



INDIAN RUBBER MANUFACTURERS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (IRMRA)

(Affiliated to DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India) (ISO 9001:2015 Certified & NBQP Registered Training Institution)

Third Party RTI Audit Summary Report of National Book Trust

As per the direction of Central Information Commissioner (CIC) and DoPT OM No 1/6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013 and OM No. 1/34/2013-IR dated 30.06.2016, each Public Authority should get its proactive disclosure package audited by a third party every year from the respective training Institutes under each Public Authority and submit to the Central Information Commission.

Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association conducted Third-Party Audit of the Proactive Disclosure of National Book Trust under the RTI Act, 2005 from 25 & 28 Aug, 2023 in accordance with Guidelines on suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act issued by Government of India, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Personnel & Training. The audit was conducted in accordance with the standard operating procedure for the Third-party audit on suo motu disclosures (As per Para 4.4 & 4.5 of DOPT's OM No. /6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013 & Para 6 of DOPT's OM No. 1/34/2013-IR dated 30.06.2016).

The audit was aimed to assess adherence to Guidelines on suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI and the implementation of and compliance with its control system. Specifically, the audit assessed National Book Trust Self appraisal report for Year (2022-23) and its website <https://www.nbtindia.gov.in/> in order to ensure these are well understood and Guidelines for Central Government Ministries / Departments are followed on:

- a) Suo motu disclosure of more items under Section 4.
- b) Guidelines for digital publication of proactive disclosure under Section
- c) Detailing of Section 4(1)(b)(iii), 4(1)(b)(iv), 4(1)(b)(xi) and 4(1)(b)(xiv)
- d) Compliance mechanism for suo motu disclosure (proactive disclosure) under the RTI Act, 2005

Third-Party Audit focused on the following Parameters:

- i. Organisation and Functions
- ii. Budget and Programme
- iii. Publicity and Public Interface
- iv. E-Governance
- v. Information as may be Prescribed
- vi. Information disclosed on own initiative

Key Findings and High Priority Recommendations

We appreciate the sincere efforts of National Book Trust as Public Authority for sharing required information on website to maintain the transparency. It has been observed during the Audit that the information relates to few areas has to be shared on website with more clarity like;

1. Information on various sub-paras of Section 4(b) placed under RTI Act seems has not been given adequate prominence.
2. Information related to Any other details-the genesis, inception, formation of the department and the HoDs from time to time as well as the committees/ Commissions constituted from time to time have been dealt must be disclosed. Information related to Channel of supervision and accountability must be disclosed.
3. Information related to Boards, Councils, Committees and other Bodies constituted as part of the Public Authority must be disclosed

4. Programmes to advance understanding of RTI Act –to be conducted on regular intervals.
5. Manual/Handbook to be made available in Vernacular/ Local Language [F No. 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.4.2013]
6. Information related to related to procurements from GeM is to be updated on website.
7. Details of applications received under RTI and information provided is to be uploaded on website.
8. Details of appeals received and orders issued is to be uploaded on website
9. Public Authority must constitute a Committee of PIOs/FAAs with rich experience in RTI to identify frequently sought information under RTI.
10. Public Authority must constitute a Committee Consultancy committee of key stake holders for advice on suo-motu disclosure
11. Result Framework Document (RFD), Six monthly reports on the Performance against the benchmarks set in the Citizen's Charter is to be uploaded on website.
12. STQC certification is to be obtained and displayed on website.
13. Sub-clauses which have been met partially met / not met, may be looked into for compliance at the earliest. A re-look may be given to the clauses which have been marked as not applicable.

iRMRA would like to share positive feedback that in future all the required information/urls/links may be posted on website to meet the Transparency Audit Metrix.

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