-9

Name of Block: **Deoli**. District **Tonk**.

Venue: CHC Campus Deoli.

Date: **September 11, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **43**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Deoli on September 11, 2007, venue of the Meeting was CHC campus. Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 43 Participants have participated. Manbari Devi Sarpanch has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address she said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block, further she suggested that village people in mass may get oriented. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker.

Issue emerged: Issue emerged: Abdul Vahid has filed the application under RTI act 2005, to J.N. Meena Regional PF Commissioner and Central Public Information Officer, in Employees Provident Fund Organization. Regional Office, Nidhi Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur. Regarding his Provident Fund status in account of RJ-2174-517, Vahid got the information within a period of 30 days.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Deoli 43 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got platform who had bitter experience to get the information from Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-10

Name of Block: **Malpura**. District **Tonk**.

Venue: Panchayat Samiti Meeting Hall.

Date: **September 12, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **44**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the platform to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gap between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Malpura on September 12, 2007, Meeting was organized in the Panchayat Samiti hall Meeting was started at 11 AM and sum up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 44 Participants have participated. Shri Rajesh Nagora Pradhan Malpura has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block, further he suggested that Sarpanchs and Gramsevaks may get oriented. A.B. Paul has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act and

correlated this with Fundamental Right as well as with Human Rights. Shri. Kanhaya Lal BDO has enlightened on Importance of the RTI Act Further he said that BPL category is free to get information and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only.

Issue emerged: Kailash Chand Sharma from village Rajpura said that he applied in the scheme of SavjalDhara to have connection in his farm, on his application Tehshildaar has noted approval but last one years he is awaited for water supply in Savjaldhara scheme, he said that now after knowing this act he will file application under RTI Act 2005 for daily progress on his applied for savjaldhara scheme.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Malpura 44 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-11

Name of Block: **Newai, District Tonk.**

Venue: Panchayat Samiti Meeting Hall.

Date: **September 13, 2007**, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants have participated: **47**

Coordinating Person: **A.B. Paul**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gap between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks, among block level Officials/Representatives/people, to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption by applying RTI Act as a Tool.

Proceedings: Block level consortium held in the block Newai on September 13, 2007, Venue of the meeting was Panchayat Samittee Meeting hall. Meeting was started at 11 am and some up at 3 PM. In the meeting total 47 Participants have participated. Smt. Tulshi Devi Meena Pradahana has chaired the meeting; in his inaugural address she said that Act is very use full to combating corruption.

A.B. Paul has enlingtened CUTS CART objective and about RTI Act 2005, Paul said that RTI Act binds Government/PIOs/APIOs to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker.

Issue emerged: Laxmi Narayan Meena President of “Corruption and Atrocity Alleviation Tiger Force Newai” has said in his inaugural address that in Newai there is big corruption in Rojgaar Guarinty Yojna Scheme, Cards are kept with Gram Secretaries and being mis-utilizing, Further he said that in his village 2 cases are there, Secretary of the village has taken the money by false record without knowledge of cardholders, on meeting day he brought them to file the application under RTI Act 2005.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Newai 47 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the meeting participants have made commitment that they will not sit and curse the corruption but they will file the application under RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption.

BLC-12

Category-3 Individual by A.B 3

Name of Block: **Govindgarh**, District **Jaipur**

Venue: Block Meeting Hall

Date: 1st September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants participated: **48**

Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceeding: Shayam Sunder Kumawat Block Elementary Education Officer BEEO, of Govindgarh block has chaired the meeting, in his inaugural address he said that this Act is very use full to combating corruption and this is essential to orient information seekers and information providers. Ajnish Bishwas enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005 and he briefed that this project is being implemented in two Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer. Further he enlightened background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. . Ajnish has said that people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information.

Issues Emerged: Awareness on RTI Act is very less in the community also not in the government departments. Most of the common issue emerged is about the missing names in the voter list says Pappu Tawar.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Govindgarh 48 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got platform who had bitter experience to get the information from Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. In the Consultation Shayam Sunder Kumawat, BEEO, has appreciated the efforts of CUTS-CART to making aware people on RTI Act 2005 to combating corruption Applying RTI Act as a Tool in Rajasthan, further with suggestion he invited CUTS to organize one more Block level Orientation for people in which he will make all arrangements.

BLC-13

Name of Block: **Phagi**, District **Jaipur**

Venue: Dakbanglow of Phagi

Date: 5th September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants participated: **46**

Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the platform to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gap between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Pankaj Hooja, SDM of Phagi was chief guest of the occasion has said that this Act is very useful and very important for each and every person of the community. He enlightened that this Act is very use full tool for combating corruption, further he discussed main provisions of this RTI Act briefly. He stated that this Act is a key instrument for getting desired information from Government and aided non-government organizations. While giving his statement on RTI, Hooja opined that this act is considered as a miracle in the Indian history and he suggested that Sarpanchs and Gramsevaks might get oriented on this Act briefly. Ajnish Bishwas has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government to give information-to-information seekers. Further enlightened on

implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act

Issues Emerged: In the meeting participants came forward with their problems related to Land ownership certificate (Patta) and Land disputes and one person Badri Narayan came with problem that in the year 1993 he has worked in Akal Rahayat Yojana for five days he didn't get his Labour till now SDM assure him that he will take care of this matter and ask him to come to his office to settle the matter and shared those without hesitation with SDM. He assures the participants that he will take of their matters and try to solve their grievances. He welcomed the participants to file the applications under the RTI because he is also an Assistant Public Information Officer at Block level.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Phagi 46 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience. Participants appreciated the efforts of CUTS-CART to making aware people on RTI Act 2005 to combating corruption Applying RTI Act as a Tool in Rajasthan, further with suggestion he invited CUTS to organize village level Orientation for people in which he will make all arrangements with participants.

BLC-14

Name of Block: **Viratnagar**, District **Jaipur**
Venue: Mandi Dharam Shala, Viratnagar
Date: 6th September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.
Participants participated: **46**
Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Pradhan Shah Indooriya,(Parshad) of Viratnagar was chief guest and Satya Narayan Sharma (Ward Parshad) was a guest of the occasion has said that this Act is a very use full tool for combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people at every level. Further he stated that this Act is a key instrument for getting desired information from Government and aided non-government organizations. While giving his statement on RTI, Ajnish opined that this act is considered as a miracle in the Indian history and he suggested that Sarpanchs and Gramsevaks might get oriented on this Act briefly. Ajnish has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act

2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government to give information-to-information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. Ajnish enlightened on Importance of the RTI Act and further he aided that this act will be much helpful for the poor rural people to solve their grievances. . Ajnish has said that people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information.

Issues Emerged: In the Block Level Consultation some issue emerged like many names are not covered in the BPL list and still they are meeting with officials but no action has been taken by the government officials so far. The main thing that was noticed that no one has right information about RTI Act weather they may be government officials or NGOs or a common citizen .

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Viratnagar 46 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience.

BLC-15

Name of Block: **Todaraisingh** , District **Tonk**
Venue: Modi Dharam Shala, Todaraisingh
Date: 12th September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.
Participants participated: **49**
Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gap between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Dinesh Singh, Sarpanch Gram Panchayat, Indokiya was chief guest on the occasion has said that this Act is very effective tool to combat corruption. Ajnish opined that this act is considered as a miracle in the Indian history but due to lack of publicity of this acts is not known to the common people. Ajnish has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. Ajnish enlightened on Importance of the RTI Act and further he aided that this act will be much helpful for the poor rural people to solve their grievances. Ajnish has

said that people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information.

Issues Emerged: Some people shared that from long back they are facing problem of scarcity of water in there area particularly and in this regard lot of complaints are filed but no action has been taken by that government officials. In reply Ajnish encourage them to use this act as a tool and file the application in water supply department asking for the details for water supply in their area.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Todaraisingh 49 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. Participants appreciated the efforts of CUTS-CART to making aware people on RTI Act 2005 to combating corruption Applying RTI Act as a Tool in Rajasthan, further with suggestion he invited CUTS to organize village level Orientation for people in which he will make all arrangements.

BLC-16

Name of Block: **Tonk, District Tonk**

Venue: Pannadhey Girls Teachers Training College, Tonk

Date: 13th September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants participated: **66**

Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

2. Proceedings: Saroj Chouhan District Sports Officer (DSO), was chief guest and Gupta, Block Development Officer (BDO), Tonk was a guest of the occasion. Saroj said that is a key instrument for getting desired information from Government and aided non-government organizations. Gupta said that he is the Assistant Public Information officer for Tonk Block and any one need the information can directly come to the office and file the application under RTI Act. Ajnish has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. Ajnish enlightened on Importance of the RTI Act and further he aided that this act will be much helpful for the poor rural people to solve their grievances. Ajnish has said that

people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information.

Issues Emerged: Awareness at both the level Government and common people regarding RTI act is very poor and one thing is that when the applicants file the application they did not mention the duration of the information required and there is no proper format on which the applicants can apply for getting information

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Tonk 66 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. People got plat form who had bitter experience to get the information form Government and their Rights were Violated they have shared their experience

BLC-17

Name of Block: **Unaria, District Tonk**

Venue: Agrawal dharma shala

Date: 18th September 2007, Time: 11 AM – 3 PM.

Participants participated: **46**

Coordinating Person: **AB3**

Objective of Block Level Consultation: To provide the plat form to Block level official and Common people / Representatives of CBOs, NGOs, Community to share their views to identify the gape between information provider and information seekers.

To share the findings of Survey conducted in the Month of July 2007 in the respective Blocks among block level Officials/Representatives/people to create awareness on RTI Act 2005 to combat corruption applying RTI Act as Tool.

Proceedings: Gyasi lal Administrative Officer (AO) Nagar palika , Unaria was a guest of the occasion has said that this Act is more beneficial to down trodden of the community has chaired the meeting, He enlightened that this Act is very use full tool for combating corruption and this is essential to orient more people in the block, further he discussed main provisions of this RTI Act briefly. Further he stated that this Act is a key instrument for getting desired information from Government and aided non-government organizations. Ajnish has enlightened on CUTS-CART objectives and Briefed about RTI Act 2005. Ajnish said that RTI Act binds Government to give information-to-information seeker and this act gives guaranty to information seeker. Further enlightened on implementation of RTI Act Project in Divisions Jaipur and Ajmer, focused on background of RTI Act and procedure of filing the application under RTI Act. Ajnish

enlightened on Importance of the RTI Act and further he aided that this act will be much helpful for the poor rural people to solve their grievances. Ajnish has said that people under BPL category will get information free of cost and others have to pay nominal fee Rs. 10/- only for filing the application under RTI Act 2005 to get information.

Issues Emerged: Some of the participants from the government said that the Act should be published in the simplified form with the main provisions and under which section it comes.

Out come of the Block Level Consultation: In block Unaria 46 people oriented on RTI Act 2005 combating corruption applying RTI Act as a Tool. Participants has appreciated the efforts of CUTS-CART to making aware people on RTI Act 2005 to combating corruption Applying RTI Act as a Tool in Rajasthan, further with suggestion he invited CUTS to organize one more Block level Orientation for people in which he will make all arrangements with participants Public representatives Sarpanchs /Gramsevaks.

Annex.3.F

3.F.1 Introduction

A RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall on the theme of 'Citizen Awakening, Good Governance & Development Exhibition' was held at Pushkar town, Ajmer, Rajasthan from November 17 to November 24, 2007.

3.F.2 Background

Pushkar is a sacred town in Rajasthan, about 14 km from Ajmer. It is renowned worldwide for the annual fair that is popularly known as the 'Pushkar Mela'. The fair is held every year in the month of October/November and is regarded as the world's biggest livestock fair. Considering the enormous opportunity in order to propagate the right to information (RTI) Act, and make the rural mass aware of its application as an effective tool in combating corruption and thus ensuring transparent and accountable governance it was decided for a meaningful participation in the fair by putting up 'RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall'.



Among the visitors were Sarita Gena, Ajmer *Zila Pramukh* (Ajmer District Head) and many other members of the *Panchayati Raj Institutions* (PRIs), tourists from different regions of the country and foreign countries, officials from different departments of government and rural citizens.

The visitors arrived at the 'RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall' were very keen to know about the RTI Act and how it can be applied for combating corruption

3.F.3 Output

- A total of 139 RTI Act applications filing were facilitated on the spot and more than 300 application formats were distributed to the visitors who expressed their interest in filing applications. -The filing facilitation covered different categories of information.
- The majority of applications filled were for submission at different offices under the Department of *Panchayati Raj* and Rural Development, Department of Land & Revenue, Department of Electricity, Department of Consumers Affairs, Food & Civil Supplies since with these departments the rural masses have their maximum dealings.
- The huge rural crowd belonging to the different districts, not only falling under the Ajmer and Jaipur administrative divisions but also the other administrative divisions were made aware of the RTI Act and provided with adequate knowledge in order to procure information through appropriate process of filling application.
- CGCC members earned wider exposure to a variety of problems of the rural citizens and how these have become complicated due to their unawareness and unauthentic information about the RTI Act.
- The most important observations noticed during the exhibition was the raised level of confidence of the rural citizens for addressing corruption after visiting the 'RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall'.

Annex. 3.G Mid-Term Dissemination Meeting

Introduction

A Mid-Term Dissemination meeting under the project titled, "Combating Corruption in the Rajasthan State, India by applying RTI Act as a Tool", on October 10, 2007 at Rajasthan Institute of Cooperative Education and Management (RICEM), Jaipur.

Objective:

The objectives of the workshop include:

- Dissemination of Survey findings among surveyors, Consortium of group for combating corruption CGCC members, NGO working on the same issue and also among the government officials.
- To adopt new strategies for addressing corruption at different level.
- To share the findings of critical analysis under the project.

Proceedings of the Workshop:

Inaugural Session

The workshop commenced with welcome and introductory remarks by R K Sharma, Programme Coordinator CUTS CART, who stated that RTI Act is one of the most empowering legislations passed in the post Independent India. He further added that RTI Act has a huge potential in ensuring the transparency and accountability in governance. He highlighted that CUTS CART has been involved intensively in promoting good governance through increased people's participation by using various tools and techniques for the last 20 years. He also pointed out that CGCC would be addressing corruption effectively using RTI Act as a tool. He further added that the ideology and strategy to combat corruption by forming public pressure groups/CGCC in Rajasthan.

CUTS CART project official made a brief PowerPoint presentation of various aspects of the project covering the background, the objectives, major activities, expected outcomes etc.

Ajay Kumar Jain (Advocate, Rajasthan High Court) was a chief guest of the event but soon after his welcome address by A.B Paul. Due to some unavoidable condition he could not joined further meeting.

Ms Manju Saini, Pradhan Shahpura stated that RTI Act has a potential to combat corruption. The people facing problems in accessing the information from government department can use this act as their right to get information. But due to lake of awareness at grassroots level no one came forward to raise questions to government officials.

Manju Saini further added that she is ready to give support to the organization in fighting with corruption in her block i.e.. Shahpura. She welcomes CUTS-CART to organize some programme at grassroots level.

Presentation on field Survey:

CUTS-CART project officials facilitated this session. Findings from Questionnaire A (Common Citizens) and Questionnaire B (Government Officials) were highlighted.

- The major finding of the survey is awareness at grassroots level is very poor.
- Lack of Cooperation of government officials at block level.
- No tanning provided to government officials on RTI Act
- No attempts were made by government officials to publicize this Act.
- Proactive disclosures were not found at many places.

- Boards indicating name and designation of Public Information officer / Assistant Public Information Officer was not found in their departments.
- No attempts were observed for the promotion of this Act by the government at the grass root level.

Open Discussion and feedback session

In this session participants were invited to share their views on survey findings. Atma Ram Sharma, Tara Chand Tailor and Banwari Lal all are CGCC member from various blocks shared their experiences that encountered during the field survey.

Out Come of the Midterm Dissemination Meeting:

In the mid term dissemination meeting field survey & critical data have been disseminated and further strategy for filing the application under RTI Act was developed to achieve the target of 500 applications.

Annex.3.H The Final Dissemination Meeting (FDM) – A Brief Report

I. Background

A daylong FDM was convened on Feb. 15, 2007 at the Patel Bhawan Conference Hall, HCM-RIPA, OTS, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur

II. Objective

2.1 The aim to conduct FDM was to disseminate achieved outcomes of the project, primarily the results through filing RTI applications and recommending collectively the government at national and sub-national level to curb corruption in the governance and public life.

2.2 The FDM was also aiming towards providing an opportunity to consolidate comments from wide range of participants and presenting a clear agenda to the members of Consortium of Groups for Combating Corruption (CGCC) to intervene intensively in curbing the corruption.

III. Participants

3.1 The key participants, other then the vigilant citizens, were MD Kaurani, the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), Rajasthan; AK Pandey, Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Rajasthan; Ms. Sohini Paul, Project Officer, RTI Project, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi and representatives from various “right base advocacy groups”, CGCC members from Ajmer & Jaipur divisions, *Panchayati Raj* members from Tonk & Jaipur districts including Manju Saini, the

Pradhan (Head) from Shapura block, Jaipur district; academicians; lawyers, media persons and NGOs working on RTI.

3.2 The Project Management Team (PMT) coordinated the meeting.

IV. Proceedings

4.1 The meeting was opened with welcome and introductory remarks by George Cheriyan followed by a brief power point presentation up on project's background, achievements against project envisaged outcomes, key findings of the field survey and the applications that are filed under the RTI Act, 2005 in Ajmer and Jaipur divisions. AB Paul & Ajnish made the power point presentation jointly.

4.1.1 Along with sharing the key findings of the baseline survey, the main focus of the presentation was to share the final outcome (end result) of the project as mentioned below.

4.1.2 In addition, the analysis of the implementation of the RTI act in the state brought out several recommendations.

4.2 While delivering the inaugural address, Rajasthan State Chief Information Commissioner Shri M.D. Kaurani said Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Government must work together in making the RTI act effective and in turn to combat corruption.

4.2.1 He further said the level of awareness has increased in Rajasthan, especially in the rural areas, tremendously during the last one year. Earlier, when the act came in to existence, mainly the Government employees were making use of it, now the common people are mainly using it.

4.2.2 Shri Korani said the main reason for corruption in Government is the delay in delivering the expected services. There is no time period set for delivering each services. He suggested like Anti corruption act, there should be an 'Anti-Delay Act', for tackling the deferring nature of govt. workers for providing information or taking an action on any complaint, which will automatically eliminate the corruption.

4.3 Shri A.K. Pandey, Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Rajasthan, who is also the RTI first appellate authority for the Rajasthan Government Secretariat, delivered the keynote address. He mainly shared his views looking from the supply side (information providers).

4.3.1 while acknowledging the power of information in empowering the people, he said that in most cases the required information is not readily available with the Government. It has to be created, which is one of the reasons for delays in providing the required

information and the mindset of the bureaucracy, which was conditioned towards the ‘official secret act’ is taking time to change.

4.3.2 He said, earlier the Government machinery usually worked late night and have to use all communication strategies to gather information from down the line, mainly to provide response to the questions raised by any of the 200 members of the Legislative Assembly. But now the situation is that the entire 60 million common people of the state, is elevated to the status to enjoy this privilege, which was earlier enjoyed by only the legislators. So the Government mechanism needs to be strengthened to face this challenge.

4.4 Smt. Sohini Paul from Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), New Delhi said there is need for rigorous follow up to maintain the momentum generated through this project.

4.5 Besides, Shri. Ashok Kumar Vaishnav and Shri Banwari Lal Bairathi, the CGCC members from the Ajmer and Jaipur divisions respectively, shared their successful experiences while dealing with government mechanism and addressing corruption by applying the RTI Act, 2005.

V. Key Comments

The participants’ comments/statements that were assembled during the event are consolidated and put briefly in a matrix as below:

Appreciation	Critique	Recommendations
<p>The project is unique in terms of taking forward the recommendations of the RTI National Convention that was held in N. Delhi, October 13-15, 2006</p> <p>A great change has been noticed in last one year.</p> <p>The local bodies i.e. municipalities, municipal corporations, <i>panchayats</i> etc. are the most important bodies where the citizens are filing applications maximum.</p> <p>However, cases of imposing penalty up on guilty government</p>	<p>The unnecessary filing requesting irreverent information deprives the needy citizens from their rights.</p> <p>Since, in government departments the records are not update and information is not readily available, the citizens has to have face problems at least for the next 2-3 years.</p> <p>Mostly, requisite fee deposit mechanism under the Act should be simplified.</p> <p>The delay in providing information is also major cause of corruption thus; government should take immediate measures to avoid the situation.</p> <p>Still, the mindset of service providers, especially those</p>	<p>Imparting training to government functionaries up on RTI Act, 2005 is most essential.</p> <p>There should be proper documentation of cases and results of the applications that were filed under the RTI Act, 2005 for wider dissemination.</p> <p>Besides, pin pointing the flaws in government mechanism, simultaneously, the CSOs should come forward for support particularly towards the “proactive disclosure” under the Act.</p> <p>The project should not only be replicated in remaining five divisions of the Rajasthan State but also in many other states of the country.</p> <p>On the basis project execution so</p>

<p>officials are low, but this has worked tremendously. The RTI Act, 2005 is a great gift to the citizens of independent India.</p>	<p>belongs to government has yet not prepared imbining their duties under the Act.</p>	<p>far, a comprehensive training module should be developed. To ensure corruption free governance, better, if the Consumer Protection Act (COPRA), 1986 is also applied adequately along with the RTI Act, 2005.</p>
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[SRK1] This is future activity based on presumption.
[RT2] Example of carelessness/lack of revision.
[SRK3] Provide full form followed by this in bracket.