

**Report on Online RTI Workshop for CPIOs/FAAs/Link Officers
Organized by: Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)**

Workshop Date: 29th November 2024

Time: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Mode: Virtual (via WebEx)

The workshop aimed to empower Central Public Information Officers (CPIOs), First Appellate Authorities (FAAs), and Link Officers with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective information disclosure and compliance with the RTI Act, 2005.

The workshop began with an **introductory speech** by the Deputy Secretary (Media & PR), who warmly welcomed senior CBSE officers, Resource Person, FAAs; CPIOs and Link Officers of CBSE. The importance of the RTI Act as a cornerstone of democratic governance was emphasized. The address highlighted the dual objectives of the workshop:

- Enhancing participants' understanding of the RTI Act's provisions and addressing practical scenarios.
- Equipping officials with the tools to handle transparency audits, third-party disclosures, and RTI applications effectively.

The Workshop session was taken by Dr. Sunil Kumar, Formerly Professor, National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research (NTTTR), Chandigarh. With over four decades of experience in education, research, and institutional management, Dr. Dutt shared in-depth knowledge of:

- Provisions and exemptions under the RTI Act.
- Practical challenges in managing RTI applications and appeals.
- Transparency audits and best practices for proactive information disclosure.

Dr. Dutt's expertise, drawn from his tenure as a Nodal Officer and CPIO, enriched the participants' understanding of real-world RTI scenarios.

The workshop addressed **critical aspects** of the RTI Act, including:

- Understanding the scope and features of the Act.
- Effective strategies for proactive disclosure and third-party audits.
- Exemptions and compliance requirements under the Act.
- Best practices in handling RTI applications and appeals.

The Participants had the opportunity to interact with Dr. Dutt during a Q&A session. CPIOs, FAAs, and Link Officers shared their experiences, raised doubts, and discussed challenges in implementing the RTI Act. Dr. Dutt provided practical solutions and clarified key provisions.

The training session received an overwhelming response and was attended by **more than 50 officers and staff of CBSE** from various departments/ Regional offices across the Country via Virtual mode.

The workshop concluded with a renewed commitment to fostering transparency and accountability in CBSE's framework. The workshop successfully fulfilled its objectives, equipping participants with a deeper understanding of the RTI Act's provisions and best practices. The insights shared during the session are expected to enhance transparency and responsiveness in handling RTI-related matters across CBSE.
