

KARNATAKA RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2000



USER GUIDE



COMMONWEALTH HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE
&
CONSUMER RIGHTS EDUCATION & AWARENESS TRUST



Right to Information

Citizens' Power Tool for Transparency and Accountability

CAUGHT ON THE WRONG FOOT FOR DENYING THE RIGHT TO KNOW

All financial transactions of public bodies must be audited according to law. These Audit Reports are public documents because the monies public bodies receive and spend belong to the public; the officials who execute the works are paid from the citizen tax payer's pocket and the money spent on the auditing process also belongs to the public. The Secretary of the Sangli Grahak Panchayat (Consumer Forum) in Maharashtra applied for the audited balance sheets of the Sangli-Miraj-Kupwad Municipal Corporation. The PIO of the Corporation sought the records from the Chief Auditor within 15 days. There was no response. The applicant filed an appeal with the Municipal Commissioner. The Commissioner inquired into the case and found that there were no audit reports because audits had simply not been conducted for several years. Subsequently, the erring officials were penalised. But the PIO was spared because he was not responsible for the situation.

Source: <http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=95140#>

LOOK WHERE THE MAYOR'S CAR IS TAKING HER

Public funds must be spent on purposes that benefit the public. Officials and elected representatives are allotted telephones and vehicles for effectively performing their public duties. However, these facilities are often misused as there is very little public supervision over the manner in which public officials use them. Maj Gen (retd.) SCN Jatar used the Maharashtra Right to Information Act (MRTI) to find out details of money spent on vehicles allotted to the Mayor and other office-bearers of the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC). The information he received showed that more than Rs. 50 lakhs were spent on these vehicles in just 10 months (January 1 to October 31, 2003). When asked for the break-ups, the PIO did not supply the details. Maj Gen Jatar filed a fresh query under MRTI seeking details of logbook entries on outstation trips made by the Mayor and others. The information showed innumerable outstation trips, whereas PMC's rulebook says official vehicles are to stay within municipal limits, ordinarily. The logbooks showed the Mayor herself was present in more than one place simultaneously no less than 4 times. It also became known that no audit on the use of these official vehicles had been carried out ever. These were clear violations of norms of public spending laid down in the rulebook.

Source: <http://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/programs/ai/rti/india/states/maharashtra.htm>

RAJASTHAN'S DESERT ROBIN HOODS MAKE CORRUPT REPAY VICTIMS

It is well known that a significant portion of the funds released for development often ends up in the pockets of bureaucrats and contractors. It is difficult to make the corrupt pay back because of the tedious process of establishing the truth of who took the money meant for the public. But members of Jagruk Nagarik Manch (JNM) of Nokha, Rajasthan, have made the corrupt cough up public funds by using the RTI law. A contractor in Roda village often cheated daily-wage labourers hired under a government project by not paying them full wages for several months. JNM activists secured payment records submitted by the contractor by filing an application with the concerned department. The records showed that full payment had been made on paper while in reality the workers got only a fraction of the sum. Upon being confronted, the contractor was forced to pay back the workers Rs. 31,000/- In this manner JNM activists have managed to redistribute more than Rs. 10 lakhs of public funds spirited away by the corrupt.

Source: <http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/featuresphp? action=fullnews&id=23415>

MAKING MNCs PAY FOR 'FREE' RESOURCES

Anti-globalisation activists hold multinational corporations (MNCs) directly responsible for milking the natural resources in developing countries for profit. The rich grow richer at the expense of local communities who have very little say in the use of their common property resources. The negotiations and awarding contracts to MNCs are often made behind closed doors and the documents are rarely available to the public. Four MNCs have installed

(Contd. on back cover)

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A USER GUIDE

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Foreword

The success of democracy depends on the degree of citizens' participation in governance: participation not only in elections but also when decisions on policy, laws and schemes are being made, implemented or evaluated for impact. Such involvement not only enhances the quality of governance but also results in transparency and accountability in government functioning.

But how can a citizen take part in his/her own government? How can citizens understand how decisions are being made? How can we know how our tax money is being spent or if public schemes are being properly implemented or whether the government is acting honestly and fairly? How can we make government servants answer our questions?

One way of participating in our own democracy and development is by exercising our right to ask for government-held information. In Karnataka, anyone can use the *Karnataka Right to Information Act 2000* (KRIA) to get government held information. Such legislation recognises that in a democracy like ours, all information lying with government belongs to the people. It is collected, organised and stored, using public money, by public servants in the course of their public duty and making it available to citizens is part of a citizen's right to know how the government is working on his/her behalf.

The Karnataka Government has also initiated a number of other projects and schemes to bring governance closer to the people. For example, the "Bhoomi" project has enabled citizens to get access to land records via government internet kiosks within minutes. The Treasury's transactions are also being computerised under the "Khajane" scheme, with consequent benefits in terms of transparency in government financial dealings. The Government is also in the process of implementing a scheme to computerise all transactions relating to registration of property.

Unfortunately though, there still remains a lot of work to be done. An implementation audit conducted by CHRI and the Public Affairs Centre of Bangalore (an NGO) found in 2003 that over 80% of the applications for information did not receive any response from the departments. In cases where information was provided it was only after repeated follow up by citizens and after the expiration of the 30-day time limit stipulated by the law. The audit exposed the lack of awareness among officials about the right to information law, as well as the lack of systems to deal with information requests from citizens. Experience has also shown that Appellate Authorities and the Karnataka Administrative Tribunal have also been slow to enforce bureaucratic compliance with the KRIA.

One of the surest ways of ensuring that the KRIA is properly implemented and serves its purpose of making the government more responsive to us, the people, is for more of us to use it – and use it effectively. It is with this aim in mind that CHRI has developed this User's Guide. We hope that it helps you to use the KRIA and to make the government more accountable, efficient and effective.

April, 2005

Maja Daruwala
Director, CHRI

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What Is The “Right To Information”?

The right to information simply means being able to get information that is held by the Government and even private agencies whose activities affect the public. The Supreme Court has declared, having access to government-held information is a fundamental right because it is necessary for our democratic functioning. It is part and parcel of the right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by the Constitution – unless one has the knowledge one cannot express an opinion on any issue or make informed choices. The Court has also recognized that the right to information is a necessary part of the right to life – because often government-held information may affect people's rights to life, their liberty and dignity.

The right to information puts a corresponding duty on the government to provide information upon request from a citizen. This can be personal information collected by the Government about individuals or more general information about the government's various schemes, projects, policies and its own decision making processes.

The right to information also places an obligation on the government to make public certain information without anyone specially asking for it. Unfortunately, in practice, in Karnataka many public authorities that are required to publish such information have not been complying with the law. The Government needs to take strong action to rectify this problem. In the meantime, it is up to the public to keep the pressure on government officials to comply with the law. Complaints about non-compliance can be made to the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (**Principal Secretary, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Janaspandana Kosha 14th Floor, Visweswariah Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560001, Tel.: 080-22860120, 22092757 Email: Secydpal@vsb.kar.nic.in**).

Information to be published by Public Authorities (updated every year)

- *The particulars of the organisation, its functions and duties*
- *The powers and duties of officers and employees and the procedure followed by them in the decision making process*
- *The norms set up by the public authority for the discharge of its functions*
- *The details and facilities available to citizens for obtaining information*

The right to information is not absolute however. Not all information that the government has with it must always be given. Some information can be held back and not given out by the government. For example: Where and how many troops are deployed along the border at the time of conflict may not be disclosed even if asked for. Or the opinion of the State Advocate-General given to the Cabinet about whether to prosecute certain citizens and the chances of success of the case need not be made public because the law specifically says it is 'exempt' from public disclosure.

How Can The Karnataka Right To Information Act Help You?

The Karnataka Government enacted the *Karnataka Right to Information Act* (KRIA) in 2000. The corresponding Rules were notified in July 2002. The object of KRIA is to promote openness, transparency and accountability in administration and ensure effective participation of people in the administration.

Eight other states have also enacted right to information legislation in India. Parliament passed the *Freedom of Information Act* in 2002. Unfortunately, it has not yet been activated and is lying dormant. However, activists are currently pressing the Central Government to amend the Act to make it more people-friendly and to implement it as a priority.¹ Many other laws - such as environmental or planning laws and Panchayat laws - also give citizens the right to get information.

The KRIA can be used for a variety of purposes, both personal and to tackle community or State Government issues. For example:

- People holding ration cards can check the stocks and sales registers held by ration card dealers and the Food Department to make sure that they are getting their proper amount of rations and rations are not being siphoned off in their name;
- Parents can ask for details of grants made to government-aided schools to ensure that funds are being spent properly, or can check that admissions are not being bought through bribes or funds meant for education are not being diverted for other purposes;
- Small business people can find out on what basis licenses and/or tax concessions and subsidies are granted and who has been getting them from the government. They can also check that the government is granting licenses/concessions/subsidies on the basis of properly applied criteria;
- Unemployed people can ask about the criteria for giving government jobs or the status of their application and position in the waitlist;
- People can check on the progress of their applications for government services, eg. by checking the status of an application for an electricity or water connection, including what officers have handled the file, over what period of time and what action they took;
- Anyone can ask about information that may not concern them personally but is of public interest such as:
- How often health and environment inspectors visit industries to check that they are not illegally releasing hazardous materials into the environment;
- How many deaths there have there been in a government hospital and what the shortfall of nurses is against sanctioned staff;
- What the attendances of teachers each day in government schools is, on average;
- How many people are being housed in local jails and how many people *are supposed to be* housed;
- How many contractors have been blacklisted by the municipal authorities and how many of those on the blacklist have been given jobs, if any.

¹ Check CHRI's website at <http://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/programs/ai/rti/india/national.htm> for an update on the status of the *Freedom of Information Act*, 2002.

Real Life Examples!

The President of the Consumers Protection Association, Sirsi, filed an application asking for the tender details of a road laying work in Sirsi Town. The Town Municipal Council immediately gave the details and Mr. Hegde Kadekodi is now waiting to monitor the expenses on the roadwork.

A man living in Haveri sought information about the expenses incurred under the Ashraya Scheme of the State Government. The Town Municipal Council did not respond. An appeal was filed with the Tashildar who directed the concerned official to furnish the information and levied a penalty of Rs.500 to be recovered from his salary.

The Secretary of Consumers' Forum, Sagar, Shimoga District, asked for details about water works carried out in Sagar. The information was provided and Mr.Giri is currently cross-checking the expenses incurred with the actual work carried out.

A resident who applied for a new electricity connection for his premises was asked to pay a bribe, which he refused. As a result he was not granted electricity connections. He filed an application and asked questions like the names and designations of the officials who are supposed to take action on the application and the reasons for not doing so. He also asked what action would be taken on the officials for causing mental agony and when he would get the electricity connection. Within a few days, he got his electricity connection.

The Consumer Rights Education and Awareness Trust (CREAT), Bangalore filed an application with the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government and asked the number of electrical accidents, the number of people who died, the officials who might be held responsible for the accident and action taken by the Electricity supply company. The information was given immediately. Now CREAT is trying to use the information to fix responsibility on the officials.

Getting a ration card in India is one of the most difficult jobs. Even more difficult is getting a duplicate in case the original is lost. Nannu, a slum dweller and a daily wage earner, lost his ration card. He made several rounds to the local Food and Civil Supplies Office for the next three months. Yet he could not get one. Nannu filed an application and asked details like the progress made on his application, names of the officials who were supposed to act on his application etc. Within a week the inspector from the Food Department visited Nannu and informed that the ration card was ready for collection.

Getting Access To Information Under The KRIA

Six Principles Of KRIA

1. Public authorities must make certain information available to the public without request.
2. Certain information will not be given even if it is requested for because it is 'exempt' under the law.
3. The procedure for giving information must be made widely known to the public.
4. Any refusal to give information must be explained and reasons must be given.
5. Any refusal to give information can be appealed to the Karnataka Administrative Tribunal and to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court if necessary.
6. A public servant can be fined up to Rs 2000 for withholding information without reasonable grounds.

How can you apply for information under the KRIA?

The KRIA sets out a detailed process on how people should make applications and how Public Authorities should dispose of them.

Step 1. Identify who to send/give the application to

First you need to identify what public body you think holds the information you want so that you know where to direct your application. Notably, the KRIA only gives citizens the right to access information relating to any matter "in respect of the administration or decisions" of **Public Authorities**. These have been defined to include the following bodies:

- All offices of the State Government
- Karnataka Public Service Commission
- All local authorities namely, Panchayat, Municipal Corporation and all authorities constituted by or under any Act of the State Legislature
- All companies, corporations, trust, society or any organization or body funded, owned or controlled by the State Government

Once you have identified the relevant Public Authority, you must submit your request to the "Competent Authority." The KRIA makes Competent Authorities responsible for receiving and processing applications and providing information. In practice, the Competent Authority will be the head of the Public Authority to which you are applying or a person notified by the State Government for the purposes of the KRIA. An exhaustive list of Competent Authorities is provided at the end of this Guide. The complete list of Competent Authorities can be obtained from the website of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (www.kar.nic.in/vsb). Citizens can also ask at the offices of the relevant Public Authority.

What if no Competent Authority has been notified?

Although the Competent Authority is under a duty to accept requests and provide information to the public, in practice it has been reported that some Public Authorities have refused to accept applications on the ground that a Competent Authority has not been notified as being under the Act.

If this happens to you, you can complain to the Under-Secretary of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR), which is the Department responsible for administering the KRIA. Senior Officials of the DPAR have assured that the DPAR would take necessary action against erring officials. (contact: **Principal Secretary, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Janaspandana Kosha 14th Floor, Visweswariah Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560001, Tel: 080-22860120, 22092757. Email: Secydpal@vsb.kar.nic.in**)

Step 2. Draft your application

In order to make sure that your application will be successful make sure that you draft your request in a precise way. This will also ensure that you get the right documents – and don't end up getting loads of documents that you don't want but which you have to pay for.

Please note that you cannot simply ask a Competent Authority a general question under the Act. Experience has shown that some officials have rejected applications because they did not specify a “document” that was required. So you should be very careful to avoid any vagueness or ambiguity. You do not want to give officials an excuse for rejecting your application.

The KRIA allows any citizen to obtain certified copies of any records, diskettes, floppies or information held in any other electronic format. The government can make Rules which prescribe additional categories of information which can be accessed through requests.

When you know exactly what you want to ask for, you will have to draft up an Application. The Rules advise that applications should include the information contained in Form 'A' (see below).² Notably though, it is not essential to get the form from the Government. An application may be made on a photocopied form or even a handwritten application on plain paper can be submitted. The application will be accepted as long as all the information is included.

Box1: Example of a KRIA Application*

Form A

To:

The Deputy Commissioner (East)
Bangalore Mahanagara Palike
(The Competent Authority under the Karnataka Right to Information Act)

- 1. Full Name of the Applicant:** Ms Kavitha Gowda
- 2. Address:** M-44, Bangalore City, Karnataka, 550001
Phone: 2555-5555
- 3. Details of the document required:** All documents, records and other information relating to the repair of Street XXX in District XXX, including relevant contracts, monitoring reports, measurement books, etc.
- 4. Year to which the document pertains:** 2002-2004
- 5. Purposes for which the information is required and how the applicant is interested in obtaining the information:** Public interest**

Receipt No. XXXX

Place : Bangalore

Date : XX-XX-XXXX

Signature of the applicant

** Defective/incomplete applications are liable to be returned*

*** This is NOT a requirement under the KRIA itself, but was added later via the Rules. The purpose for which you want the information should not make a difference to the decision-maker – you have a RIGHT to the information. As such, you should consider simply writing “in the public interest” or “for research purposes”.*

Step 3. Submit your application

Applications must be made in writing in Form A (see Box). At present there is no method of submitting the application by email, so applications must be taken personally to the Public Authority or posted to the Competent Authority. If your application is posted, you should send it by “Under-Certificate of Posting” (UCP), which is cheaper than Registered Post. Using UCP will ensure that you have proof of the date on which the application was posted.

² Karnataka Right to Information Rules, Clause 4(1).

Note : If you are submitting your application in person, always make sure to ask for a receipt for the application. The department has a duty to give you a written receipt for your application.³ The receipt should indicate the time and date when the application was received, and where it was received and who received it.

At the time you make your application, you are NOT required to pay an application fee.

Step 4. Response from the Competent Authority

In some cases, the Competent Authority may send your application back to you on the basis that it has not been filled out properly. In such cases, the Competent Authority must give you an opportunity to redraft the application and resubmit it:

- Where the application is defective;
- Where the application is incomplete, for example, because it does not mention the date, year etc. for which the information is requested;
- Where the information requested is too general in nature and is not required to be ordinarily collected by the public authority⁴.

Can an application be sent back because it doesn't mention the "purpose"?

Some people have reported that Competent Authorities have also been sending back applications because 'purpose' for the request has not been stated. This approach is not in the spirit of the law and was not sanctioned under the KRIA. Instead, this requirement has been included via the Rules. According to the KRIA however, unless information is covered by an exemption, it must be provided to anyone seeking it.

The Competent Authority does not have the discretion to refuse an information request because he/she does not agree with a requestor's reason for seeking the information. Unfortunately, the application form includes a line asking for the purpose of the application. It is best to fill this section in, for the sake of completing the application. It is best to state the purpose shortly, for example: for public interest; personal; research; or any such general purpose. Note though: if your application is still rejected because of your purpose, you should seriously consider appealing the decision.

If the application is in order and there are no queries or questions that arise from it, within, seven days after the application is accepted, the Competent Authority will inform you of the fees that are to be paid. There is no charge or cost to be paid for the time spent in finding the information and processing it for the citizen. **Fees can be paid through Postal Order or Court Fee stamps.**

Box 2: Fees⁵

Information in A4 size paper
Information in a floppy of 1.44MB
Maps Plans etc.

Rs. 5 for each folio (i.e., each piece of paper)
Rs.100 per floppy
A reasonable fee as may be fixed by the Competent Authority

After the payment is received, the Competent Authority shall inform the applicant the date on which the information requested for would be ready. **The information should be provided within 15 working days from the date of receipt of the application.**⁶

³ Karnataka Right to Information Rules, Clause 4(2).

⁴ Section 6(a)

⁵ Karnataka Right to Information Rules, Clause 4 – Table of Fees.

⁶ Section 5(2).

What if your application is made to the wrong Competent Authority?

In case the Competent Authority does not have the information, she/he shall NOT return the application to the applicant, but must transfer the application to the Public Authority which holds the information. If an application is transferred, the requestor must be notified in writing about the Authority to whom the application has been transferred.

Where an application is transferred, the time limits are extended. Thus, the Competent Authority who receives a transferred application must furnish the required information to the applicant within 15 days *from the date of receipt of the application from the first Competent Authority*.⁷

When can a Competent Authority reject your request?

The Right to Information is not absolute. The Act places some restrictions on what types of information can be released to the public⁸. The following are some of the categories of information, which can be denied by the Competent Authority:

- Information, which may affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the state, strategic scientific or economic interest of India or conduct of international relations.
- Information, which would affect public safety and order.
- Information, which may lead to an incitement to commit an offence.
- Information, which would affect fair trial or adjudication of a pending case.
- Information relating to Cabinet papers including records of the deliberations of the Council of ministers, Secretaries and other Officers.
- Information containing internal discussions inter and intra-departmental notes, correspondence and papers containing advice or opinion and assumptions relating to internal policy analysis.
- Information which would prejudice the assessment or collection of any tax, cess, duty or fee or assist in the avoidance or evasion of such tax, cess etc.
- Information relating to trade and commercial secrets protected by law.
- Information that is likely to help or facilitate escape from legal custody or that will impede the process of investigation, of apprehension or prosecution of offenders.
- Personal information, the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual, except where larger public interest is served by disclosure, although information relating to returns of assets and liabilities filed by any Government servant shall be made available to the public.

Ordinarily, even if part of a document contains sensitive information, that information should be cut out and the remainder of the document released. Unfortunately, unlike other laws in India and internationally, the KRIA does not mention partial disclosure. A good Competent Authority should adopt this approach nonetheless, and sever exempt information while disclosing the rest.

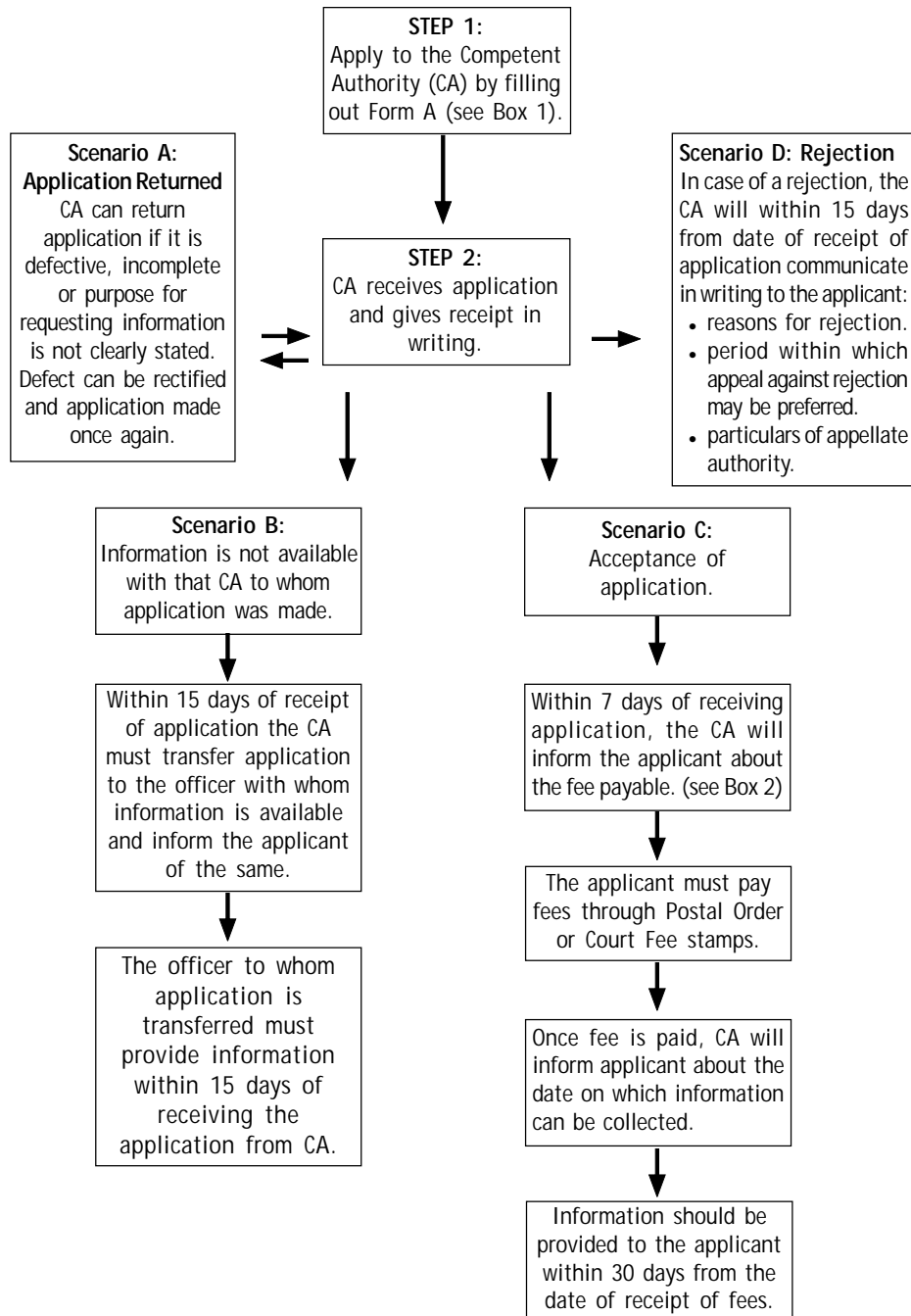
The Competent Authority can also reject your request where the information:

- is already published and available to the public, for example because it is already included in another publication, report, booklet or pamphlet, which has been brought out by a Public Authority;
- is required by law to be published at a particular time.

⁷ Section 5(2).

⁸ Section 4(2).

Application Process



What If The Competent Authority Does Not Give You The Information?

If your request for information is rejected, the Competent Authority must inform you of the rejection in writing.⁹ The Competent Authority must give you reasons for the rejection, and must also tell you the period within which you can file an appeal against the rejection and the particulars of the Appellate Authority- such as the name, designation, address and contact numbers. (An exhaustive list of the Appellate Authorities under various departments is provided at the end of this guide. For the complete list please visit www.kar.nic.in/vsb)

What if you get no answer to your application?

If you receive no communication from the Competent Authority within 15 working days from the day on which you submitted your application, you can appeal to the Appellate Authority.¹⁰

How does the Appeal Process work?

The appeal process has two stages:

- (1) An aggrieved requester must apply first to an internal Appellate Authority. The Appellate Authority is designated as “the authority immediately superior to the Competent Authority” (An exhaustive list of the Appellate Authorities under various departments is provided at the end of this guide);¹¹
- (2) If aggrieved by the decision of the Appellate Authority also, the requester can appeal to the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal.

Box 3: Form of Appeal Applications¹²

Every appeal shall be accompanied by a copy of the order appealed against and shall specify:

- a. Name and address of the appellant and the particulars regarding the Competent Authority;
- b. Date of receipt of order, if any, of the Competent Authority appealed against;
- c. Grounds of appeal;
- d. Relief that the applicant claims.

The appeals bodies have the power to overturn previous decisions and order the Competent Authority to release information. Unfortunately, in practice it has been found that some Appellate Authorities are not responding to appeal applications. Problematically, in such cases, the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal has been saying that it will not entertain appeals unless there has first been an order from the Appellate Authority within the Department. If this happens to you, you can complain to the Under-Secretary of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, which is the Department responsible for administering the KRIA (DPAR, Karnataka Government Secretariat, M.S. Building Bangalore. Email: Secydpal@vsb.kar.nic.in).

⁹ Section 5(3).

¹⁰ Section 7(1)(ii).

¹¹ For the complete list of Appellate Authorities please visit www.kar.nic.in/vsb

¹² Karnataka Right to Information Rules, Clause 2.

Another Avenue for Appeal – Going Straight to the High Court?

A social activist filed a KRIA application seeking information about the budget allocation for the water treatment plant to be established by Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BMP) in Koramangala, Bangalore. The Competent Authority (the BMP Deputy Commissioner) did not respond. After repeated oral requests, the applicant filed an appeals to the Appellate Authority (the BMP Special Commissioner). The Appellate Authority did not respond either.

The applicant was aware of the KAT's reluctance to entertain appeals where no order was made by the AA. Accordingly, rather than appealing to the KAT, the applicant filed a writ petition before the Karnataka High Court, asking the Court to direct the CA to provide the information within the stipulated time, impose a penalty and direct the AA to take disciplinary action against the CA. At that point, the Authorities attempted to sort the issue out informally with the applicant, but the applicant preferred to get an order from the Court. When the Authorities eventually appeared before the Court, they admitted their lapse. The High Court directed the Authorities to provide the information within 24 hours – and this order was complied with.

Source: Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore

Can officials be punished if they do not comply with the KRIA?

Yes.¹³ A penalty can be levied on the Competent Authority if he/she:

- Fails to supply information without any reasonable cause.
- Fails to supply information within the period specified under KRIA.
- Furnishes information, which is false and knows or has reasonable cause to believe it to be false.

The Appellate Authority within the Department and the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal can impose a penalty on the Competent Authority not exceeding Rs 2000. The penalty shall be recoverable from his/her salary or if no salary is drawn, as arrears of land revenue. The Competent Authority will also be liable to disciplinary action under the Service Rules applicable to him.

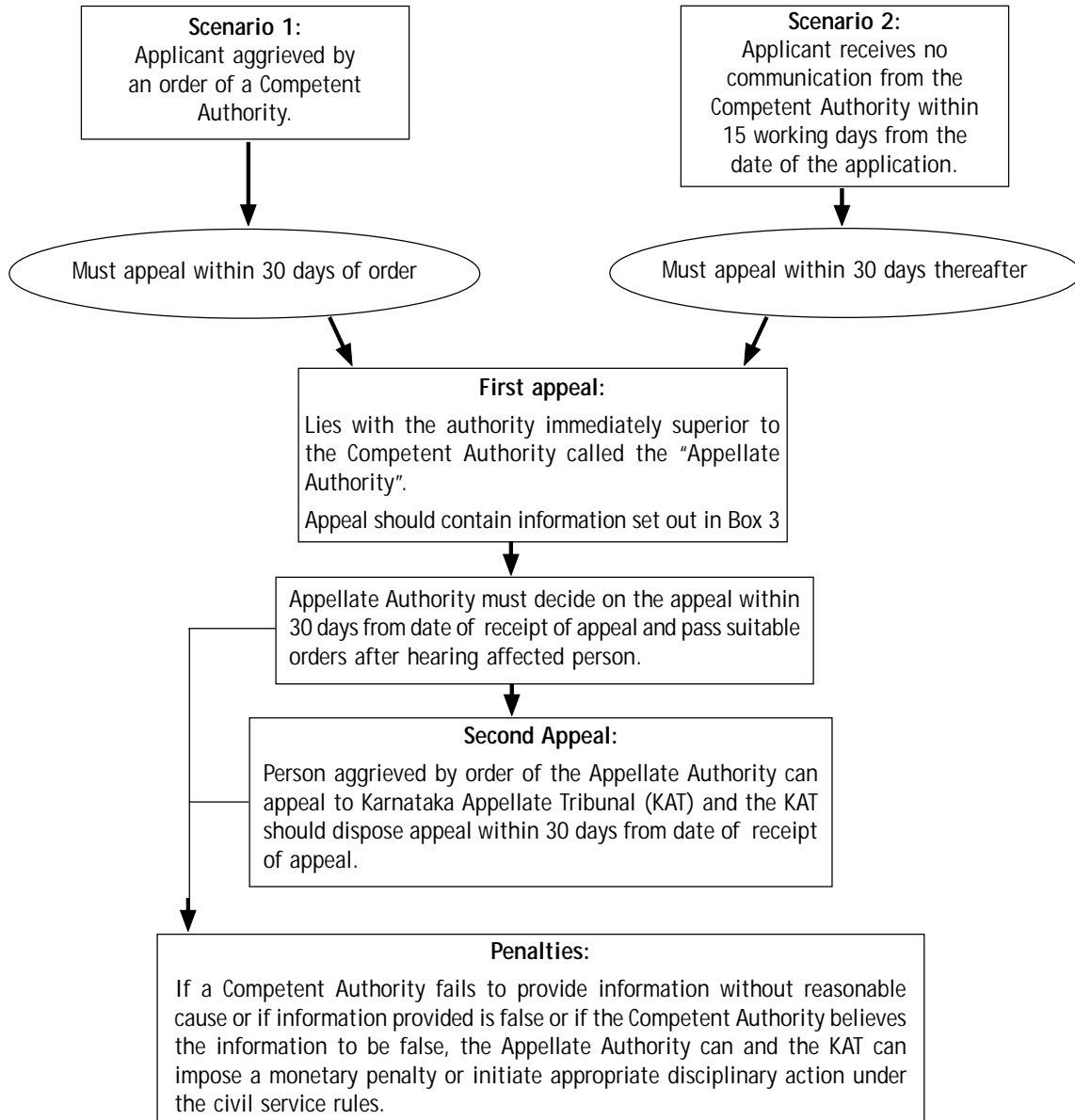
Precedent For Imposing A Penalty On An Erring Official

A freelance journalist from Haveri filed a KRIA application seeking information about the amount spent under the Aashraya Housing Scheme. No action was taken on his application by the Competent Authority (the Municipal Commissioner). An appeal was filed to the Appellate Authority (the Deputy Commission, Haveri District). The AA ordered the CA to furnish the information, but this order was ignored. Consequently, the AA imposed a penalty of Rs 500 on the defaulting CA and directed that the lapse be recorded in the CA's personnel files. The amount of the fine was recovered from the CA's salary.

Source: Consumer Rights Education and Awareness Trust, Bangalore

¹³Section 9.

Appeal Process



The Karnataka Right To Information Act 2000

Parliamentary Affairs And Legislation Secretariat Notification

No. SAMVYASHAE
47, SHASANA 2000, Bangalore
Dated 7th February, 2001

Ordered that the translation of the Karnataka Right to Information Act, 2000 in the English language, be published as authorised by the Governor of Karnataka under clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India in the Karnataka Gazette for general information.

The following translation of the Karnataka Right to Information Act, 2000 in the English language is published in the Official Gazette under the authority of the Governor of Karnataka under clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India.

KARNATAKA ACT No. 28 OF 2000

(First Published in the Karnataka Gazette on the thirteenth day of December, 2000)

THE KARNATAKA RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2000

(Received the assent of the Governor on the tenth day of December, 2000)

An Act to provide for right of access to information to the citizens of the State and in relation to the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Whereas, right to Government held information in accepted by the Supreme Court as a part of right to speech and expression guaranteed to citizens in the Constitution.

And whereas providing right of access to information to the citizens of the State promotes openness, transparency and accountability in administration and ensures effective participation of people in the administration and thus makes democracy meaningful.

And whereas it is expedient to provide for right of access to information to the citizens of the State and in relation to the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the fifty first year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:-

1. This Act may be called the Karnataka Right to Information Act, 2000.
2. It shall come into force from such date, as the State Government may, by notification, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.

2. DEFINITIONS :-

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires;

- a) "Competent authority" means head of the office or any officer or person as may be notified by the State Government for the purpose of this Act:

Provided that where the Competent Authority transfers application to any officer or person under the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 5, such officer or person shall be deemed to be the "Competent Authority"

- b) "Information" means information relating to any matter in respect of the affairs of the administration or decisions of a public authority;
- c) "Public authority" means:-
 - (i) all offices of the State Government including the Karnataka Public Service Commission;

- (ii) all local authorities, all authorities constituted by or under any Act of the State Legislature for the time being in force, a company, Corporation, trust, society, any statutory or other authority, Co-operative society or any organisation or body funded, owned or controlled by the State Government but does not include :
 - i. Offices of the Central Government.
 - ii. Any establishment of the armed forces or Central Para Military forces.
 - iii. Any body or corporation owned or controlled by the Central Government.
- d) "Right to Information" means right of access to information from any public authority:-
 - (i) by obtaining certified copies of any records;
 - (ii) by obtaining diskettes, floppies or any other electronic mode or through print-outs where such information is stored in a computer or in any other device;
 - (iii) in such other manner as may be prescribed;
- e) "Record" includes:-
 - (i) any document, manuscript and file;
 - (ii) any microfilm, microfiche and facsimile copy of document;
 - (iii) any reproduction of image or images embodied in such microfilm (whether enlarged or not) and
 - (iv) any other material produced by a computer or by any other device.
- (f) "Trade secret" means information contained in a formula, pattern, compilation, programme, device, product, method, technique or process which is not generally known and which may have economic value.

3. OBLIGATION OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES:-

Every public authority shall :

- (a) maintain all records in such manner and form as is consistent with its operational requirements duly catalogued and indexed.
- (b) publish at such intervals as may be prescribed:-
 - (i) The particulars of its organisation, functions and duties.
 - (ii) The powers and duties of officers and employees and the procedure followed by them in the decision making process:-
 - (iii) The norms setup by the public authority for the discharge of its functions;
 - (iv) The details of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information;
- (c) publish all relevant facts concerning such of the important decisions and policies that affect the public as may be prescribed while announcing such decisions and policies;
- (d) before sanctioning or initiating or causing to sanction or initiate any project scheme or activity as may be specified by the State Government, publish or communicate to the public generally or to the persons affected or likely to be affected by the project, scheme or activity in particular in such manner as may be prescribed, the facts available to it or to which it has reasonable access which in its opinion should be known to them in the best interests of maintenance of democratic principles;
- (e) publish such other information as may be prescribed.

4. RIGHT TO INFORMATION : -

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act every citizen shall have the right to information.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), no person shall be given:
 - (a) information, the disclosure of which would prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India,

security of the State, strategic scientific or economic interest of India or conduct of International relations.

- (b) information, the disclosure of which would prejudicially affect public safety and order or which may lead to an incitement to commit an offence or prejudicially affect fair trial or adjudication of a pending case.
- (c) information relating to Cabinet papers including records of the deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other Officers.

Provided that information regarding the decisions of the Cabinet along with the reasons leading to the decision shall be made available and every Government Order issued on the basis of the Cabinet decision shall be accompanied by a statement explaining the reasons for and the circumstances under which the decision is taken.

- (d) information the disclosure of which would harm, frankness and candour of internal discussions including inter departmental or intra departmental notes, correspondence and papers containing advice or opinion as also of projections and assumptions relating to internal policy analysis. Provided that information regarding minutes or records, advice including legal advice, opinion or recommendation made or given in respect of the executive decisions or policy formulations shall be made available after an executive decision is taken or policy formulation is done.
- (e) information the disclosure of which would prejudice the assessment or collection of any tax, cess, duty or fee or assist in avoidance or evasion of the tax, cess, duty or fee.
- (f) information the disclosure of which would constitute a breach of privilege of the Parliament or the State Legislature;

Provided that the Competent Authority shall before withholding information under this clause refer the matter to the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat or the Karnataka Legislative Council Secretariat, as the case may be for determination of the issues and act according to the advice tendered by the Secretariat.

Provided further that in computing the period of fifteen working days under sub-section (2) of section 5 for the purpose of this clause, the time required for determination of issues under the first proviso shall be excluded.

- (g) information regarding trade or commercial secrets protected by law or information, the disclosure of which would prejudicially affect the legitimate economic and commercial interest or the competitive position of a public authority; or would cause unfair gain or loss to any person.
- (h) information regarding any matter which is likely to:-
 - (i) help or facilitate escape from legal custody or affect prison security; or
 - (ii) impede the process of investigation or apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

5. PROCEDURE FOR SUPPLY OF INFORMATION:-

- (1) A person desirous to obtain information shall make an application to the Competent Authority in the prescribed manner, along with such fee, in such form and with such particulars, as may be prescribed.

Provided that the fee payable shall not exceed the actual cost of supplying information.

- (2) On the receipt of an application requesting for information, the competent authority shall consider it and except for justifiable reasons, pass orders thereon either granting or refusing it, as soon as practicable and in any case within fifteen working days from the date of receipt of the application;

Provided that where the Competent Authority does not have the information, he shall within fifteen days from the date of receipt of application transfer the application to the officer or person with whom such information is available and inform the applicant accordingly and thereafter such officer or person to whom such application is transferred shall furnish information within fifteen working days from the date of receipt of the application from the competent authority.

(3) Where a request is rejected under sub-section (2), the Competent Authority shall communicate in writing to the person making the request:

- The reasons for such rejection.
- The period within which the appeal against such rejection may be preferred.
- The particulars of the appellate authority.

6. GROUNDS FOR REFUSAL TO SUPPLY INFORMATION IN CERTAIN CASES:

Without prejudice to the provisions of section 4, the Competent Authority may also reject a request for supply of information where such request:

(a) is too general in nature and the information sought is of such nature that, it is not required to be ordinarily collected by the public authority.

Provided that where such request is rejected on the aforesaid ground, it shall be the duty of the Competent Authority to render help as far as possible to the person seeking information to reframe the request in such a manner as may facilitate the supply of information.

(b) relates to information that is required by law, rules, regulations or orders to be published at a particular time; or

(c) relates to information that is contained in published material available to public.

(d) relates to personal information the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual except where larger public interest is served by disclosure.

Provided that the information relating to returns of assets and liabilities filed by any Government servant shall be made available to the public.

7. APPEALS:-

(1) Subject to such rules as may be prescribed, any person :

(i) aggrieved by an order of the Competent Authority may, within thirty days from the date of receipt of such order or

(ii) who has not received any communication within a period of fifteen working days from the date of making application under section 5, may within thirty days next after such period; appeal to such authority as may be prescribed :

Provided that no appeal shall lie against an order of withholding of information under clause (f) of sub-section (2) of section 4.

(2) The Appellate Authority may, after giving the person affected a reasonable opportunity of being heard, pass such order as it deems fit.

(3) Any person aggrieved by the order of the Appellate Authority under sub-section (2) may prefer an appeal to the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal.

(4) Appeals referred to in sub-section (1) and (3) shall be disposed of within thirty days from the date of receipt of such appeals.

8. POWER TO REMOVE DIFFICULTIES:-

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by an order make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act and appear to them to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty, provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

9. PENALTIES:-

Where any Competent Authority, without any reasonable cause fails to supply information sought for within the

period specified under section 5 or furnishes information which is false with regard to any material particulars and which it knows or has reasonable cause to believe it to be false.

- (1) the authority immediately superior to the competent authority may impose a penalty not exceeding two thousand rupees on such competent authority as it thinks appropriate after giving him a reasonable opportunity of being heard and such a penalty shall be recoverable from his salary or if no salary is drawn as arrears of land revenue; and he shall also be liable to disciplinary action under the service rules applicable to him.

10. BAR OF JURISDICTION OF COURTS:-

No Court shall entertain any suit, application or other proceeding in respect of any order made under this Act and no such order shall be called in question otherwise than by way of an appeal under this Act.

11. ACT TO HAVE OVERRIDING EFFECT:-

The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law made by the State Legislature in respect of any matter falling under State list or Concurrent list except the provisions of any existing law or a law made by Parliament in respect of any matter falling under Concurrent list.

12. POWER TO MAKE RULES:-

- (1) The State Government may, after previous publication by notification make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act.
- (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power such rules may provided for all or any of the following matters, namely :
 - (a) the fee payable under section 5.
 - (b) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, prescribed.
- (3) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature while it is in Session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions and if before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following, both the Houses agree in making modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that rule should not be made the rule thereafter, shall have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be, so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

13. REPEAL AND SAVINGS:-

- (1) The Karnataka Right to Information Ordinance, 2000 (Karnataka Ordinance No.9 of 2000) is hereby repealed.
- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under this Act.

The above translation of the Karnataka Right to Information Ordinance, 2000 be published in the Official Gazette under clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India.

V.S.RAMADEVI

Governor of Karnataka

By order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka

M.R. HEGDE

Secretary to Government

Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation.

The Karnataka Right To Information Rules, 2002

Notification

No. DPAR/56YOMASA/2002(2), Bangalore, Dated: 18th July 2002

Whereas the draft of the Karnataka Right to information Rules, 2001 was published as required by sub-section (1) of Section 12 of the Karnataka Right to information Act, 2000 (Karnataka Act 28 of 2000) in Notification No. _08o:BJ 244 _06.!J 2000 in Part IV-A of the Karnataka Gazette Extraordinary dated 12-10-2001, inviting objections and suggestions from persons likely to be affected thereby, within thirty days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Whereas, the said Gazette was made available to the public on 12-10-2001.

And whereas, the objections and suggestions received have been considered by the State Government.

Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 12 of the Karnataka Right to information Act, 2000 (Karnataka Act 28 of 2000), the Government of Karnataka hereby makes the following rules, namely:

RULES

1. Title and Commencement.-

- (1) These rules may be called the Karnataka Right to information Rules, 2002.
- (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions.-In these rules unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Act" means the Karnataka Right to information Act, 2000 (Karnataka Act 28 of 2000).
- (b) "Section" means a section of the Act.
- (c) "Form" means a form appended to these rules.

3. Manner and Interval of publication of certain particulars etc, under Section 3.*-

Every public authority shall publish, on the notice board, once in a year the matter specified in clause (b) of Section 3.

Provided that such publication will not be necessary if the information is included in any other publication, report, booklet or pamphlet, that may have been brought out by the Public Authority or there is no change in the information already published during the previous year.

4. Procedure for supply of information.-

- (1) Any person desirous to obtain information under the Act shall make an application to the competent authority in Form-A.
- (2) The Competent Authority shall acknowledge the receipt of the application in writing. A register of applications so received shall also be maintained by each Competent Authority.
- (3) The fees for supplying the copies of the document shall be as specified in the table below:

TABLE

1. In respect of matters in A4 size paper
For each Folio Rupees Five (Rs. 5)
2. In case where information is supplied in the floppy of 1.44MB
Rupees one hundred per floppy. (Rs. 100)
- (4) In the case of maps and plans, etc., a reasonable fee shall be fixed by the Competent Authority in each case depending upon the cost of labour and material required to be employed.

* All provisions of KRIA except clauses 3(c) & 3(d) were operationalised vide GR No. SiASuE : 56: YOMASA: 2002(1) dated July 18, 2002.

(5) The Competent Authority shall, within seven days from the date of receipt of the application under sub-rule (1) indicate the copying fees on the application and the applicant shall remit the fees to the Competent Authority through postal order or court fee stamps. On payment of such fee, the Competent Authority shall inform the applicant the date on which the copy requested for would be ready.

(6) The date of receipt of the application as mentioned in sub-section (2) of Section 5 would be the date of receipt of fee by the Competent Authority under sub-rule (5).

Provided that the application so received may be returned to the applicant where:

(i) the purpose is not clearly indicated in the application. (ii) the application is incomplete or otherwise defective.

(ii) the record, from which the information is to be furnished is not readily available with the public Authority and is pending with the Courts, Lokayuktha, Police or any other authority at the time of the receipt of the application.

Provided further that in case of clauses (i) and (ii) a fresh application may be filed after complying with observations made with reference to the earlier application.

5. Appeals.-

(1) An appeal under sub-section (1) and Section 7 shall lie to an authority immediately superior to the Competent Authority.

(2) Every such appeal shall be accompanied by a copy of the order, if any, appealed against and it shall specify:

(a) the name and address of the applicant and the particulars regarding the Competent Authority.

(b) the date of receipt of order, if any, of the Competent Authority appealed against.

(c) the grounds of appeal; and

(d) the relief which the applicant claims.

Form -888 A
[See Rule 4(1)]

1. Full Name of the Applicant

2. Address

3. Details of the document required

4. Year to which the document pertains

5. Purposes for which the information is required and how the applicant is interested in obtaining the information

Receipt No.

Place:

Date:

Signature of the applicant

(Note:- Defective/incomplete applications are liable to be returned)

By Order and in the name of the
Governor of Karnataka

M.C. POONACHA

Under Secretary to Government,

Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms,

Public Grievances & Redressal Organisation.

List of Competent Authorities and Appellate Authorities
(Secretariat Level)

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
1.	Agriculture and Horticulture	1. Agriculture 2. Horticulture	Additional Secretary/ Deputy Secretary	1. Principal Secretary 2. Secretary (Horticulture)
2.	Animal Husbandry and Fisheries	1. Animal Husbandry 2. Fisheries	Deputy Secretary	Principal Secretary
3.	Commerce and Industries	Commerce and Industries	Secretary	Additional Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary
4.	Co-operation	Co-operation	Deputy Secretary	Principal Secretary
5.	Personnel, Administration and Reforms (DPAR)	1. Services - A to F 2. Services Rules – A to F 3. Administration 4. Personnel 5. Accounts	Under Secretary (concerned)	1. Additional / Joint / Deputy Secretary – Services 2. Joint / Deputy Secretary – Services Rules 3-5: Joint / Deputy Secretary Administration
6.	Education	Education	Deputy Secretary (Coordination)	Secretary, Higher Education
7.	Energy	Dept. of Energy	Deputy / Under Secretary	Not notified
8.	Finance	1. Expenditure 1 & 3 2. Expenditure 2 & 4 3. Expenditure 5 to 8 4. Expenditure 8 5. Budget 6. Administration and Advance 7. Services 8. Pension and Institutional Finance 9. Excise 10. Commercial Tax	Under Secretary (concerned)	1, 5 & 10: Deputy Secretary (Budget and Resources) 2 & 6: Deputy Secretary (1) 3. Deputy Secretary (2) 4. Special Officer (Zilla Panchayat) 7. Deputy Secretary (Services) 8. Special Officer (Pension) 9. Deputy Secretary (Excise)
9.	Food and Civil Supplies	Food 1 to 3	Under Secretary or Desk Officer (concerned)	Deputy / Joint / Additional Secretary
10.	Forest, Ecology & Environment	1. Forest 2. Ecology & Environment	Under Secretaries (Admin., A, B, C & D) & Internal Financial Advisor Under Secretary (Ecology) & Director (Technical Cell)	1. Secretary, Forest 2. Secretary, Ecology
11.	Health & Family Welfare	1. Services 1 & 2 2. Health and Services 3. Child and Reproductive Health & Family Welfare 4. Indian Systems of Medicine and R&I	Under Secretary (concerned)	1 to 3: Deputy secretary (1) 2. Deputy Secretary (2)
12.	Home and Transport	<u>Home</u> 1. Police Services A & B 2. Police Auxiliary Services and Police Expenditure 3. Prisons and Cinema, R&I, Coordination 4. Crime A & B 5. Law & Order A & B, COFEPOSA and Advisory Board 6. Passport and Foreigners <u>Transport</u> 1. Transport 1 & 2 2. Legal Cell 3. IFA	Under Secretary (concerned) 1. Under Secretary (1&2) 2. Under Secretary (Legal Cell) 3. Deputy Secretary (IFA)	1 to 3: Additional / Joint / Deputy Secretary (Police Services) 4 to 6: Additional / Joint / Deputy Secretary (Law and Order) 1. Additional / Joint / Deputy Secretary (Transport) 2. Additional / Joint / Deputy Secretary (concerned) 3. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary / Secretary (PCAS)

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
13.	Information, Tourism, Kannada and Culture	1. Information 2. Karnataka Cinema Industries Development Corporation 3. Tourism 4. Cultural Section 5. Kannada Admin. Section and R&I	1 & 3: Under Secretary (Information & Tourism) 2. Desk Officer (Information Section) 4. Under Secretary & Desk Officer (Cultural Section) 5. Under Secretary (concerned)	Deputy Secretary / Secretary
14.	Information Technology and Bio-technology	IT and Bio-technology	Under Secretary (IT & BT)	Secretary
15.	Irrigation	Minor Irrigation Water Resources Department	Secretary (Water Resources)	Principal Secretary
16.	Labour	Labour Department	Deputy Secretary	Secretary
17.	Law	1. Litigation 1 to 4 2. Litigation 6 & 7	Deputy Secretary (concerned)	Addl. Secretary (concerned)
18.	Parliamentary Affairs & Legislation	Parliamentary Affairs & Legislation	Asst. Draftsman and Ex-officio Under / Deputy Secretary in charge of Publication Section	Not given
19.	Public Works Department	Public Works	Secretary	Principal Secretary
20.	Revenue Department	Revenue Department	Deputy Secretary (Coordination)	Addl. Secretary (Land Reforms, Modernization & Computerization)
21.	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	Deputy Secretary (Admin) Director Panchayat Raj / Rural Energy Programme / Special Economic Programme / Infrastructure / Area Development Programme / Karnataka RWS / Joint Director (Planning Monetary Cell, IFA)	Secretary
22.	Social Welfare	Social Welfare	Deputy Secretary	Not given
23.	Urban Development	Urban Development	Deputy Secretary (MA)	Principal Secretary
24.	Women and Child Welfare	Women and Child Welfare	Under Secretary (1&2)	Principal Secretary
25.	Infrastructure Development	Infrastructure A & B	Under Secretary	Joint Secretary
26.	Karnataka State Bureau of Public Enterprises	Karnataka State Bureau of Public Enterprises	Joint Director (PMI) / Administrative Officer & Ex-officio Under Secretary to Govt.	Not notified
27.	Youth Services	Youth Services	Under Secretary	Deputy Secretary

List of Competent Authorities and Appellate Authorities
(Department Level)

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
1.	Agriculture Department	1. Dept. of Agriculture 2. Dist. Joint Directors of Agriculture (27 Districts) 3. Taluk Asst. Directors of Agriculture (176 Taluks)	1. Director, Agriculture 2. Joint Directors (District level) 3. Asst. Directors (Taluk level)	1. Commissioner of Agriculture 2. Director of Agriculture 3. Directors of Agriculture (District level)
2.	Directorate of Agricultural Marketing	State Level: Directorate of Agricultural Marketing Divisional Level: Office of the Deputy Director / Asst. Director Taluka Level: Marketing of Agricultural Products	State Level: Addl. Director, No.16, 2 nd Raj Bavan Road, P.B.No,5309, Bangalore-1 Divisional Level: Superintendent Taluka Level: Asst. Secretary / Accountant	State Level: Director Divisional Level: Deputy / Asst. Director Taluka Level: Secretary
3.	Directorate of Sugar	Commissioner for Sugarcane Development and Dir. of Sugar	Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies / Headquarters Assistant of Sugar Cane Development. No.32, Chaugale Building, 6 th floor, Crescent road Bangalore	Commissioner for Sugar Cane Development and Director of Sugar
4.	Directorate of Horticulture	Office of the Director, Horticulture, Lalbagh, Bangalore	Joint Director of Horticulture (Admin)	Director
5.	Directorate Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services (AH & VS) <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Director (AH & VS) 2. Dir. (Financial) 3. Dir. (Medicines, Chemicals and Equipment) 4. Dir. (Vigilance, Legal Cell and Public Grievances) 5. Dir. (Registration of Poultry Development) 6. Dir. (Poultry and Cattle Licensing) 7. Dir. (Matters relating to all forms & other programmes) 8. Dir. (Dairy matters) 9. Joint Dir. Animal Husbandry, Belgaum Division (all branches)	1. Headquarters Assistant (Central Office) 2. Financial Asst. 3. Deputy Dir. (Planning) 4. Admin. Assistant (Vigilance) 5. Asst. Dir. (concerned) 6. Asst. Dir (QPPF) 7. Deputy Dir. (Poultry and Sheep Development) 8. Asst. Dir. (Milk) 9. Asst. Dir. (Belgaum)	1 to 4: Joint Director (Admin.) 5 to 8: Joint Director (Development) 9. Joint Director, Belgaum Division
6.	Directorate of Fisheries <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Joint Dir. (Inland, Coastal), Bangalore 2. Plan Coordination Officers, Malpe, Honnavar Ports, Malpe 3. Dy. Secretaries of Zilla Panchyats (relating to ZP plan schemes) 4. Senior Asst. Dir. Fisheries 5. Dy. Director Fisheries (concerned)	1. Sr. Asst. Director, Bangalore 2. Sr. Asst. Dir (concerned Ports and fisheries Centres) 3. Dist. Level Fisheries Officers / Sr. Asst. Dir. Fisheries 4. Asst. Dir. (taluk level) 5. CEO concerned Fisheries Development Organisation	1. Director, Fisheries Bangalore. 2. Not given 3. CEO of ZP (concerned) / Dir. of Fisheries 4. CEO of ZP (concerned) / Dy. Dir. Fisheries (Planning) 5. CEO of ZP (concerned)
7.	Directorate of Industries and Commerce	Head Office: Joint Director (Industrial Development) District Level: District Dy. Director (Offices of Industries and Commerce Department)	Head Office: Additional Director (Small Scale Industries) Khanija Bhavan, Devaraj Urs Road, Bangalore. District Level: Joint Directors (concerned Districts)	Head Office: Commissioner for Industrial Development District Level: Director, Industries and Commerce

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
8.	Factories and Boilers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chief Inspector, Factories and Boilers, Bangalore 2. Jt. Chief Inspector, Factories 1,2 and Jt. Chief Inspector Boilers, Bangalore 3. Dy. Chief Inspector of Factories 1,2, and 3, / Deputy Chief Inspector, Boilers 1 and 2, Bangalore/ Mysore/ Mangaore/ Belgaum/ Hubli/ Gulbarga/ 4. Senior Inspector / Inspector, Factories/ Boilers, Bangalore/ Mysore/ Mangalore/ Belgaum/ Hubli/ Gulbarga/ Anekal/ Kolar/ Doddaballapur/ Mandya/ Gokak/ Gadag/ Bijapur/ Shimoga/ Raichur/ Davanagere/ Bellary/ Tumkur 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chief Inspector, Factories 2. Jt. Chief Inspector, Factories/ Boilers 3 & 4: Concerned Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories / Boilers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Principal Secretary to Govt. Labour Department 2. Chief Inspector, Factories and Boilers 3 & 4: Jt. Chief Inspector, Factories / Boilers
9.	Commissioner, Textile Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioner for Textile Development and Director of Handlooms & Textiles. 2. Deputy / Asst. Dir. (district level) 3. Co-operative Societies of Weavers Federation under the Control of Commissioner for Textiles 4. District Level Weavers Co-operative Societies and Spinning Mills 5. Weavers Co-operative Societies (Taluk Level and below District Level) 6. Weavers Co-operative Societies (below Taluk Level) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gazetted Assistant to the Commissioner, No.14/3a, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore -1 2. Deputy / Asst. Dir. (district level) 3. Chief Executive Officer of the Federation at State Level 4. Chief Executive Officers of the Concerned Co-operative Societies and Mills 5&6: CEO of the Co-operative Societies (concerned) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioner for Textile Development and Director of Handlooms & Textiles. 2. CEO of ZP (concerned) 3. Commissioner for Textile Development 4. Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Textiles), Office of the Commissioner for Textile Development 5. Dy. Registrar, Co-operative Societies (concerned district) 6. Asst. Registrar, Co-operative Societies (concerned district)
10.	Cooperative Societies Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registrar of Co-operative Societies. No.1, Ali Askar Road, Bangalore-52 2. Regional Assistant Directors of Co-operative Societies 3. Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies (District Level) 4. Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies (Sub-Divisional Level) 5. Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Money Lenders Act and Pawn Brokers Act) (District Level) 6. Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits), Bangalore 7. Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits), (Regional) 8. Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits) (District Level) 9. Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits) (Sub-Divisional Level) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addl. Registrar (Admin. & Development) 2. Headquarters Asst. 3. Development Officers (Cooperation) 4. Asst. Registrars (sub-divisional level) 5. Dy. Registrar (Cooperative Societies) 6. Jt. Registrar, Cooperative Societies (Enquiry and Inspection), Bangalore 7. Headquarters Assistant 8. Development Officers of Cooperative Societies. 9. Asst. Registrar 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registrar, Cooperative Societies 2. Jt. Registrar, Cooperative Societies (Regional) 3 & 4: Deputy Registrar of District Co-operative Societies 5. Jt. Registrar, Cooperative Societies 6. Registrar, Chits 7. Regional Joint Registrar of Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits) 8 & 9: Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Chits)

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
11.	Cooperative Audit Department <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Office of the Director Cooperative Audit 2. Office of the Deputy Director (district level) 3. Office of the Asst. Director (Divisional level) 4. Office of the Senior Auditor (taluk level)	1. Jt. Director (Audit) 2. Deputy Director 3. Asst. Director 4. Senior Auditor	1. Director 2&3: District Deputy Director (Audit) 4. Asst. Director (Divisional)
12.	Department of Public Instructions (PI)	1. Office of the Commissioner for PI 2. Office of the Director, DSERT and KSSEB etc. 3. Office of the Jt. Dir. 4. Office of the Dy. Dir 5. Office of the Block Education Officer 6. Office of the Head Master	1. Jt. Director (Admin) 2. Director (concerned) 3. Jt. Director (concerned) 4. Dy. Director (concerned) 5. Block Education Officer 6. Head Master	1 & 2: Commissioner for Public Instruction 3. Director Of Public Instruction (Secondary) 4. Jt. Director (PI) 5. Dy. Director (PI) 6. Block Education Officer
13.	Dept. of Pre-University Education	1. Office of the Director 2. Office of the Dy. Director 3. Principals of P.U Colleges	1. Jt. Director (Admin) 2. Deputy Director 3. Principal (concerned)	1. Director 2. Jt. Director (Admin) 3. Dy. Director (Pre-University)
14.	Directorate of Technical Education	1. Office of the Directorate of Technical Education 2. Government Engineering Colleges 3. Government Polytechnics	1. Chief Administrative officer 2. Principal (concerned College) 3. Principal (concerned Polytechnic)	1. Director, Technical Education 2 & 3: Not given
15.	Commissioner for Collegiate Education	1. Office of the Commissioner for Collegiate Education 2. Office of the Department of Collegiate Education (Regional office : Bangalore, Mysore, Dharwad,, Mangalore, Gulbarga, Shimoga) 3. Government Degree Colleges 4. Private Aided Colleges	1. Addl. Director, Collegiate Education 2. Regional Jt. Director (concerned) 3. Principals (concerned) 4. Principals (concerned)	1. Commissioner for Collegiate Education 2. Addl. Director, Collegiate Education 3 & 4: Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education
16.	Universities	1. Office of the University (all matters except exams) 2. Office of the University (for examination/ evaluation) 3. Office of the University Constituent Colleges	1. Registrar 2. Registrar (Evaluation) 3. Principals (concerned)	1 & 2: Vice Chancellor 3. Registrar
17.	Common Entrance Test Cell	Office of the Special Officer, CET Cell	Administrative Officer	Special Officer
18.	Dept. of Mass Education	1. Office of the Director 2. Office of the District Adult Education Officer	1. Dy. Director (Admin) 2. District Adult Education Officer	1. Director 2. Dy. Director (Admin)

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
19.	Dept. of Commercial Tax (CT) <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Office of the Commissioner (CT), Bangalore 2. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Admin) 3. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Admin & Intelligence) 4. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Appeals) 5. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Intelligence) 6. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Vigilance) 7. Office of the Jt. Commissioner (Agriculture Income Tax)	1. Addl. Commissioner of Commercial Tax (HQ-1 / HQ-2) (Policy & Law) 2. Jt. Commissioner of CT Bangalore City Division-1,2,3,4,5, Bangalore, Mysore, Malnad, Shimoga, Mangalore, Dharwad, Belgaum, Gulbarga. 3. Jt. Commissioner, CT (Admin & Intelligence. Davanagere & Bellary) 4. Not given 5. The Addl. Commissioner, CT (Intelligence and Co-ordination) / Jt. Commissioner, CT (Intelligence South Zone, Bangalore, North Zone Belgaum, West Zone Mangalore, East Zone Gulbarga, Mysore, Hubli, Shimoga. 6. Addl. / Jt. Commissioner, CT Vigilance, Bangalore 7. Jt. Commissioner of Agricultural Income Tax Act Chikmagalur.	Not given
20.	Dept. of Excise	<u>State level:</u> Office of the Excise Commissioner Gazetted Assistant –1, Bangalore <u>District Level:</u> District Excise Superintendent / Deputy Superintendent of Excise	<u>State level:</u> Additional Excise Commissioner-1/ Excise Joint Commissioner (HQ & Admin) <u>District level:</u> Deputy Commissioner of Excise	<u>State level:</u> Excise Commissioner <u>District level:</u> Deputy Commissioner (Revenue)
21.	Small Savings and State Lottery	1. Directorate of Small Savings and State Lottery 2. Office of the Deputy Director Small Savings, Bangalore 3. Office of the Deputy Director Small Savings, Bangalore Rural 4. Office of the Deputy Director/ Assistant Director (District Level)	1. Dy. Director (Admin) Small Savings 2. Dy. Director, Small Savings 3. Deputy Director (Small Savings), Bangalore Rural 4. Deputy Director / Assistant Director (Small Savings)	Director (Small Savings and State Lotteries)
22.	Karnataka Govt. Insurance Department	Directorate of Karnataka Govt. Insurance Department	Director	Secretary (Finance Department)
23.	Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department (FCS & CA)	1. Office of the FCS & CA 2. Office of the Additional / Joint Director (PDS) 3. Office of the Deputy Commissioner (Food) 4. Office of the District Deputy Director of FCS 5. Range Offices 6. Office of the Taluk Tahasildar (Food)	1. Headquarters Assistant 2. Additional / Joint Director (PDS) 3 & 4: Deputy Commissioner 5. Range Officers 6. Tahasildar	Deputy Director / Joint Director

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
24.	Drugs Control <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Office of the Drugs Controller/ Deputy Drugs Controller/ and Assistant Drugs Controller 2. Office of the Drugs Inspector, Haveri, Chamarajanagar, Gadag, Udupi, Bagalkot, Koppal	1. Drugs Controller/ Deputy Drugs Controller / Assistant Drugs Controller. (Bangalore, Gulbarga, Hubli, Mysore, Shimoga, Kolar, Hassan, Karwar, Chikmagalur, Mandya, Bellary, Belgaum, Bijapur, Bidar, Tumkur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Haveri, Raichur, Madikeri) 2. Concerned Drugs Inspector	Controller
25.	Directorate of Women and Child Development	State Level: Office of the Joint Director (Administration) District Level: Office of the Assistant Director Taluk Level: Office of the Child Development Project	State Level: Jt. Director (Admin) District Level: Programme Officer Taluk Level: Child Development Project Officer	Jt. Director (Admin)
26.	Director General and Inspector General of Prisons <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	1. Research Officer, Head Office 2. Superintendent, Central Jail, (Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Mysore) 3. Superintendent Open-air Jail Koramangala. 4. District Jail: (Bidar, Karwar, Mangalore, Madikeri, Raichur, Shimoga) 5. District SubJails: (Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Tumkur) 6. Divisional Sub-Jails: Davanagere, K.G.F 7. Taluk Sub-Jails: (Ramnagar, Bailahongala, Gokul, Hospet, Badami, Bagalkot, Jamakandi, Alanda, Surpur, Yadgir, Chamarajnagar, Kollegal, Nanjanagudu, K.R.Nagar, Gadag, Hubli Humnabad, Ourad, Yellapur, Virajpet, Devadurga, Gangavathi, Lingasugur, Manvi, Sagara, Tarikere, Chikballapur, Tiptur)	1 & 2: Deputy General of Police 3 to 7: Superintendent, Central Jail	1 & 2: DG and IGP Prisons 3 to 7: Deputy General of Police
27.	Director General of Police and Commandant General of Home Guards and Civil Defence	Director General of Police and Commandant General of Home Guards and Civil Defence	Commandant General of Home Guards (Concerned District)	Deputy General of Police
28.	Directorate of Public Prosecution and Litigation	Director, Public Prosecution, and Litigation, Bangalore	Joint Director (Admin) Divisional Level: Director / Dy. Director, Bangalore Dy. Director, (Mysore/ Mangalore/ Davangere/ Belgaum/ Gulbarga) District Level: Offices of District Prosecutors-in-chief Government Prosecutor	Director

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
29.	Commissioner of Transport	<p>1. Office of the Commissioner of Transport</p> <p>2. Office of the Secretary, State Transport Authority</p> <p>3. Office of the Jt. Transport Commissioner, (Dharwad)</p> <p>4. Office of the Dy. Transport Commissioner, (Bangalore, Mysore, Shimoga, Belgaum, Gulbarga)</p> <p>5. Regional Transport Office (Bangalore Central/ West/East/ North/South/ Tumkur / Kolar /)</p> <p>6. Asst. Regional Transport Office(Chikballapur/ K.G.F)</p> <p>7. Regional Transport Office (Mysore/ Chamarajnagar/ Mandya/ Madikere/ Hassan)</p> <p>8. Regional Transport Office (Shimoga/ Chitradurga/ Davanagere/ Chikmagalur/ Udupi/ Belgaum/</p> <p>9. Asst. Regional Transport Office (Sagara, Puttur, Yadagir, Balki, Talapady)</p> <p>10. Regional Transport Office (Chikkodi/ Dharwad/ Gadag/ Haveri/ Bijapur/ Bagalkot/ Karwar/ Sirsi/ Gulbarga)</p> <p>11. Regional Transport Office (Bellary/ Hospet/ Raichur/ Koppal/ Bidar)</p> <p>12. Asst. Regional Transport Office (Yadagir, Balki, Alanda)</p> <p>13. Asst. Regional Transport Office (Bailahongala, Zalki, Nippani, Humnabad)</p> <p>14. Asst. Regional Transport Office (Attibele, Nangil, Bagepalli, Ramnagar, Gowribidanur)</p> <p>15. Asst. Regional Transport Office, Gundlupet</p>	<p>1. Jt. Transport Commissioner (Admin)</p> <p>2. Jt. Transport Commissioner</p> <p>3. Jt. Transport Commissioner, Dharwad</p> <p>4. Dy. Transport Commissioner, Bangalore, Mysore, Shimoga, Belgaum, Gulbarga</p> <p>5 to 15:</p> <p>for Regional Transport Office – RTO (concerned)</p> <p>for Asst. Regional Transport Office – Asst. RTO (concerned)</p>	<p>1 to 3: Transport Commissioner</p> <p>4. Jt. Transport Commissioner (Admin)</p> <p>5, 6 & 14: Deputy Transport Commissioner, Bangalore</p> <p>7 & 15: Deputy Transport Commissioner, Mysore</p> <p>8 & 9: Deputy Transport Commissioner, Shimoga</p> <p>10 & 13: Deputy Transport Commissioner, Belgaum</p> <p>11 & 12: Deputy Transport Commissioner, Gulbarga</p>
30.	Watershed Development Department	Agriculture Officer, Water Shed Development (All Taluks and Districts)	Agriculture Officer (concerned)	District Water Shed Development Officer

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
31.	Labour Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Office of the Labour Commissioner Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore/ Belgaum/Hassan/Gulbarga. Office of the Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore/ Belgaum/Gulbarga/Hubli/ Davanagere/Chikmagalur/ Mangalore/Mysore Office of the Labour Officer. Bangalore/Belgaum/Bagalkot/ Bijapur/Hubli/Gulbarga/Bidar/ Chitradurga/Davanagere/Gadag/ Bellary/Haveri/Chikmagalur/ Hassan/Koppal/Karwar/Kolar/ Mandya/Mangalore/Mysore/ Chamarajagar/ Raichur/ Shimoga/Tumkur/Udupi Office of the Commissioner for Karnataka Labour Welfare, Bangalore 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner/ Additional Commissioner / Additional Commissioner (Industrial Relations) / Joint Commissioner (Min. Scale) / Deputy Commissioner (P&S) for Labour, Bangalore Deputy Commissioner of Labour (concerned) Assistant Commissioner of Labour (concerned) Labour Officer (concerned) Commissioner for Karnataka Labour Welfare, Bangalore 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 & 5: Principal Secretary / Secretary, Labour Addl. Commissioner for Labour (Industrial Relations) Deputy Commissioner of Labour (concerned) Assistant Commissioner for Labour (concerned)
32.	Advocate General	Office of the Advocate General	Administrative Officer Karnataka High Court Building, Bangalore	Advocate General
33.	Directorate of Survey Settlements and Land Records <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Office of the Director, Survey Settlements and Land Records, Bangalore Office of the Jt. Director, Land Records, (Bangalore / Mysore/ Belgaum/ Gulbarga) Office of the Dy. Director, Land Records, Bangalore. Office of the Dy. Director, Land Records (Maps), Bangalore Office of the Inspection Wing 1,2,3. Bangalore Office of the Dy. Director, Land Records (Mysore, Hassan, Mangalore, Dharwar, Gulbarga, Bellary, Shimoga, Mandya, Davanagere, Bijapur) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jt. Director, Land Records Assistant Director of Land Records (Admin) 3 & 6: Superintendent (Admin)- (concerned) 4 & 5: Supervisor (concerned) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Director Jt. Director 3, 4 & 6: Deputy Director, Land Records Inspector (concerned)
34.	Directorate of Treasury	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Office of the Director of Treasury, Bangalore State Huzoor Treasury, Bangalore. District Treasuries. Bangalore Rural/Urban, Mysore, Gulbarga, Belgaum. Other District Treasuries Stamp Depot. Sub Treasuries One man Committee Sub Treasuries 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gazetted Manager District Treasurer 3 & 4: Assistant Treasurer (Admin) Assistant Treasurer 6 & 7: Deputy Treasurers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Director Joint Director Deputy Director District Treasurer Deputy Director 6 & 7: Concerned District Treasurers

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
35.	Commissioner for Stamps and Registration	1. Office of the Commissioner for Stamps and Inspector General of Registration, Bangalore. 2. Office of the District Registrar in all District Head quarters 3. Office of the District Registrar (Detection of Under valuation) in Bangalore District. 4. Office of the Additional District Registrar, BDA Complex, Bangalore 5. All Offices of the Sub Registrars in the state including District Head Quarters, Taluk Head Quarters, Hobli Head Quarters and others.	1. Commissioner for Stamps and Inspector General of Registration / Assistant Inspector General of Registration. 2. District Registrar 3. District Registrar (Detection of Under-valuation) 4. Additional District Registrar 5. Sub Registrars	Not given
36.	Directorate of Welfare of Schedule Tribes	Director of Welfare of Schedule Tribes,	Assistant Director, Krushi Bhavan, Hudson Circle, Bangalore.	Director
37.	Commissioner for Social Welfare Department	Commissioner for Social Welfare Department	Jt. Director (Special Planning Cell) 5 th Floor, M.S. Building, Dr.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore	Commissioner for Social Welfare
38.	Directorate of Urban Planning <i>(for the complete list visit – http://www.kar.nic.in/vsb/Notified_authorities_hod_s.htm)</i>	Office of the District Divisional Assistant Director (Bangalore, Mysore, Belgaum, Gulbarga divisions)	Assistant Director, Urban Planning (concerned)	Jt. Director (concerned, Divisional, Zonal office)
39.	Directorate of Municipal Administration	Directorate of Municipal Administration	Joint Director (Admin) 9 th floor V.V. Tower, Bangalore-1	Director
40.	Bangalore Development Authority	Commissioner, (BDA) Bangalore	Public Relations Officer	Commissioner
41.	Chief Engineer, Natl. Highways, Bangalore	1. Chief Engineer, Central Office 2. Chief Engineer, Circle Office 3. Chief Engineer, Divisional Office 4. Office of the Deputy Chief Engineer	1. Chief Engineer 2. Superintending Engineer 3. Executive Engineer 4. Asst. Executive Engineer	1. Secretary, Public Works Department 2 to 4: Chief Engineer
42.	Karnataka State Highways Development Project Implementation Unit	1. Chief Project Officer, Central Office, Bangalore 2. Other offices in the Jurisdiction of Project	1. Chief Project Officer, Project Implementation Unit 2. Head of the Department.	1. Secretary, Public Works Department 2. Chief Project Officer, Project Implementation Unit, Bangalore
43.	Directorate of Sericulture	Director, Sericulture Dept. 5 th Floor, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore	Additional Director of Sericulture/ Gazetted Headquarters Assistants/ Secretary, Price Fixing and Funding Authority /Joint Director (Implementation of Sericultural Rules)/ Dy.Director (District Level Officer)/ Assistant Director of Sericulture (Taluk Level Office)/ Sericulture Extension Officers/ Gazetted Officers	Commissioner of Sericulture Development and Director of Sericulture

No.	Department	Public Authority	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
44.	Directorate of Mines and Geology	1. Director of Mines and Geology 2. Jt. Director, Zonal Office, Mines & Geology Dept. (Bellary, Mysore) 3. District Level Offices	1. Dy. Director (Admin) No.49, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bangalore-1 2. Jt. Director (concerned) 3. Dy. Director/ Sr. Geologist (concerned)	Not given
45.	Dept. of Legal Metrology	1. Controller, Legal Metrology 2. Office of the Divisional Dy. Controller 3. Office of the Asst. District Controller 4. Office of the Sub-Divisional Inspector, Legal Metrology	1. Deputy Controller (Admin) Head Quarters Assistant. 2. Deputy Controller (Concerned) 3. Assistant Controller (concerned) 4. Concerned Inspectors	1 & 2: Controller, Legal Metrology 3. Deputy Controller (concerned) 4. Assistant Controller
46.	Youth Services and Sports	1. Office of the Commissioner for Youth Services and Sports 2. Office of the Jt. Director, Youth Services and Sports, (Bangalore/Mysore/Belgaum/ Gulbarga) 3. Office of the Dy Director (Training), Youth Services and Sports (Bangalore/Davanagere/ Ballary/Kodagu/Mysore/Bijapur) 4. Office of the District Officer (Youth Services and Sports) (Bangalore/Tumkur/Shimoga/ Kolar/Chitradurga/Davanagere/ Mysore/Mandya/Chikmagalur/ Chamarajnagar/Hassan/ Mangalore/Udupi/Madikeri/ Gulbarga/Bellary/Raichur/ Bidar/Koppal/Belgaum/Karwar/ Dharwad/Bijapur/	1. Jt. Director (Admin) 2. Jt. Director, (Bangalore/ Mysore/ Belgaum/ Deputy Director, Gulbarga) 3. Deputy Director, Training (concerned) 4. District Officer, Youth Services and Sports (concerned)	1. Commissioner 2. Not given 3. Jt. Director (concerned) 4. Jt. Director / Deputy Director (concerned)

List of Competent Authorities and Appellate Authorities

(Board and Corporation Level)

No.	Department	Board / Corporation	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
1.	Rajiv Gandhi Rural Housing Corporation Limited	Rajiv Gandhi Rural Housing Corporation Limited, Bangalore	Company Secretary	Managing Director
2.	Karnataka Trustee Company Private Limited	Karnataka Trustee Company Private Limited, Cunningham road, Bangalore	Managing Director	President
3.	Karnataka Film Industries Development Corporation Limited	Karnataka Film Industries Development Corporation Limited, Sri Kanteerava Studio Premises, Bangalore	Managing Director	Not given
4.	Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation	Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation, Bangalore	Secretary and Administrative Officer	Managing Director
5.	The Mysore Electrical Industries Limited	The Mysore Electrical Industries Limited, Bangalore	General Manager	President and Managing Director
6.	Karnataka Vidhyuth Karkane Limited	Karnataka Vidhyuth Karkane Limited, Bangalore	Executive Director	Managing Director
7.	Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation	Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation, Bangalore.	Manager (Legal Cell)	Managing Director
8.	Marketing Consultants and Agencies Limited	Marketing Consultants and Agencies Limited, Bangalore.	Company Secretary	Managing Director
9.	Karnataka State Coir Development Corporation Limited.	Karnataka State Coir Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore.	Chief Manager	Managing Director
10.	Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited	KEONICS, Bangalore	Director (Management)	Managing Director
11.	Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Sanitary Board	Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Sanitary Board. Bannerghatta road, Bangalore	Managing Director	Principal Secretary, Urban Development.
12.	Bangalore Water Supply and Sanitary Board	Bangalore Water Supply and Sanitary Board	Public Relation Officer	Chief Administrator and Secretary, Bangalore Water Supply Board
13.	Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board	Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board, 14/3, 2 nd Floor, R.P. Building Nrupatunga Road, Bangalore-1	Joint Director / Development Officer . Dharwad / Mangalore / Hassan / Gulbarga / Belgaum / Mysore.	Chief Executive Officer and Executive Member.
14.	Karnataka State Agro Corn Products Limited	Karnataka State Agro Corn Products Limited, P.O.No.2479. Hebbal, Bangalore	Joint Manager (Gi)	Deputy Chief Manager
15.	Karnataka State Power Looms Development Corporation Limited	Karnataka State Power Looms Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore.	Assistant Director (Administration)	Managing Director
16.	Karnataka State Women Development Corporation	Karnataka State Women Development Corporation. Bangalore	General Manager-1	Managing Director

No.	Department	Board / Corporation	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
17.	Karnataka State Seeds Corporation Limited	Karnataka State Seeds Corporation Limited, Bangalore	Deputy Manager (Administration / Companies Secretaries)	Managing Director
18.	Karnataka State Agricultural Product Export Corporation	Karnataka State Agricultural Product Export Corporation, Bangalore	Deputy General Manager	Managing Director
19.	Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL)	Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Bangalore.	Company Secretary/ Executive Director/ Financial Advisor (Finance & Accounts) / Chief Engineer Electricity O&M (Transmission) / Superintendent of Police (Vigilance) / Chief Executive Engineer TA&QC, KPTCL / Officers in-charge of TAQC of ESCOMS/ Superintendent Engineer Electrical O&M / Transmission/ Executive Engineer Electrical, O&M / Transmission	Managing Director (KPTCL) / ESCOMS. Director (Finance)/ (Tr) / Technical of respective ESCOMS/ Chief Engineers / Superintending Engineer of respective ESCOMS / Transmission.
20.	Karnataka State Construction Corporation	Office of the Managing Director, Bangalore	Managing Director	Secretary to Govt. Public Works Department
21.	Karnataka Compost Development Corporation Ltd.	KCDC Ltd. Haralakunte, Hosur Road, Bangalore-68	Deputy Manager (Administration)	Managing Director
22.	Karnataka Land Army Corporation Limited	Karnataka Land Army Corporation Limited Chinnaswamy Stadium, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore-1	Joint Director (Administration)	Not given
23.	Karnataka Leather Industrial Development Corporation Limited	KLIDC Limited. No.17/5, Oblong block, 2 nd floor, Unity Building, J.C. Road, Bangalore-2	Managing Director	President
24.	Karnataka Electrical Corporation Limited	Karnataka Electrical Corporation Limited, Bangalore-1	Company Secretary	Not given
25.	Mysore Paper Mills Limited	Mysore Paper Mills Limited. P.O.Paper Town, Bhadravathi-577 302	Chairman and Managing Director	Chairman and Managing Director
26.	Karnataka Vidhyuth Sarabharaju Company	Karnataka Vidhyuth Sarabharaju Company (Bangalore / Mangalore / Hubli/ Gulbarga)	Managing Director (concerned)	Not given
27.	Sri Kantheerava Studios	Sri Kantheerava Studios, Kantheerava Nagar, Bangalore-96	Managing Director	President
28.	Karnataka State Women's Commission	Karnataka Rajya Mahila Ayoga, K.H.B building, 1 st Floor, K.G. Road, Bangalore	Secretary	Secretary
29.	Karnataka State Infrastructure Development and Finance Commission	Karnataka State Infrastructure Development and Finance Commission, Unity Building, Mission Road, Bangalore-27	Chief Administrator	Executive Director

No.	Department	Board / Corporation	Competent Authority	Appellate Authority
30.	Karnataka State Seeds Certification Agency	Karnataka State Seeds Certification Agency. Opp. Baptist Hospital, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bangalore-24	Joint Director / Administrative Officer	Director
31.	Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Corporation	Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Corporation, Bangalore-1	Managing Director	Not given
32.	Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited	Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited 4 th Floor, Coffee Board Building, No.1, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Road, Bangalore-1 Central Office K.N.N. Limited, Dharwad.	Company Secretary, Bangalore. Chief Administrative Officer – Dharwad. Registrar (Office of the Chief Engineer / Superintending Engineer) Technical Asst. (O/o the Executive Engineer) Asst. Executive Engineer	Managing Director Chief Engineer Superintending Engineer Executive Engineer (concerned)

Right to Information

Citizens' Power Tool for Transparency and Accountability

(Contd. from front cover)

windmills on the Sahyadri hills of Satara district. Mr. Shivaji Raut, a local school teacher discovered that these companies were also mining the surrounding areas for bauxite- a base mineral for manufacturing aluminum. Ordinarily, mining companies are required to pay royalty at the rates fixed by the government. Mr. Raut filed an application under MRTI demanding to know how much royalty the Satara district officials had collected so far. The officials had not collected a single penny till date. The MNCs were exploiting the local resources for free. Subsequently, the District Collector issued notices to the companies demanding a royalty of Rs. 3.5 crores for the 86 metric tones of bauxite excavated until then. The case is pending in the local courts as the MNCs are contesting the royalty rates.

Source: http://www.indianexpress.com/archive_frame.php

ALLOW PARTIAL ACCESS IN PUBLIC INTEREST EVEN IF RECORDS CONTAIN SENSITIVE INFORMATION

In a democracy, the government is elected by the people. The taxes paid by citizens finance its operations. The government conducts negotiations with foreign governments on a variety of issues like trade, investment and support for developmental activities in areas such as agriculture, health and education which directly affect people's lives. However records of these documents are often kept secret. Mattila, a citizen of Finland, Europe applied to the European Commission and the European Council for access to 11 documents concerning the relations of the European Union with Russia and Ukraine. The Commission and the Council refused to grant access to 10 documents saying they were covered by an exemption clause in RTI law relating to protection of public interest in the field of international relations. When Mattila filed a case in the Court of First Instance against this refusal, the Court upheld the decision to keep the documents secret. Mattila appealed against this decision. The Court of Justice said the lower court was wrong as it had not looked into the possibility of allowing access to those portions of the documents which were not covered by the exemption clause. The earlier orders of the Commission and the Council were struck down and they were ordered to allow Mattila partial access to the documents.

Source: *European Court of Justice PRESS RELEASE No. 10/04 accessible at:*

<http://www.curia.eu.int/en/actu/communiqués/cp04/aff/cp040010en.htm>

CHILE'S ORGANIC FARMERS WIN LEGAL BATTLE ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS

Genetically modified (GM) crops are being introduced in many developing countries. The most familiar case is that of GM cotton in India. Often GM crops are introduced without taking the requisite clearance from the authorities monitoring GM crops because of pressure from MNCs eager to sell these seeds and make a profit. Their impact on traditional varieties and the general environment is not well known and documented to take sufficient precautions to prevent damage. Information about the location and the extent of the area sown with GM seeds is not easily available. Maria Isabel Manzur applied for information regarding location and ownership of lands growing GM crops in Chile, South America. The Cattle and Agriculture Service (SAG) which collects such information repeatedly refused her request. First they said this information related to commercial secrets which were covered by the exemption clauses in Chile's RTI law. Then they said GM crops were being introduced as an experiment and all information could be revealed only after the process had come to an end. Maria filed a lawsuit against SAG. The Civil Court judge struck down the refusal and ordered release of all information sought by Maria as it was in public interest.

Source: <http://www.organicconsumers.org/gefood/foiact010802.cfm>

About CHRI

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) is an independent, international NGO mandated to work for the practical realisation of human rights in the countries of the Commonwealth. Human rights advocacy and education are core elements of CHRI's approach. CHRI's work is based on the assumption that for democracy and development to become a reality in people's lives, there must be high standards and functional mechanisms for accountability and participation at all levels. In promoting the right to information, CHRI acts as a legal resource, catalysing agent, repository and disseminator of good practices. It informs community level groups about the value of access to information and advocates with policy makers to ensure that laws provide for the real information needs of citizens.

In India, we have been active at the national and state levels, providing legal inputs to draft and/or amend right to information laws and monitoring their implementation and utilisation. We conduct capacity building workshops for civil society organizations, lawyers, academics and the media on right to information issues.

CHRI also works on police and prison reform, promotes interchange of best practices within the judiciary, advocates community policing and conducts para-legal capacity building at the community level.



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About CREAT

The Consumer Rights Education and Awareness Trust (CREAT) is a non-profit consumer advocacy group involved in enhancing the welfare of consumers. Established in 1993 in Bangalore, CREAT has been involved in several issues including consumer education and protection, consumer involvement in regulatory affairs, right to information, citizens' charters and those related to economic reforms & globalisation.

CREAT is working with a network of over 25 civil society organizations in Karnataka. It has established a Consumer Information Centre with the assistance of the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs, Government of India. CREAT represents consumers in advisory bodies like the Central Consumer Protection Council, Zonal Advisory Board of LIC of India, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India and is at present member of working groups on food safety and misleading advertisements.

At present CREAT, in association with CHRI, is involved in a campaign to spread awareness about the right to information in Karnataka.



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