

Shri Victor Mecwan
Under Secretary (IT),
Department of Science & Technology
Government of Gujarat
Gandhinagar-382010.

20 September 2005

Dear Shri Mecwan,

Re: Materials on the Right to Information.

I am writing from the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) an independent, non-partisan, international NGO with a mandate to ensure the *practical* realization of human rights in the countries of the Commonwealth. Thank you for your kind email dated 19 September 2005 requesting materials on the Right to Information.

For your reference and use, please find enclosed the following documents in relation to the proactive disclosure provisions of the RTI Act 2005 as well as some additional materials:

1. CHRI Summary of the RTI Act;
2. Template for a public information directory prepared by the Uttaranchal Government and used by other State Governments;
3. CHRI Draft Rules on the RTI Act;
4. CHRI Concept Note on Public Education Strategies;
5. CHRI Implementation Conference Report May 2005;
6. CHRI Implementation Conference Resource CD.

Drawing on our experience, CHRI would be happy to assist you in your preparations and training for implementing the RTI Act. We have considerable best practice and expertise in terms of legal drafting and implementation of the right to information. Since the passage of the Act, we have been invited to conduct training programmes by the Government of India and the State Governments of Uttaranchal, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh and Karnataka. We have also prepared documents and educational materials to assist Governments to implement the RTI Act.

If you wish to discuss this letter or if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Venkatesh Nayak, Coordinator, Right to Information India Programme by email at venkatesh@humanrightsinitiative.org, or me at manadakini@humanrightsinitiative.org or telephone on (011) 2685 0523 or (0)9810 199 745.

Yours sincerely

Mandakini Devasher
Project Assistant
Right to Information Programme

