



Third Party RTI Audit Summary Report of National Test House

In accordance with the directives of the **Central Information Commissioner (CIC)** and the **Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT)** outlined in OM No. 1/6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013 and OM No. 1/34/2013-IR dated 30.06.2016, every Public Authority is required to **conduct an annual third-party audit** of its proactive disclosure package. This audit must be carried out by the designated training institutes associated with each Public Authority and subsequently submitted to the **Central Information Commission**.

The Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute conducted a **Third-Party Audit** of the **Proactive Disclosure** of **National Test House** under the RTI Act, 2005 from **18 to 19 August, 2025**. This assessment followed the **Guidelines on suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act** issued by the **Government of India, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT)**. The audit adhered to the **Standard Operating Procedure** outlined for third-party audits on suo motu disclosures (**Para 4.4 & 4.5 of DoPT's OM No. 1/6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013 & Para 6 of DoPT's OM No. 1/34/2013-IR dated 30.06.2016**).

Objectives of the Audit:

The audit aimed to **evaluate compliance** with the **Guidelines on suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of the RTI Act** and assess the **effectiveness of its implementation and control mechanisms**. Specifically, the evaluation examined the **Self-Appraisal Report of National Test House for 2024-25** and its official website (www.nth.gov.in/) to ensure adherence to prescribed guidelines for **Central Government Ministries & Departments**, including:

- **Expanding suo motu disclosure** under Section 4.
- **Guidelines for digital publication** of proactive disclosures.
- **Detailed disclosure compliance** with Sections **4(1)(b)(iii), 4(1)(b)(iv), 4(1)(b)(xi), and 4(1)(b)(xiv)**.
- **Establishment of a structured compliance mechanism** for proactive disclosure under the RTI Act, 2005.

Key Parameters Assessed During the Audit:

1. **Organization and Functions**
2. **Budget and Programme**
3. **Publicity and Public Interface**
4. **E-Governance**
5. **Prescribed Information Disclosure**
6. **Proactive Information Disclosure (Self-Initiated)**

This audit plays a crucial role in enhancing **transparency, accountability, and public accessibility** of information, ensuring that proactive disclosures align with government-mandated guidelines.

Key Findings and Priority Recommendations

We commend the **National Test House** for its commitment to transparency by making essential information accessible on its website. However, the audit has highlighted areas that require **greater clarity and comprehensive disclosure**, including:

1. Enhancing the prominence of information under **Section 4(b) of the RTI Act**.
2. Providing detailed historical insights into the department's **formation, leadership changes, and committees/commissions constituted over time**. Additionally, information regarding the **channels of supervision and accountability** should be included.

3. Disclosing comprehensive details regarding Boards, Councils, Committees, and other governing bodies of the Public Authority.
4. Publishing clear work allocation and job descriptions for each functionary.
5. Outlining the norms governing the discharge of duties for various functionaries, wherever feasible.
6. Conducting regular programs to promote awareness and understanding of the RTI Act.
7. Disclosing details of **document custodians** responsible for various records within the organization.
8. Linking **budget allocation details** currently available on the website's main page to the RTI section.
9. Making available information regarding **CAG and PAC reports**, along with action taken on parliamentary submissions (excluding matters related to national security).
10. Establishing a **Committee of PIOs/FAAs** with RTI expertise to proactively identify frequently requested information.
11. Forming a **consultation committee** of key stakeholders to provide input on **suo-motu disclosures**.
12. Publishing **Parliamentary questions and responses** related to the Public Authority.
13. Ensuring transparency in **tender bidding processes**, disclosing details such as awarded contracts, suppliers, rates, total amounts, and GeM procurement updates.
14. Disclosing **details of domestic and foreign official visits**, categorized under the Public Authority's centers.
15. Making available **RTI Manuals and Handbooks** in **Hindi, English, and regional languages** and ensuring periodic updates.
16. Creating a **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** section addressing common citizen queries related to Public Authority operations.
17. Clearly **displaying the last update date** for each webpage in **DD/MM/YY format**.

IRMRI 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.



Date: 19 August, 2025

Dr. Kasilingam Rajkumar
(Director)

