

# **ANNUAL REPORT - 2015**

**TAMIL NADU INFORMATION COMMISSION**

**No.2, Thiyagaraya Salai, Teynampet. Chennai- 600 018.**

**Phone No. 24347590**

# **TAMIL NADU INFORMATION COMMISSION**

## **ANNUAL REPORT – 2015**

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## **Annual Report – 2015**

### **Chapter – 1**

#### **Introduction**

The RTI Act, 2005 has ushered in a new era of transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority. It is an important tool to contain corruption and to hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed. The Act has empowered citizens to actively participate in democratic governance.

As mandated in Section 25 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the Tamil Nadu Information Commission is submitting the Annual Report for the year 2015 based on the inputs received from the State Government Departments and the public undertakings in accordance with the responsibility laid on them under Sections 25 (2) and 25 (3) of the Act.

### **Chapter – 2**

#### **2.1 Constitution of the Tamil Nadu Information Commission**

The Tamil Nadu Information Commission was constituted under Section 15 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005 vide a Gazette notification issued by the Government of Tamil Nadu on 07.10.2005.

The State Chief Information Commissioner / State Information Commissioners in position during the reporting year were as follows:

(1)	Thiru.K.S.Sripathi, I.A.S.(Retd) State Chief Information Commissioner	From 01.09.2010 to 27.04.2015
(2)	Thiru.K.Ramanujam, I.P.S. (Retd) State Chief Information Commissioner	From 09.08.2015
(3)	Thiru.Christopher Nelson, I.P.S.(Retd) State Information Commissioner	From 05.09.2012
(4)	Thiru.P.Thamilselvan, M.A.B.L., State Information Commissioner	From 05.09.2012
(5)	Tmt.B.Neelambikai, M.A.B.L., State Information Commissioner	From 05.09.2012
(6)	Thiru.S.F.Akbar, B.Sc.B.L., State Information Commissioner	From 05.09.2012 to 04.11.2015

(7)	Thiru.R.Dakshinamurthy, B.Sc.B.L., State Information Commissioner	From 09.08.2015
(8)	Thiru.G.Murugan, B.Sc.B.L., State Information Commissioner	From 09.08.2015

The following were in position as State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners prior to the period under this report:-

(1)	Thiru.S.Ramakrishnan, I.A.S.(Retd) State Chief Information Commissioner	From 28.01.2006 to 30.08.2010
(2)	Thiru.G.Ramakrishnan, I.A.S.(Retd) State Information Commissioner	From 28.01.2006 to 09.10.2010
(3)	Thiru.R.Rathinasamy, I.A.S(Retd) State Information Commissioner	From 28.01.2006 to 11.05.2009
(4)	Thiru.T.R.Ramasamy, I.A.S. (Retd) State Information Commissioner	From 07.05.2008 to 30.10.2010
(5)	Dr.(Thiru).R.Perumalsamy, State Information Commissioner	From 07.05.2008 to 03.06.2012
(6)	Dr.(Tmt).Sarada Nambi Arooran, State Information Commissioner	From 07.05.2008 to 23.07.2011
(7)	Thiru.T.Srinivasan, M.Sc., State Information Commissioner	From 07.05.2008 to 06.05.2013
(8)	Dr.(Tmt).V.Saroja, M.D.D.G.O., State Information Commissioner	From 05.09.2012 to 11.06.2013

## **2.2 Powers and Functions of State Information Commission**

The State Information Commission's mandate is to exercise the powers conferred on it and to perform the functions assigned to it under the RTI Act, 2005. The Powers and Functions of the Commission are laid down in Chapter V of RTI Act, 2005.

The Commission is the second appellate authority. Citizens desiring information apply to the designated Public Information Officers of the concerned department or unit. The PIO (Public Information Officer) has to reply within 30 days. If information is refused, it can be done only in accordance with specific exemptions enumerated in

Sections 8,9 and 11 of the RTI Act. If the applicant does not get a reply or is not satisfied with the reply, he may appeal to the designated appellate authority, who is a superior to the PIO. The appellate authority has to reply within 30 days normally. If no response is received for the appeal or if the decision of the appellate authority is not satisfactory, the applicant may then appeal to the Information Commission. The Commission can penalize the PIO if he is found to have refused information without reasonable cause. The Commission can also recommend disciplinary action in cases of persistent refusal. There is also a provision for applicants to file complaints seeking action against defaulting PIOs. The Commission can also award compensation for any loss or detriment suffered.

### **Chapter – 3**

#### **3.1 Organisational set up of Tamil Nadu Information Commission**

The Tamil Nadu Information Commission is functioning in a rented building owned by the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board at No.2, Thiyagaraya Road, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018 on a monthly rent of Rs.5,94,926/- w.e.f. 10.02.2011. The Commission has been authorized to enhance the rent so fixed at the rate of 5% every year w.e.f. 10.02.2012 onwards.

The Staff sanctioned to the Commission by the Government of Tamil Nadu are as follows:-

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Designation of the Posts</b>	<b>No. of posts sanctioned</b>
1.	Secretary	1
2.	Registrar	1
3.	Legal Officer	1
4.	Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer	1
5.	Under Secretary (Admin)	1
6.	Assistant Registrar	3
7.	Principal Private Secretary	1
8.	Section Officer	11
9.	Private Secretary	8
10.	Assistant Section Officer	7
11.	Assistant	4
12.	Personal Assistant	9
13.	Personal Clerk	10



14.	Typist	6
15.	Record Clerk	2
16.	Driver	8
17.	Office Assistant	21
18.	Computer Administrator	1

### **3.2 Budget Allocation**

The budgetary allocation to the Commission and the expenditure incurred during the financial year 2015 – 2016 are as follows:-

<b>Detailed Head</b>	<b>Sub-Detailed Head</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Estimates 2015 – 2016</b>	<b>Expenditure incurred</b>
<b>(1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>(5)</b>
			<b>(in Rupees)</b>	<b>(in Rupees)</b>
01	01	Pay	2,57,63,000	1,87,34,000
	02	Medical Allowance	51,000	1,52,000
	03	Medical Charges	1,82,000	3,61,000
	04	Other Allowances	4,50,000	3,17,000
	06	House Rent allowance	37,10,000	30,00,000
	07	Leave Travel Concession	2,43,000	22,000
	08	City Compensatory Allowance	3,96,000	3,98,000
02	00	Wages	7,68,000	6,35,000
<b>03</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Dearness Allowance</b>		
	01	Dearness Allowance	2,94,99,000	2,35,93,000
04	00	Travel Expenses		
	01	Tour Travelling Allowances	5,00,000	63,000
<b>05</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Office Expenses</b>		
	01	Telephone Charges	6,00,000	7,95,000
	02	Other Contingencies	6,25,000	6,98,000
	03	Electricity Charges	12,30,000	10,12,000
	04	Service Postage & Postal Expenditure	5,30,000	5,30,000
	05	Furniture	1,000	0
<b>06</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Rent, Rate &amp; Taxes</b>		
	01	Rent	58,56,000	58,52,000

<b>08</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Advertisement &amp; Publicity</b>		
	01	Advertisement Charges	1,000	0
13	00	Hospitality / Entertainment Expenditure	1,35,000	1,18,000
17	00	Minor Works	1,000	11,000
<b>18</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Maintenance</b>		
	01	Periodical Maintenance	50,000	48,000
<b>19</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Machinery &amp; Equipments</b>		
	01	Purchase	1,000	0
	03	Maintenance	1,75,000	1,75,000
<b>21</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>		
	01	Purchase	1,000	1,55,000
	02	Maintenance of Functional Vehicles	1,80,000	91,000
<b>33</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Payments for Professionals &amp; Special Services</b>		
	01	Pleaders Fee	4,00,000	3,74,000
	04	Contract Payment	19,77,000	31,76,000
45	00	Petrol, Oil & Lubricants	12,00,000	4,32,000
<b>49</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Festival Advances</b>		
	01	Festival Advances – Debit	3,00,000	2,55,000
	02	Festival Advances – Credit	- 3,00,000	- 1,90,000
68	00	Cost of Books / Note Books / States etc.,	60,000	58,000
71	00	Printing Charges	1,50,000	1,47,000
72	00	Training	1,000	0
<b>76</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Computer &amp; Accessories</b>		
	01	Purchase	1,000	7,28,000
	02	Maintenance	2,25,000	2,22,000
	03	Stationery	3,00,000	3,00,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>7,52,62,000</b>	<b>6,22,62,000</b>

### **3.3 Training on RTI**

Anna Institute of Management is regularly conducting training programmes on RTI for the benefit of Public Information Officers / Appellate Authorities of State Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings. During the year 2015, Anna Institute of Management has conducted 12 training programmes for three days each with the financial assistance from the Government of Tamil Nadu and the

Government of India benefitting 668 officials. The total expenditure incurred towards conducting the training programmes on RTI during the year 2015 was Rs.30.06 lakhs.

## **Chapter – 4**

### **4.1 Rules Notified under the RTI Act, 2005**

As per Section 27(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the appropriate Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act. Similarly as per Section 28(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the competent authority may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act.

### **4.2 Fees to be paid under the Tamil Nadu Right to Information (Fees) Rules, 2005**

The Government of Tamil Nadu vide G.O.Ms.No.989 Public (Estt I & Legislation) Department, dated 07.10.2005 has notified the Tamil Nadu Right to Information (Fees) Rules, 2005. Subsequently certain amendments were issued to the said rules vide G.O.Ms.No.1012 Public (Estt I & Legislation) Department, dated 20.09.2006, G.O.Ms.No.72 Personnel and Administrative Reforms (AR III) Department, dated 20.03.2007 and G.O.Ms.No.12 Personnel and Administrative Reforms (AR III) Department dated 09.02.2011. The fees to be paid under the Tamil Nadu Right to Information (Fees) Rules, 2005 are as follows:

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Fees to be paid</b>	<b>Mode of payment</b>
3 (a)	Fees to be paid along with application	Rs.10/-	Cash, or Postal Money order, or Court fee stamp, or Demand Draft, or Banker's Cheque
<b>For information provided under Section 7(1) of RTI Act</b>			Cash, or Demand Draft, or Banker's Cheque
3(b)(i)	Supply of copies of documents	Rs.2/- per page of A4 or A3 size paper	
3(b)(ii)		Actual charge or cost price of a copy of larger size paper	
3(b) (iii)	Supply of samples or models	Actual cost or price	

3(b) (iv)	Inspection records of	No fee for first one hour. Rs.5/- per hour (or fraction thereof) thereafter	
<b>For information provided under Section 7(5) of RTI Act</b>			
3(c)(i)	Supply in Diskette or Floppy	Rs.50/- per diskette or floppy	
3(c)(ii)	For priced publications	Price fixed for publication, or Rs.2/- per page of photocopy for extracts	

**4.3 Fees to be paid under the Madras High Court Information (Regulation of Fee and Cost) Rules, 2007**

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Fees to be paid</b>	<b>Mode of payment</b>
3	Fees to be paid along with application	Rs.10/-	Cash, or Court fee stamp, or Treasury Chalan, or Demand Draft, or Postal Order in favour of PIO, High Court, Madras/Madurai
<b>For information under Section 7(1) and 7(5) of RTI Act</b>			
4 (a) Proviso	For copies of order / decree / judgment / documents on judicial side under the control of the High Court or Subordinate Courts	To be obtained as per procedure for getting certified copies under Appellate Side / Original Side Rules or Civil / Criminal Rules of Practice. Will not be issued under RTI Act.	
4 (a)	Copies of records except order / decree / judgment / documents on the judicial side	Rs.100/- If actual cost is more, it would be intimated	Cash, or Court Fee stamp, or Treasury Chalan, or Demand Draft, or Postal Order in favour of PIO High Court, Madras/Madurai
4 (b)	Information in the form of diskette or floppy	Rs.50/- per diskette or floppy	

**4.4 Fees to be paid under the Tamil Nadu Legislative Secretariat Right to Information (Fees) Rules, 2006**

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Fees to be paid</b>	<b>Mode of payment</b>
3 (a)	Fees to be paid along with application	Rs.10/-	Cash, or Court fee stamp, or Demand Draft, or Banker's Cheque
<b>For information provided under Section 7(1) of RTI Act</b>			Cash, or Demand Draft, or Banker's Cheque
3(b)(i)	Supply of copies of documents	Rs.2/- per page of A4 or A3 size paper	
3(b)(ii)	Supply of copies of documents	Actual charge or cost price of a copy of larger size paper	
3(b) (iii)	Supply of samples or models	Actual cost	
3(b) (iv)	Inspection of records	No fee for first one hour. Rs.5/- per hour (or fraction thereof) thereafter	

Note: 1. Head of Account into which Public Information Officer must remit fees received:

“0070. Other Administrative Services – 60 Other Services –

118 Receipts under Right to Information Act, 2005 -

AA – Collection of fees under Right to Information (Fees) Rules 2005”

(DPC 0070 60 118 AA 0005)

2. The applicant may also remit the fee under the above head of account through Treasury / Pay and Accounts Office / State Bank of India / Reserve Bank of India and produce the chalan to the Public Information Officer as an evidence for having remitted the fee.

**4.5 The Tamil Nadu Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2012**

The Tamil Nadu Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2012 have been notified in G.O.Ms.No.137 Personnel and Administrative Reforms (AR III) Department, dated 03.09.2012. These Rules lay down the procedure to be followed by the Appellants for filing of second appeals and complaints to the Tamil Nadu Information Commission and also the procedure involved in deciding the appeals.

#### **4.6 Amendments proposed by the Commission**

The Commission vide Letter No.33916/Admin-I/2013-2 dated 17.12.2015 has sent a proposal to the Government suggesting that Rule 5 be amended, substituting the present Rule with the following:-

5. Procedure in deciding appeal :- (1) In deciding the appeal, the Commission may, –

- i. receive oral evidence on oath or written evidence on affidavit from concerned or interested person;
- ii. peruse or inspect documents, public records or copies thereof;
- iii. inquire through any officer authorized by the Commission for further details or facts;
- iv. hear Public Information Officer, Assistant Public Information Officer or such senior officer who decided the first appeal, or such person against whom the complaint is made, as the case may be;
- v. hear third party;
- vi. receive evidence on affidavits from Public Information Officer, Assistant Public Information Officer or such senior officer who decided the first appeal or such person against whom the complaint lies or the third party;
- vii. issue orders or directions based on available documents or evidences without personal enquiry, if the Commission is satisfied about the adequacy of such material;
- viii. initiate an inquiry if it is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds to inquire into the matter and issue orders;
- ix. issue interim orders / directions at any stage as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Commission on the basis of available material, in order to ensure expeditious response to the request of an appellant.

(2) In case the Commission decides to impose penalty, reasonable opportunity shall be given to Public Information Officer and other Officers, including the time sought by them to defend their case on another date.

(3) Subject to such special or general orders of the State Chief Information Commissioner, all appeals shall initially be dealt with by a Single Member Bench of the

Commission. However, having regard to the importance of the issues involved, the State Chief Information Commissioner may suo motu or on a reference from a Single Member Bench, refer an appeal to a larger bench with two or more Commissioners.

(4) Venue of the sitting :- The Commission shall hold its sittings in its office located at Chennai or in the offices established at other places in the State with the previous approval of the State Government. However, it may, in its discretion, hold its sittings at district head quarters in the State, if it considers it necessary and expedient for minimizing inconvenience caused to appellants as well as Public Information Officers in far off places.

(5) The Commission may hold inquiry through video conference also.

## **Chapter – 5**

### **5. Format for filing of Second Appeal**

The Tamil Nadu Information Commission has received queries about format in which Second Appeal under section 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 is to be submitted. In this connection, the Commission has evolved a format both in English and Tamil for submission of Second Appeal under section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 and uploaded the same in the Commission's website along with the guidelines on filing of Second Appeal.

## **Chapter – 6**

### **6.1 National Federation of Information Commissions in India (NFICI)**

The National Federation of Information Commissions in India (NFICI) has been specially formed as a registered body in Hyderabad on 01.09.2009 to facilitate co-ordination and mutual consultation among the Central Information Commission and the State Information Commissions constituted under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The Membership is open to all Information Commissions in India and they have to pay Rs.5.00 lakhs towards Admission Fee and Annual Membership fee of Rs.1.00 lakh. The Tamil Nadu Information Commission has also enrolled as a member to the National Federation of Information Commissions during the year 2011. During the period under the report, the Chief Information Commissioner, Tamil Nadu Information Commission had participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of NFICI held at New Delhi on 18.04.2015.

## **Chapter – 7**

### **7. Tenth Annual Convention**

The two day 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Central Information Commission was held in New Delhi on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2015. The convention was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Thiru.Narendra Modi. The Prime Minister said that the Union Government's "Digital India" initiative is complimentary to RTI, because putting information online brings transparency, which in turn builds trust. He also stressed that RTI can be a tool for good governance.

## **Chapter – 8**

### **8.1 Preparation of Annual Report – 2015**

As per Section 25(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commission is required to prepare a report after the end of each year, on the implementation of the provisions of this Act during that year and a copy thereof is to be forwarded to the appropriate Government, which in turn will lay it before the State Legislature.

As per section 25(2) of the RTI Act, 2005, each Ministry or Department shall, in relation to the public authorities within their jurisdiction collect and provide information to the Commission as is required to prepare the report. The Annual Report-2015 has been prepared based on the particulars received from the Public Authorities on the implementation of RTI Act during the year 2015.

### **8.2 RTI applications handled by the Public Authorities during the year 2015**

The particulars showing number of requests made to each Public Authority and amount of charges collected, number of requests rejected under various provisions of the RTI Act, disposal of RTI application by the Public Information Officers and disposal of first appeals by the Appellate Authorities during the year 2015 are shown in the Annexure to this report. The following are the total number of applications handled by each Public Authority during the year 2015:-

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Public Authority</b>	<b>No. of applications handled</b>
1.	Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare	931
2.	Agriculture	1,740



3.	Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries	1,503
4.	Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes & Minorities Welfare	2,176
5.	Commercial Taxes and Registration	16,441
6.	Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection	7,560
7.	Energy	9,697
8.	Environment and Forests	3,060
9.	Finance	4,767
10.	Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi	1,083
11.	Health and Family Welfare	7,008
12.	Higher Education	18,569
13.	Highways and Minor Ports	3,059
14.	Home, Prohibition and Excise	69,030
15.	Housing and Urban Development	7,491
16.	Industries	2,642
17.	Information Technology	444
18.	Labour and Employment	5,948
19.	Law	455
20.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	412
21.	Municipal Administration and Water Supply	19,764
22.	Personnel and Administrative Reforms	3,849
23.	Planning, Development and Special Initiatives	126
24.	Public	4,351
25.	Public Works	4,761
26.	Revenue	1,24,930
27.	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	20,009
28.	School Education	34,458
29.	Social Reforms	5
30.	Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme	846
31.	Special Programme Implementation	17

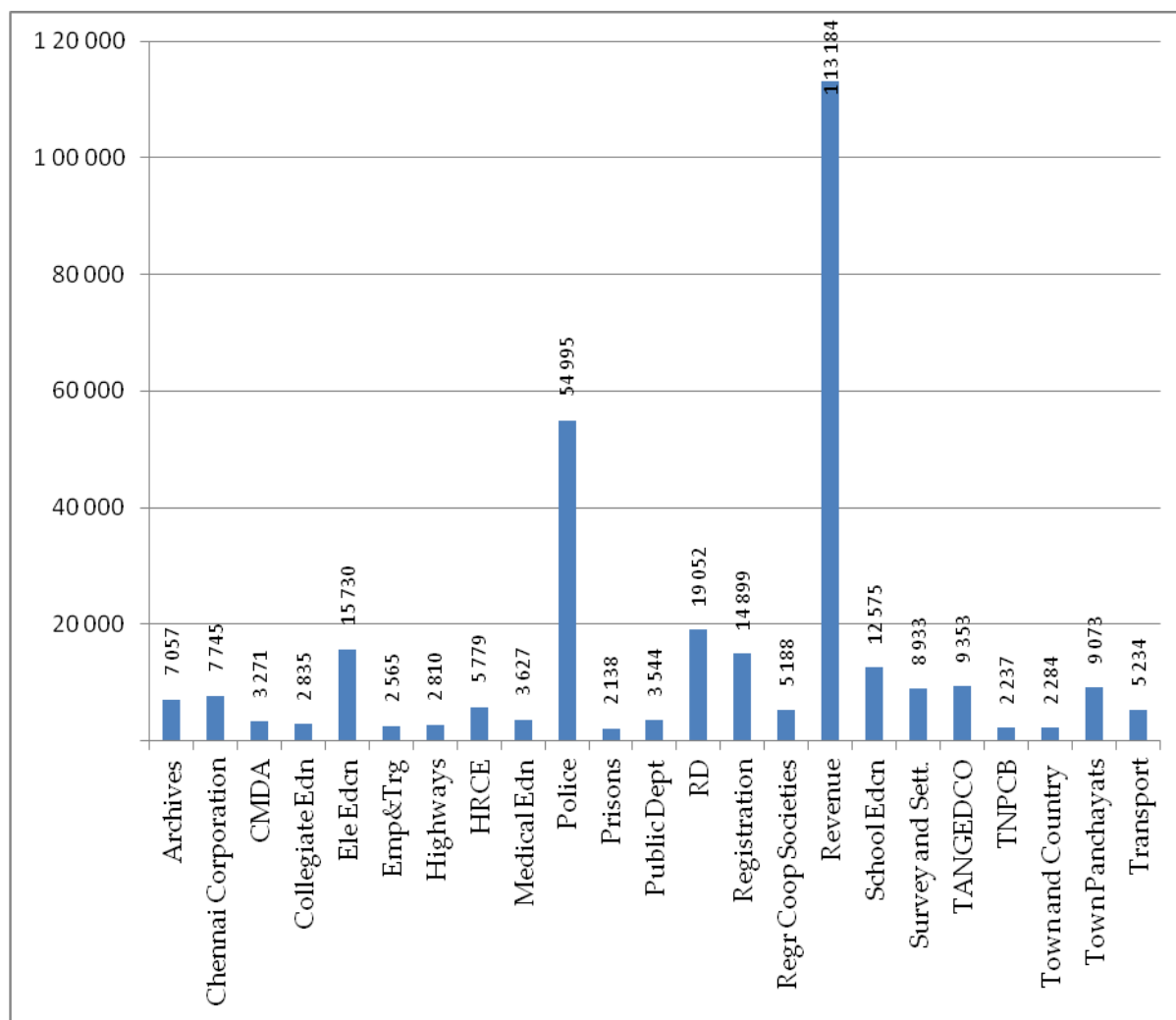
32.	Tamil Development and Information	461
33.	Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments	6,165
34.	Transport	7,457
35.	Welfare of Differently Abled Persons	395
36.	Youth Welfare and Sports Development	112
37.	Legislative Assembly Secretariat	180
38.	Tamil Nadu Information Commission	812
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,92,714</b>

The Public Authorities have handled 3,92,714 RTI applications during the year 2015 which is 667 applications less than that were handled during the year 2014. The Public Information Officers under the administrative control of Revenue Department have handled 1,24,930 applications, which accounts for 31.81% of the total applications handled by all the Public Authorities in the State during the year 2015.

**Number of R.T.I petitions handled in 2015 by various HODs and Secretariat Departments**

No of RTI petitions	No. of Departments
More than 1,00,000	1
50,001 up to 1,00,000	1
10,001 up to 50,000	4
5,001 up to 10,000	8
1,001 to 5,000	30
501 to 1,000	43
101 to 500	60
11 to 100	88
Less than 10	49

## Heads of Departments / Secretariat Departments that handled more than 2000 petitions in 2015



### **8.3 Disposal of RTI applications by the Public Information Officers**

An abstract of RTI applications handled and disposed by the Public Information Officers during the year 2015 is given below:

(a)	Total number of applications handled during the year 2015	3,92,714
(b)	Total number of applications transferred to other Public Authorities during the year	75,085
(c)	Total number of applications disposed during the year by providing information	2,94,544
(d)	Total number of applications rejected during the year	10,149
(e)	Total number of applications pending as on 31.12.2015	12,936

#### **8.4 Rejection of RTI applications by the Public Information Officers**

The break up figures of RTI applications rejected by the Public Information Officers during the year 2015 by invoking various Sections of the RTI Act, 2005 are as given below:-

<b>Sections invoked for rejection</b>	<b>No. of applications rejected</b>
8	3,491
9	232
11	437
24	410
other reasons	5,579
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,149</b>

#### **8.5 Disposal of First Appeals by the First Appellate Authorities**

During the year 2015, a total of 29,595 first appeals were handled by the first Appellate Authorities and out of which 26,044 first appeals were disposed by providing information. The number of first appeals rejected was 1,516 and the pending of first appeals as on 31.12.2015 was 2,035.

#### **8.6 Any special effort taken in the department to promote spirit and intent of RTI Act (Section 25((3)(f)) – as reported by the departments:**

Fisheries	RTI Training imparted to the Department Officials
Commissionerate of Commercial Taxes	In the year 2015, in-service training for Direct Recruitment Deputy Commercial Tax Officers and Assistant Commissioners was conducted from 18.08.2015 to 09.11.2015. Further Refresher course for the officials in the cadre of Commercial Tax Officer, Deputy Commercial Tax Officer, Assistant and Junior Assistant was conducted in 15 batches in Chennai division during the year 2015. Likewise, refresher course was also conducted at Vellore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Trichy and Tirunelveli Regions. Further, a comprehensive training programme to the

	officials of the Department was also arranged through Anna Institute of Management.
Electrical Inspectorate	Awareness among the officials and general public were already made by conducting meetings. Required information is also available in the following website of the Department. <a href="http://www.tnei.tn.gov.in">www.tnei.tn.gov.in</a>
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board	Training programmes have been conducted for the Staff and Officials of TWAD Board
Vigilance Commission	Review of the pending cases are also done periodically to ensure that there is no delay in disposing of the RTI applications.
Revenue Administration Disaster Management and Mitigation	Special Training Programme conducted for All PIOs /APIOs. Display board was setup in office reception area. Special classes and seminars are conducted by Anna Institute of Management Chennai to promote the spirit among Government officials.
Matriculation Schools	Training Programme was conducted to State & District level officers and staff on RTI Act, 2005
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam), Ltd.,	1.Fax Machine installed for the benefit of petitioners. 2. A separate cell for the RTI Act has been created. 3. Monthly review meetings are being held on RTI petitions.
Motor Vehicles & Maintenance Department, Chennai	To create awareness and knowledge of RTI , officials are sent to Training at Anna Institute of Management, Chennai.
Institute of Road Transport, Chennai	One day training programme is regularly conducted in order to create awareness on RTI Act.

Transport Development Finance Corporation Ltd.,	Employees are being given training on RTI Act, 2005 periodically.
National Cadet Corps	Details of petitions received by PIOs of the Department and details of disposal being watched by Head of Department, by getting a monthly report from all PIOs.

**8.7 Recommendations for reform or improvement of this Act or any other law relevant to operationalising the right to access to information (Section 25(3)(g)) – as reported by the departments**

Backward Classes Welfare	Necessary training may be given to Government Employees in regular intervals and instructions booklet may also be given to the employees in order to update them so as to adhering to rules inforce.
Registration	The information already hosted in the official website need not be furnished to the applicants who seek the same information under RTI Act. Instead they may be informed that the information sought for is already available in the official website and address of the website alone may be informed to the applicant.
Anna University	(1) Periodical training programme may be conducted by the Government to the PIOs / First Appellate Authorities to ruling given by the Commission (2)Amendmentmay be made to restrict number of queries.
Home Prohibition and Excise (Home Wing) Department, Secretariat	Higher charge may be collected for seeking information

Police	Awareness programme is to be conducted to both Government officials and to the public about the RTI Act.
PWD Chennai	For effective implementation of the RTI Act, staff strength may be increased.
Revenue Administration Disaster Management and Mitigation	Necessary training may be given periodically to Government Employees and instruction booklets may also be given to the employees.
Matriculation Schools	A manual may be published to update the knowledge on the RTI Act, 2005.
Tourism	Periodical training may be given to Officers for updating and sessions may be organized for exchange of views about the other Departments mode of disposal of applications.
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Villupuram) Ltd.,	The provisions of the RTI Act is not utilised in the right spirit. The provisions of RTI Act should be reviewed and restrictions imposed for seeking irrelevant information.
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam), Ltd.,	Training Programmes may be organised by the Commission to the Executive Authorities concerned for efficient handling of the applications.

## **Chapter – 9**

### **9. Performance of the Tamil Nadu Information Commission**

This chapter presents an account of the performance of the Tamil Nadu Information Commission in disposal of Second Appeals / Complaints under the RTI Act, 2005 during the year 2015.

### **9.1 Disposal of Second Appeals / Complaints during the year 2015**

1.	Total receipt of Second Appeals	17,371
2.	Total receipt of complaints	1,440
3.	No. of Second Appeals disposed including old cases	23,858
4.	No. of Complaint Petitions disposed including old cases	972

### **9.2. Imposition of Penalty**

Penalty was imposed under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 on 26 Public Information Officers of various Public Authorities mentioned below amounting to Rs.8.73 lakhs:

Sl.No.	Name of the Public Authority	No. of Public Information Officers	Total Amount of penalty imposed (Rs.)
1.	Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare	3	75,000
2.	Commercial Taxes and Registration	1	25,000
3.	Energy	1	25,000
4.	Municipal Administration and Water Supply	9	2,15,500
5.	Revenue	13	3,25,000
6.	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	3	75,000
7.	School Education	3	75,000
8.	Social Welfare	3	57,500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8,73,000</b>

By invoking Section 20(2) of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commission has recommended to initiate disciplinary action against 46 Public Information Officers belonging to the following Public Authorities:-



Sl.No.	Name of the Public Authority	No. of Public Information Officers
1.	Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare	2
2.	Commercial Taxes and Registration	1
3.	Cooperation, Food and Consumer Protection	2
4.	Higher Education	2
5.	Municipal Administration and Water Supply	20
6.	Revenue	5
7.	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	5
8.	School Education	9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

### **9.3. Award of Compensation**

The Commission by invoking Section 19(8)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005 has ordered awarding of compensation to 22 RTI petitioners by the Public Authorities mentioned below amounting to Rs.99,800/-.

Sl.No.	Name of the Public Authority	No. of RTI petitioners	Compensation amount (Rs.)
1.	Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare	1	1,500
2.	Commercial Taxes and Registration	1	2,000
3.	Energy	1	1,500
4.	Higher Education	4	14,000
5.	Municipal Administration and Water Supply	5	25,000
6.	Revenue	6	42,500
7.	School Education	2	3,000
8.	Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme	1	10,000
9.	Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments	1	300
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>99,800</b>

## **Chapter – 10**

### **Recommendations**

According to Section 25(3)(g) of Right to Information Act, the Annual Report of the Commission should include *inter alia* "recommendations for reform, including recommendations in respect of particular public authorities, for the development, improvement, modernization, reform, or amendment to this Act or other legislation or common law or any other matter relevant for operationalising the right to access to information".

#### **10.1 Issues for intervention of Government**

The following are some important issues that need the attention of the Government :

1. Right to Information Act Rules have not been framed in the State. Only the Fees Rules have been made. It is recommended that RTI Act Rules be framed in an appropriate manner.
2. Central government operates Right to Information Act online system. This has been adopted by some other States too. The State Government should also implement the system.
3. A Nodal Officer must be nominated in each department to be responsible for updating information under Section 4(1)(b) of the Act. The websites of many departments carry obsolete information, dating back to several years. In the absence of nominating a responsible official, the work gets neglected. As a result, PIOs get swamped with Right to Information petitions. If information is published suo motu on specified parameters, the need for individuals filing petitions will reduce.
4. A Co-ordination mechanism between the Government and the Information Commission will be helpful in improving the response to Right to Information Act applications.
5. The Anna Institute of Management has been entrusted with the job of training Public Information Officers and Appellate Authorities. The Institute is doing a commendable job by training a large number of people. It would be advantageous for the Institute to involve serving or retired Commissioners in

framing the syllabus and even in training sessions, because they are the ones who have practical knowledge of the subject.

6. There is substantial delay in furnishing of details by the departments for the Annual Report. A Periodical may be prescribed by the Government with instructions that data should be compiled and furnished to the heads of departments by 31<sup>st</sup> January. The heads of departments should in turn submit the data to the Government by 15<sup>th</sup> February. The Secretariat departments should in turn supply the information to the Commission by 1<sup>st</sup> March.
7. PIOs are authorized to collect money for supply of copies. But the remittances received are remitted into the Government account. The PIO has to spend the money from the Contingency account and then recoup it. The absence of sufficient allocation of money under contingencies and delay in recoupment causes hardship to the PIOs. Even where photocopiers are available, difficulties are faced when A3 size sheets are to be copied. Such work has got to be done privately and often the PIO will have to spend from his pocket. The Government may consider allocating a special imprest or contingency advance for the purpose.
8. Most petitioners complain that replies reportedly sent by PIOs do not reach them. This happens because replies are sent by ordinary post. Sufficient service stamps need to be given to PIOs and Appellate Authorities for use in replying to RTI requests.
9. The Commission needs a building of its own with sufficient room. The present premises is inadequate and has only three hearing halls whereas the maximum number of Commissioners is seven.
10. Secretarial assistance to the Commissioners needs to be increased. Lack of adequate staff results in delay in disposal.

## **10.2 RTI Act**

There are issues in the Right to Information Act itself. The following are some that may be mentioned:

1. There are two mechanisms to approach the Commission, one by way of appeal under Section 19(3) and another by way of complaint under Section 18. Essentially, there is a distinction between an appellant and a complainant.

Section 19(8)(b) provides for compensation only for a complainant. It should specify that it includes appellant also – to remove any ambiguity.

2. The penalty under Section 20(2) is Rs 250 for each day of refusal till the information is finally given, with an upper limit of Rs 25,000. The Courts have pointed out that the section says 'shall impose a penalty of Rs 250 per day' leaving no discretion in the matter of quantum of punishment. Though wilful defaulters should not escape penalty, it is to be noted that the time limits prescribed for first appeal and second appeal themselves add to 120 days, and, therefore, the penalty will work out to Rs 25,000 in all cases. It also has to be noted that the 30 day period timeline does not distinguish between an application where only one request is made and another where a hundred requests are put forth.
3. There must be a discretion to the Commission to decide on the quantum of penalty subject to a maximum of Rs 25,000, after taking into consideration all circumstances.
4. There is no provision for penalising or taking action against Appellate Authorities. As a result, many appellate authorities fail to take their job seriously
5. While Section 8(1)(j) vests the authority with the Public Information Officer or the appellate authorities to decide on the question of larger public interest to overrule the exemption afforded by this section, 8(1)(d) and 8(1)(e) stipulate that the competent authority must be satisfied about the existence of larger public interest to overrule the exemption. Section 2(e) defines the competent authority as the President or the Governor. No mechanism is provided for escalating the matter to the Government when a question of larger public interest arises. It will be quite impractical too to refer each such case to the Government.
6. Section 7(2) says that if the Public Information Officer does not reply within the specified time, the request will be deemed to be refused. There is no analogous provision in respect of first appeals.
7. Section 7(3) and 7(8) require that the particulars of the appellate authority be intimated to the petitioner when any additional fees are required or when the request is rejected. This requirement should embrace all cases because even

when the request is not rejected, the applicant may want to question the adequacy of the information.

8. Section 19(9) requires the Commission to inform the appellant about the right of appeal on its decision. The Act does not provide for any right of appeal and in the absence of any such provision, this section only provides room for appellants to question an order of the Commission on the ground that right of appeal was not mentioned. Of course, it can be mentioned that there is no right of appeal but it would appear to be quite pointless to say it in every order or decision.
9. The question of vexatious petitioning has to be addressed. There are petitioners who ask for a hundred items of information in one application. There are some who file scores of petition, often on the same matter. Section 14 of the UK Freedom of Information Act specifically deals with vexatious requests.

### **10.3 Recommendations under Section 19(8)(a)**

Section 19(8)(a) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 has also empowered the State Information Commission to require the public authority to take any such steps as may be necessary to secure compliance with the provisions of the Act.

It has also been recognized that the Right to Information Act can be a tool for good governance. Right to Information petitions reveal a lot about the gap between the expectations of the common man and the service delivery mechanism. Unfortunately, Right to Information Act remains confined to the petitioner/appellant, the public information officer, the appellate authority and the Commission. The head of the department or the Secretariat department may not get to know the issues that are brought to light by the Right to Information mechanism. It is in this background that the Commission chose to highlight important issues and take them to the notice of the department and Government. The Commission notes that many of these suggestions have been acted upon.

The Commission has made the following recommendations to the public authorities concerned while disposing of appeals and complaints:-

## I. **General**

### 1) Suggestions to Government – Sanction of staff, Updating Handbook

During the hearing of an appeal, a Public Information Officer made a representation that a large number of RTI petitions are received and lack of exclusive staff to assist Public Information Officers in RTI work is causing disruption of other routine departmental work. He also reported that copies of RTI Book are not available for all Public Information Officers.

After deliberations at the meeting of Commission held on 23.09.2015, it resolved to request the Government under the provisions of sections 19(8)(a) and 25(5) of the RTI Act

- to consider the feasibility of sanction of posts in the rank of Junior Assistants / Assistants in various offices to handle RTI petitions depending on the volume of petitions.
- to supply copies of Bare Act incorporating the Appeal Procedure Rules, Tamil Nadu RTI Fees Rules and Madras High Court Right to Information (Regulation of Fee and Cost) Rules, 2007, to all Assistant Public Information Officers / Public Information Officers and Appellate Authorities.
- to consider updating the Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department Publication "Guidelines under RTI Act, 2005", published in 2009 .

#### *Action taken Report*

The Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department, Secretariat vide Letter No.42082/AR3/2015-1 dated 30.01.2017 has stated that the Commission's suggestions have been examined in detail and the Government resolved as follows:-

- The creation of posts in the rank of Junior Assistant / Assistant to handle the Right to Information petitions in all the Government Departments, involves huge financial commitments. Hence, based on proposals, if any received from departments, creation of additional staff to handle Right to Information applications shall be examined on case to case basis.
- The Right Information Act, 2005, Tamil Nadu Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2012, Tamil Nadu Right to Information (Fees) Rules, 2005,

Madras High Court Right to Information (Regulation of Fee and Cost) Rules, 2007 have already been made available in the websites of Tamil Nadu Government, Tamil Nadu Information Commission and the High Court of Madras for the use of Assistant Public Information Officer / Public Information Officer and Public.

- The suggestion of the Tamil Nadu Information Commission to update the guidelines under Right to Information Act, 2005 published in 2009 has been accepted.

## 2) Common deficiencies in dealing with RTI

The Commission at its meeting held on 09.09.2015 observed certain common omissions and deficiencies in replies given by the Public Information Officers / Appellate Authorities. It was suggested vide Letter No.36916/Admin-I/2015 dated 13.10.2015 addressed to the Principal Secretary to Government, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department that instructions may be given on the following:-

- Public Information Officers should furnish the address of the Appellate Authority, so that the petitioner can file an appeal if he so desires to the appropriate authority.
- When the Public Information Officers refuse information or restrict the information furnished, they sometimes fail to assign reasons. Even when reasons are given, they take the form of bald statements, such as "the information does not fall within the provisions of 2(f)" or "Rejected under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act". The petitioners may not be aware of the provision of the different sections of RTI Act. It will be of help if the Public Information Officers as well as Appellate Authorities (in cases where the replies are furnished by them) explain the reasons apart from quoting the sections. For instance when section 8(1)(j) is invoked, the Public Information Officer may indicate that the information is refused under section 8(1)(j) because it relates to personal information, disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest or that disclosure would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual and that the Public Information Officer is not satisfied that any larger public interest would justify the disclosure of the information.

- Some Appellate Authorities simply forward the appeals received by them to the Public Information Officers without exercising their responsibility in terms of section 19(6) under which they are expected to dispose of the appeal after recording the reasons in writing. The Appellate Authority's disposal should be in the form of a speaking order making it clear that he has considered the specific representations of the appellants and giving reasons for his decisions on such representations.
- In some instances, it is seen that appellate authorities totally abdicate their responsibility by merely transmitting the appeals to the Public Information Officers instead of passing orders themselves.

### 3) Essential information to be given by Public Information Officers<sup>1</sup>

The RTI Act provides for penalty to be imposed on Public Information Officers, vide Section 20(1), for refusal to accept a petition, delay in furnishing reply, giving incorrect or misleading information, etc. It also empowers the Commission, vide section 20(2), to recommend disciplinary action for such violations. In case the Commission decides to initiate action, the explanation of the officer concerned has to be called for. More often than not, Public Information Officers fail to give their names in their replies. The petitioner may also be not aware of the name. By the time an appeal is taken up, the Public Information Officer may have been transferred. This results in delay in ascertaining the name of the Public Information Officer who is accountable and against whom action is to be initiated. Hence, the Commission requested the P&AR department that instructions may be given to all Public Information Officers that they should without fail furnish their name in their replies sent to petitions under RTI.

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<sup>1</sup> Letter No.41781/Admin-I/2015 dated 17.02.2017



#### 4) Handling of Right to Information petitions or appeals by persons having a conflict of interest<sup>2</sup>

In one case, the petitioner had asked for certain information concerning a particular official. The request was turned down by the appellate authority, who, incidentally, was the person about whom information was sought. The Commission recommended that when information is asked about a particular officer, it is not proper for the concerned officer himself to handle such an application or an appeal. Secretary to Government, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department was requested to examine this and issue appropriate instructions to all officers to avoid the question of conflict of interest while deciding RTI petitions and appeals.

#### 5) Maintenance of Personal Registers<sup>3</sup>

In a case where a dispute arose whether a particular letter was received at the office of the Sub Registrar, the Personal Register was produced but it was found that even the date of receipt was not noted for entries spread over three months. It was also found that entries were made in a haphazard manner and no monthly abstracts had been drawn. In a few cases even pencil entries were found. Therefore, the reliability of this register as a record of receipt of correspondence is highly doubtful. Pointing out that this will negate the ideal of accountability which is a corner stone of RTI Act, it was suggested to the IG Registration that he may issue suitable instructions to all officers on this.

#### 6) Proof of dispatch of replies<sup>4</sup>

It came to the notice of the Commission that bogus entries were made in the despatch registers of two Sub Registrars' offices to establish a claim that replies were sent in time to the petitioners.. The Inspector General of Registration was requested to issue necessary instructions to curtail such activities.

*Action taken Report*

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<sup>2</sup> SA / 4359 / Selvi.V.Subbulakshmi

<sup>3</sup> Case / 40793 / S.R.Venkataraman

<sup>4</sup> SA / 5981 / N.Dhamodaran

The Inspector General of Registration has sent a report stating that a circular containing the instructions that not to tamper and not to fabricate the evidence in the dispatch record has been circulated to all Sub-Registrars, District Registrars and Deputy Inspector Generals of Registration .

## 7) Postings from wait listed candidates<sup>5</sup>

In a second appeal, a petitioner had sought information from the Directorate of Technical Education whether there is a system of appointments from wait listed or reserve list in the Directorate of Technical Education. The Commission has observed that on the question of maintaining a wait list or reserve list, the Director of Technical Education will not be in a position to take a decision on its own as this is a matter that has to be decided at Government level in co-ordination with the recruitment agency namely Teachers Recruitment Board. However, the Director of Technical Education was requested to take note of a reply from the Teachers Recruitment Board to the effect that in the event of request being received from the user department, filling up of vacancies from merit list could be considered. Action within the framework of relevant service rules may be taken considering the fact that it may be advantageous not to carry over vacancies arising on account of a selected candidate not joining or quitting job soon after joining since this contingency may also arise in other recruitments. Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department was requested to consider issuing clarifications to avoid divergent practices and mutually conflicting replies from different agencies.

## II. Bar Council

### 8) Suspension of Practice by an Advocate

A petitioner had asked for the details of voluntary suspension of practice of advocate and subsequent resumption as permitted by the Bar Council. In this case, the advocate, who took up full time service failed to make the declaration within 90 days as required by Rules. He reported it after 27 years, on completing his government service, and simultaneously sought permission to resume practice, which was granted. It was pointed out by the petitioner that in the event of the death of the advocate in

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<sup>5</sup> SA / 5273 / K.Venkatesh Raja

this situation, the relief of Rs 5 lakhs granted by Bar Council could be claimed by his family, making use of the fact that his right to practice had not been suspended. It was recommended by the commission that when a person registered in the Bar Council is appointed to government service a copy of the appointment order may be sent to the bar council so that he does not continue to be active in the rolls of the Bar Council while being employed in government service.

### III. Electoral Rolls

#### 9) Preservation of Electoral Rolls<sup>6</sup>

Certain deficiencies in the preservation of electoral rolls were identified in the course of an enquiry and on the suggestion of the Information Commission, the Chief Electoral Officer has issued instructions to all District Election Officers about the procedure to be adopted in maintenance of electoral rolls. The District Electoral Officers have also been told by the CEO that electoral roll of previous years which have so far not been sent to the Archives should be sent immediately for preservation as permanent record.

### IV. Higher Education

#### 10) Selection of teaching staff

A petitioner asked for information of candidates who had applied for recruitment as teaching staff in Tamil University and appealed to the Commission that most of the information was refused. It was represented on behalf of a petitioner that the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvarur, publishes information about recruitment. A scrutiny of the website revealed that the following information has been published for different selections done by the Central University:

- Name of the candidate
- Category
- Marks awarded by the Screening Committee
- Screening Committee Remarks- whether the Shortlisted or Not Shortlisted and the reason for not shortlisting

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<sup>6</sup> SA / 15349 / Shaik Dawood

For instance, these details have been published in respect of 144 candidates who applied for selection for the post of Assistant Professor in Library and Information Sciences. The following note is also seen below the publication:

- As per the screening norms of the University / UGC, the scores awarded by duly constituted screening committee is based on Academic record, Post Doctoral Fellowship / Teaching Experience, Research Quality, Professional achievement, Publications and with other prescribed criteria.
- It may be noted that University will restrict the number of candidates to be called for interview based on the score awarded by the screening committee and its recommendation as per the norms of the University.
- Those candidates who are not shortlisted and having objections for the reason given above are requested to submit their representations with relevant proof up to 01.05.2017 (17:00 hrs) through email at [recruitment2016@cutn.ac.in](mailto:recruitment2016@cutn.ac.in)
- No further representations will be entertained thereafter in this regard after the stipulated date & time.

The Public Information Officer of Tamil University, Thanjavur was not able to explain whether any information is published at all about the selection process.

Considering the precedent of the Central University for publishing details of candidates shortlisted, Tamil University should consider publication of information on these lines in its website to ensure transparency and accountability. Under Section 4(1)(d) of RTI Act, a public authority is expected to provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons. Selection or rejection of persons for public appointment involves an administrative decision and since some people are affected, the rationale for the decision should be provided. Section 19(8)(a)(iii) of the RTI Act empowers the Commission to require a public authority to publish certain information or categories of information necessary to secure compliance with the provisions of the RTI Act. In the light of this, the Commission directed that

- Details on the lines of those published by the Central University may also be published in future by Tamil University. The University should make a beginning with reference to the recruitment which is the subject matter of this appeal, by publishing the information either on the website or by disclosing the details to the petitioner or to anybody else who may seek the information.

- The norms adopted in final selection (such as weightage for academic background, research performance, domain knowledge / teaching skills and interview performance) must also be disclosed.
- Any candidate who appeared for the interview and was not selected must be entitled to know his marks against these criteria and the marks of the finally selected candidates. If the petitioner is one such candidate, he may apply separately and get this information, if he so desires.

## 11) Publication of information about status of recognition of distance education courses<sup>7</sup>

The Commission made the following recommendation to the Annamalai University regarding the courses under Open and Distance Learning Programme:-

“It is natural that students who are already enrolled in the Open and Distance Learning Course or who wish to join in future would be anxious to know details regarding recognition of individual programmes by the UGC or Distance Education Board and about the utility of courses that do not have recognition. The University may consider publishing on its website under Distance Education heading this information to avoid having to answer individual queries through RTI Act applications. A list of courses that do not yet have recognition of UGC or Distance Education Board may also be published for information of the public”.

## 12) Publication of information on grants from UGC to colleges

The Commission has recommended to the Public Information Officer / Principal of an Arts College that publishing of details of grants received from the University Grants Commission under various heads, the expenditure incurred under each head such as procurement of materials, books, construction of building, conducting of training classes, and similar other general information pertaining to the college in the website of the college may be done under section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act.

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<sup>7</sup> SA / 4839 / M. Kanagavel

### 13) Suo Motu publication of information on research scholars and guides<sup>8</sup>

The Commission made the following suggestions to the Registrar, University of Madras:-

The University may publish such information that would help to confirm that norms are scrupulously followed about appointment of research guides. For instance, information could be published routinely on what are the qualifications of a research guide vis-à-vis prescribed qualifications. Similarly if a scholar is to submit half yearly progress reports, the dates of submission of reports could be published. If the University chooses to publish the contents of the reports also taking recourse to the provision in section 7(2), it can do so notwithstanding the exemption under 8(1)(e). When such publication is made as a matter of routine, everyone will have a level playing field and there will be no room for any apprehension that an individual is singled out for disclosure of information. This would also obviate the need to answer individual requests under Right to Information Act.

### 14) Role of Appellate Authorities

The Joint Directors of Collegiate Education are often found to be failing to discharge their functions as Appellate Authorities. It is not the duty of an Appellate Authority to simply forward the appeal petition to the Public Information Officer. The first Appellate Authority has to convey his decision to the RTI petitioner taking into account the contents of the petition, the reply given by the Public Information Officer and the contents made in the first appeal. In most of the cases the Joint Directors of this department have failed to do so.

### 15) Appointment of separate PIOs for different wings in Universities

The Commission has recommended as follows to the Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department -

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<sup>8</sup> SA /4797 / Dr. Syed Rahamathullah

Information is available in different wings, such as Registrar Office branch, Controller of Examinations branch, Vice-Chancellor's Office branch and Distance Education Directorate branch, depending on the subject matter of a petition. But the Deputy Registrar in the office of the Registrar has been designated as Public Information Officer to the University. As it causes delay in collecting information from different branches, it is recommended to designate a responsible officer as a Public Information Officer separately for Controller of Examination , Vice-Chancellor office , Registrar office and Distance Education Directorate ”.

The Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department has issued directions to all the Universities under the Control of Higher Education Department to take necessary action in the matter as recommended by Tamil Nadu Information Commission.

## V. HR&CE

### 16) Temple Properties<sup>9</sup>

A recommendation was made to the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments that details of immovable properties belonging to temples and encroachments on them that are now maintained only in the temples may be maintained in the respective offices of the Assistant Commissioners and Joint Commissioners too.

## VI. Nomination of PIOs

### 17) Petitions addressed to the Chief Secretary<sup>10</sup>

Since people tend to send to the Chief Secretary petitions relating to different departments, procedural issues in handling such petitions were noticed. The Commission directed the Public Department, Secretariat, to frame guidelines to properly handle the RTI petitions addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government.

Based on the above direction of the Commission, the Public Department has issued guidelines in this regard. After perusing the guidelines, the Commission made a few suggestions for consideration.

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<sup>9</sup> SA /1728 / R.Karthick

<sup>10</sup> SA /10241 / G.R.Ravi

## 18) Arasu Cable TV<sup>11</sup>

In the course of an enquiry, the Commission came to know that at District level there is no designated Public Information Officer to Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited and the designated Public Information Officer is only in the Head Quarters of Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited. In such a situation, any RTI application received in a regional office should be transferred to the Head Quarters under section 6(3) of the Act within 5 days from the date of receipt of the application. The Commission recommended as follows:-

“The Managing Director, Arasu Cable TV Corporation is requested to designate the officials at District level as Assistant Public Information Officers with instructions to forward the RTI applications / appeals received by them to the Public Information Officer / Appellate Authority as per Section 5(2) of the Act”.

## 19) CMDA<sup>12</sup>

During the enquiry on a Second Appeal pertaining to Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, it came to the notice of the Commission that there are different units in Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority such as Plans Units, Area Development Unit, Enforcement Cell, Legal Cell, Construction Wing and Regularization Unit. The Grievance Officer cum Public Relations Officer has been nominated as the Public Information Officer although most of the documents on which RTI Act queries are to be answered are in the custody of other units. The officers incharge of the different units tend to take Right to Information Act matters lightly, and even when the Public Information Officer seeks their assistance under Section 5(4), their response is slow or casual. There is also scope for delay as finally the reply will have to be sent by the designated Public Information Officer, creating an additional layer of processing. It is eventually the designated Public Information Officer who is answerable is not able to offer clarification during the enquiry. Section 5 of the RTI Act stipulates that every public authority shall designate as many officers as Public Information Officers in all administrative units or offices under it as may be necessary to provide information to persons requesting for information under the Act.

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<sup>11</sup> SA / 5201 / G.Anbalagan

<sup>12</sup> SA / 2864 / L. Prem Anandan



In the light of the above, the Commission has made the following recommendations under Section 19(8)(a)(ii) of the RTI Act to the Member Secretary, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority:

- A responsible officer may be nominated for each of the different major units / wings / cells in the CMDA.
- Appropriate Appellate Authorities may also be nominated for each unit.
- The Grievance Officer –cum-PRO can continue to be the Nodal Public Information Officer to receive all Right to Information Act petitions, so that the public do not have to be bothered about which Public Information Officer has to be addressed in particular.
- The Nodal Public Information Officer can answer such requests that fall within her area of work. She can forward other petitions under Section 6(3) to one or more Unit PIOs by name, marking a copy to the petitioner within 5 days of receipt.
- Such PIOs of different units should send replies within the prescribed time limit. They should mention their name and designation in the reply and also give details of the Appellate Authority.

#### Action taken Report

The Member Secretary CMDA has issued orders designating PIOs / Appellate Authorities to various units in the CMDA and also designating the Grievance Officer as Nodal Public Information Officer.

## VII. Police

### 20) General instructions on Right to Information Act petitions- Police department<sup>13</sup>

The Commission recommended to the Director General of Police to issue a circular to follow the general guidelines as outlined below while dealing with the RTI petitions:-

- The Public Information Officers while giving reply to petitioners should mention their names without fail. If a complaint is made under Section 18 or action is

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<sup>13</sup> SA / 9161 / A.G.Sathya Prakash

taken under Section 20(1) and 20(2) of the Act, the explanation of the Public Information Officer can be obtained only if the name of the Public Information Officer is known. Hence while giving reply, the Public Information Officers and Appellate Authorities should mention their name without fail.

- The Public Information Officers can use the format "Suggested Form of Reply to be furnished by Public Information Officers to RTI Applicants" displayed in the website of the Tamil Nadu Information Commission.
- Though at the District level, Additional Superintendent of Police has been designated as the Public Information Officer, in a number of RTI petitions, the information needs to be got from the Police Stations or from some other offices. When furnishing of details by such officials is delayed or if they gave a wrong information, the Additional Superintendent of Police is being held responsible. In such circumstances, the Public Information Officer under section 5(4) of the Act can seek the assistance of any other officer as he considers it necessary for the proper discharge of his duties clearly indicating section 5(4) of the RTI Act. Any officer, whose assistance has been sought shall be treated as Public Information Officer and he will also be held responsible. If he is informed that he will also be held responsible for any delay and also for failing to give proper reply, he will avoid sending the particulars without scrutiny.
- The Public Information Officer should examine such reply sent by a subordinate officer and ensure that the reply is as per the provisions of the Act. If there is any deficiency, it should be rectified and reply sent. The Public Information Officer may be held responsible for such deficiencies if he send a reply without examining it properly.
- When a Public Information Officer appears for enquiry before the Commission, he should not only bring the file pertaining to the RTI petition but also other relevant documents / records connected with the petition.

## VIII. Registration

### 21) Record of documents scrutinized<sup>14</sup>

In a number of appeals filed under the RTI Act questions have been raised whether the basic documents conferring title on the seller are scrutinized at the time of registration of the document. Many appellants referred to a circular by the Inspector General of Registration to the effect that basic documents relating to ownership should be filed at the time of registration. However, during enquiry by the Commission, it is contended by the Public Information Officers that copies of parent documents are not collected and that the documents are scrutinized but returned to the concerned person. It appears that no entry is even made about what documents were produced and scrutinized. If the intention of the department is to ensure that documents are scrutinized, some accountability must be fixed on the Sub-Registrar / Registrar by making it mandatory to record what documents were scrutinized before finalizing the registration.

In one instance a sale agreement executed by a person has been questioned on the ground that no proof has been obtained to establish that the person who purportedly sold the land was the legal heir of the person who owned the property. In this matter also the Public Information Officer takes the stand that the legal heirship certificate **would have been** seen by his predecessor who registered the documents. This remains only a presumption as there is no record to this effect.

The loophole could possibly result in bogus registration. The department may examine the issue and take such measures as are necessary to guard against possible malpractices. Further this will also help in petitioners securing satisfactory answers to their queries.

The Commission, in exercise of its power under section 19(8)(a)(iv) of the RTI Act, 2005 required the Inspector General of Registration to take steps to make necessary changes in the matter of maintenance and management of records while registering documents as indicated above.

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<sup>14</sup> Letter No.4130/Admin-I/2016 dated 15.02.16

## **Action taken Report**

The Inspector General of Registration has since issued necessary instructions vide his Circular No.16168/C1/2016 dated 28.07.2016 to all the officials of the Registration Department to maintain a register and make necessary entries while registering documents.

### **22) Rule about registration of documents<sup>15</sup>**

Rule 55 of Registration Rules forbids a registering officer from enquiring into the validity of a document produced for registration. It says: "It forms no part of a registering officer's duty to enquire into the validity of a document brought to him for registration or to attend to any written or verbal protest against the registration of a document based on the ground that the executing party had no right to execute a document." The only objections that he can consider are impersonation and document forgery. A person whose property is grabbed by another gets to know about the registration only much later and when he seeks to know what parent documents were produced at the time of registration, he does not get the required information. Although there are instructions from the IG Registration that the Sub Registrar must see the original document before registering a new document, there is no mandate to get a copy of the documents or to record details of documents scrutinized in some Register for future reference. The Commission felt that this procedure facilitates land grabbing and false registration. In a case that went to the High Court, the Court observed that this circular could only be a guideline and unless such requirement was made under Registration Act it would not have any legal effect.

If the genuine owner of the land wants to reverse the false registration, he has to move the Court. Under the circumstances, registration gets a green channel, even if it is fraudulent, while the process of undoing any damage done by false registration has to take a slow track.

In the light of this, the Commission recommended that Government may consider whether any rule or amendment to the Act could be brought about regarding verification of documents.

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<sup>15</sup> SA / 2115 / V. Rajasingh

While a person has to submit prescribed applications for encumbrance certificates or getting copies of documents, there is no such application for registering the document. Introducing an application and mandating Registrars to record what documents were produced and perused will provide for better accountability. Even if registration cannot be refused under existing Rule 55, the administrative requirement as suggested above will at least ensure there is a check against bogus registration.

### 23) Identity of executor and identifying witnesses during document registration<sup>16</sup>

One RTI petition was based on an allegation of bogus registration of land transaction. In this enquiry, the following facts came to light:

- The copy of the Voter ID card of the executor available in the file was illegible. The appellant had already confirmed from the number on the Voter ID that it was a bogus one.
- Details of identifying witnesses were incomplete.
- There is no system of getting copies of identity cards of the identifying witnesses
- It is ironical that the identity of the person who is supposed to identify the executor to the Registering Officer is itself in doubt. Pointing out these loopholes, the Commission recommended that the department should devise means to plug them.

### 24) Registration of a document after cancellation of a power of attorney<sup>17</sup>

An RTI petitioner pointed out that though the power of attorney was cancelled, a mortgage deed was registered after 6 days on the authority of the power of attorney which had already been cancelled, which should have been within the knowledge of the Registering Officer. The Commission recommended as follows:-

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<sup>16</sup> SA / 4011 / R.Ganesh

<sup>17</sup> SA / 4189 / L. Prem Anandan

“It would be appropriate that the Inspector General of Registration looks into this issue that a Principal is now able to cancel a document without intimation to the agent, providing a loop-hole for the agent to register a transaction subsequently. Safeguards must be there to prevent such malpractices. The practice adopted that EC should have been obtained within the last 10 days would enable a transaction like this to go through within the 10 days window. This could be examined and appropriate instructions given to all officials. ”.

## 25) Withholding of registration of documents

In some cases, registration of a document is withheld on some procedural ground but the petitioner does not get to know the reason and he is left in suspense until a final decision is taken. A recommendation was made to the department that the reason for withholding the registration as recorded in the Minute Book should be communicated to the concerned person. It was also recommended that when a final decision is taken, again a copy of the entry in the Minute Book should be informed to him.

## 26) Stamp Paper Vendor’s Register

Each Stamp Paper vendor is issued a Register by the Registration department for making entries of stamp papers sold by him. The Register is expected to be surrendered once it is exhausted, when a new Register is given by the department. These Registers run to 500 pages and if the vendor does not do brisk business, he does not have to surrender the Register for years. If a petitioner asks for the name of the person to whom a stamp paper was sold by a particular vendor a few years back, the department is not able to give the information and if the vendor is not traceable, information for several years is lost. A recommendation has been made to the department that the Register may be got surrendered at the end of every year.

# IX. Rural Development Department

## 27) Suo Motu disclosure by Rural Development department

The Commission made the following recommendation to the Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in terms of section 19(8)(a)(iii) of the RTI Act:

"Many RTI petitioners seek information about work done in different Panchayats. Under section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act every Public Authority is expected to make suo motu disclosure on various types of information including budget, expenditure, disbursements, amounts allotted and details of beneficiaries under subsidy programmes etc. Section 4(2) makes it clear that such suo motu disclosure will ensure that public will have minimum resort to the use of RTI Act to obtain information. It is therefore, suggested that instructions may be issued on what type of statistics and other information should be compiled every year at Panchayat level, Union level and District level. This could cover works undertaken, expenditures incurred, income earned etc., and the other categories listed in section 4(1)(b). Taking into account the type of information that would be required by members of the public, it should be made available in order to ensure transparency, accountability and minimizing corruption. If this kind of information is compiled as a booklet at each level, anyone who seeks the information could be supplied a copy subject to payment of cost as laid down in Tamil Nadu Right to Information Act (Fees) Rules. This would obviate the need to compile the information for each RTI application. This will be in tune with the provisions of section 7(9) of RTI Act which deals with requests which disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority.

## 28) Compilation of information at Block level about panchayats

The Commission has made the following recommendations to the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj:-

When a petition is received in the Office of the Block Development Officer for information relating to Panchayats, as a matter of routine, most Public Information Officers forward the petitions to the Panchayat Secretary asking him to furnish the information directly to the petitioner. This is irregular since it is the Public Information Officer who has to send the reply and he cannot delegate this job to the Assistant Public Information Officer and this will actually amount to abdication of responsibility. It is reported that copies of Panchayat resolutions and village accounts are submitted to the Block Development Officers by the Panchayat Secretaries. When this information is available in the Block Development Officer's office, there is no necessity to seek or ask him to furnish a reply to the applicant.

It is seen from a number of petitions relating to Rural Development Department that many petitioners tend to ask a large number of questions. When a large volume of information is sought, it would be difficult for the Panchayat Secretary supply it to the petitioner. Therefore, it would be advantageous if information that would be of interest to public at large is compiled annually or half yearly at Panchayat level, with a copy being maintained in the Block Development Officer's office, so that if any request is made, information can be furnished from this compilation or copy of such compilation can be given on payment of prescribed fees under RTI Act. This would also in tune with the requirements of suo motu disclosures as laid down in section 4 of the RTI Act. It will also reduce the burden on Panchayat Secretaries and Block Development Officers, as they need to compile the information every time a request is received. The Commissioner may prescribe a suitable format for collection, compilation and maintenance of data, if he thinks fit to adopt this.

#### *Action taken Report*

With reference to the above recommendation of the Commission, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has issued necessary instructions to the Personal Assistant (Panchayat Development) to the Collectors of the all the Districts.

## **X. Suo Motu Disclosure**

### **29) Reports of Inquiry Commissions<sup>18</sup>**

The Commission made the following recommendation to the Secretary to Government, Public Department for consideration:-

"Publishing of copies of reports of Inquiry Commissions in the website after issuing of Government order thereon will avoid the situation of resort to filing of applications by private individuals to get copies of such enquiry reports. This will also serve the obligation of public authorities under section 4(2) of the RTI Act".

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<sup>18</sup> SA / 3879 / P.Krishnan



### 30) Return of applications received under Contributory Pension Scheme<sup>19</sup>

Many applications received for grant of final authorization under Contributory Pension Scheme are found to have been returned, most of them for failure on the part of head office to enclose service book or to send the applications in triplicate or for lack of signature of the applicant or the head of office. Such return is not being intimated to the applicant though his address is collected in the application form. The Commission recommended that details of applications returned may be hosted on the website so that the applicants could be aware of the return and they will be in a position to follow up with the respective head of office, if necessary.

Commissioner of Treasuries and Accounts has arranged to host the information. It was pointed out by the Commission that this should not be a one time effort but the data may be periodically updated.

### 31) Period of Retention of Records

It is not uncommon that when a petitioner seeks a record or register he is informed by the PIO that the record has been destroyed as the prescribed period of retention has lapsed. On a suggestion from an appellant, a recommendation was made to the department that the prescribed period for each type of register should be displayed on the website.

## XI. Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission

### 32) Publication of cut-off criteria and Answer Keys<sup>20</sup>

The Commission made the following direction to the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission :-

- The policy and norms being followed by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission as regard to publishing of examination results should be published under section 4(1)(b)(v) of the RTI Act. Withholding information citing policy decision is not acceptable. If a selection involves a number of stages, the cut-

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<sup>19</sup> SA12453/F/- S.Ramanathan

<sup>20</sup> SA / 504 / C.Gnanapandian

off criteria (minimum marks, date of birth, educational qualification, etc which come into play– for each category) adopted for the selection at each stage should be published in the interest of promoting the objective of transparency. Such suo-motu publication of information by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission will facilitate reduction in the number of information seekers.

- When Answer keys are finalized, publishing the remarks and appeals received on answer notes and the decisions of Experts Committee thereon in the website of the Service Commission will be consistent with the requirement of transparency.

### 33) Supply of copies of answer scripts to the respective candidates<sup>21</sup>

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Central Board of Secondary Education and others vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay and others (Civil Appeal No.6454 of 2011 dated 09.08.2011) has held that the evaluated answer-books is an information under section 2(f) of the RTI Act and therefore, examiners / students have a fundamental and legal right of having access to their answer – books under RTI Act. It is also held therein that an examining body does not hold the evaluated answer-books in a fiduciary relationship.

The relevant judgment was forwarded to the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission pointing out that the above judgment would be applicable to all examining bodies and adherence to this will reduce number of appeals under RTI Act.

Delay in complying with requests for copies of answer papers sought by candidates from the Public Service Commission was noticed. It was ascertained that the delay was occasioned by the fact that in every case, the matter was cleared by seeking orders from the entire Commission by circulation. On a suggestion from the Information Commission, the PSC issued orders dispensing with this procedure.

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<sup>21</sup> ) Letter No.27310/Registrar/2016 dated 07.09.2016

### 34) One Time Registration for Public Service Commission selection

An aspirant for any post for which recruitment is done through the Public Service Commission has to do a One Time Registration to register himself with the Commission. When he applies for a specific examination, he has to submit an online application separately for each examination or recruitment. In one case, the candidate who submitted an online application for a particular job found that she was not selected even though she had got the minimum marks for her community under reservation. She found to her dismay that in the online application submitted through an browsing centre, her community had been wrongly mentioned. Her complaint was that at the time of One Time Registration, she had correctly mentioned her community and also given details of the Community Certificate such as the designation of the officer who issued it, date of issue and the certificate number. She rightly questioned what was the purpose in collecting all this information at the time of One Time Registration if it was not going to be used later. The Information Commission recommended to the PSC to examine whether data entered in One Time Registration could not be used when the candidate submits an application later for a particular job, at least in respect of data which are not likely to change.

**ANNEXURE**

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred us 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Secretariat.	8		288	288	12	274	2							3		6	6	2	4	
Directorate of Adi Dravidar Welfare	2		550	550		533						17		1		17	17			17
Directorate of Tribal Welfare	1													1						
Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO)	43	9	84	93		89						4		43		5	5	5		
<b>AD&amp;TW Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>2</b>					<b>21</b>		<b>48</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>
Agriculture Department, Secretariat	11	2	199	201	165	36							282	5	2		2	2		
Commissionerate of Agriculture	63	38	853	891	60	735	14		2		30	50		31	3	42	45	38	2	5
Horticulture and Plantation Crops	34	5	218	223	1	219		3					486	34		13	13	12	1	
Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business	1		64	64	2	62							46	2		5	5	5		
Seed Certification and Organic Certification	1	1	29	30	1	28						1		1		1	1	1		
Agricultural Engineering	5	7	86	93		60					27	6	300	1		11	11	10	1	
Tamil Nadu Agriculture University	2		229	229	1	207	14		4		1	2	1 404	1		24	24	24		
Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency	1		9	9		9								1				-		
<b>Agriculture Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1 687</b>	<b>1 740</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>1 356</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2 518</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Animal Husbandry Dairying & Fisheries Department, Secretariat.	6	49	141	190	120	68	1				1		120	4		1	1	1		
Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services	2	46	259	305		256	2					47	608	1	2	3	5	5		
Fisheries	35	69	308	377	3	353						21		14	47	18	65	55		10
Milk Production and Dairy Development	26	5	382	387	20	365					2		2 660	26	1	62	63	58		5
Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University	1	1	63	64		56	5					3	236	1		3	3	2		1
Tamil Nadu Fisheries University	1		19	19			2		3		12	2		1						
Audit for Milk Co-operatives	6		11	11		11								1		1	1	1		
Tamil Nadu Livestock Development Agency	1		2	2		2								1						
Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation	1		9	9		6						3		1						
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	1		1	1		1								1						
Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation	1	8	130	138	20	111						7		1	1	20	21	20		1
<b>Animal Husbandry Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>1 325</b>	<b>1 503</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1 229</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3 624</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>142</b>		<b>17</b>

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, Secretariat.	5		173	173	66	106					1	--	455	2		9	9	7	2	
Backward Classes Welfare	35		504	504	41	446	3	-			5	9		33	-	30	30	30		
Most Backward Classes & Denotified Communities Welfare	4		129	129	--	127					2	--		2	-	2	2	2	-	
Minorities Welfare	1		33	33	--	33				-				1	-		--		-	
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	1		41	41	16	21				-	4	-	474	1	-	1	1	-	1	
State Minorities Commission	1		13	13	8	5				-	--	-		1	--	--	-			
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation	1		15	15	--	15				-		-		1		--	--			
Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation	1		9	9	--	9				-				1		1	1	1		
Tamil Nadu Wakf Board	1		1 253	1 253	40	944	5	5		-	250	9	1 364	1		238	238	221	12	5
Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee	1		6	6	--	6				-				1		--	--			
<b>BC,MBC, Min Welfare Total</b>	<b>51</b>		<b>2 176</b>	<b>2 176</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1 712</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>262</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2 293</b>	<b>44</b>		<b>281</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>
Commercial Taxes and Registration Department, Secretariat.	4		341	341	166	162					13		476	3		16	16	16		
Commissionerate of Commercial Taxes	504	38	1 146	1 184	140	834	75		7		92	36	1 298	72	6	85	91	71	12	8
Registration	655		14 899	14 899	306	14 077	19				63	434	54 160	65		984	984	879	20	85
Tamil Nadu Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal	22		17	17	1	13					3			1						
<b>CT &amp; Regn Total</b>	<b>1185</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>16 403</b>	<b>16 441</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>15 086</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>171</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>55 934</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1 085</b>	<b>1 091</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>93</b>

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>	<i>(8)</i>	<i>(9)</i>	<i>(10)</i>	<i>(11)</i>	<i>(12)</i>	<i>(13)</i>	<i>(14)</i>	<i>(15)</i>	<i>(16)</i>	<i>(17)</i>	<i>(18)</i>	<i>(19)</i>	<i>(20)</i>	<i>(21)</i>
Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, Secretariat	8		556	556		556								4		31	31	31		
Registrar of Co-operative Societies	5,549	186	5 002	5 188	1 419	3 518	47		4	1	66	133	2 187	128	27	678	705	661	23	21
Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection	20	5	892	897	402	461	6	3	2		22	1	604	37	1	77	78	74	3	1
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Co-operation	48	43	800	843	31	779	4	1		5	4	19	3 593	33	6	69	75	55	12	8
State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	27		61	61	4	54					3			1		31	31	31		
Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation	1		15	15		13					1	1		1		3	3	3		
<b>Co-op and Food Total</b>	<b>5653</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>7 326</b>	<b>7 560</b>	<b>1 856</b>	<b>5 381</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>6 384</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>
Energy Department, Secretariat	3		97	97	89	6	1				1			2		28	28	28		
Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board	312	577	8 776	9 353	769	8 168	190	1			35	190	42 942	113	114	1 245	1 359	1 239	9	111
Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency	1		13	13		13								1						
Electrical Inspectorate	26		104	104	1	103								1		3	3	3		
Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission	1		104	104	24	75					5		662	1		10	10	6	4	
Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited	1		26	26		26								1		1	1	1		
<b>Energy Total</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>9 120</b>	<b>9 697</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>8 391</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>41</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>43 604</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1 287</b>	<b>1 401</b>	<b>1 277</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>111</b>

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Environment and Forests, Secretariat	7		215	215	171	38	4				2		258	4		10	10	9	1	
Tamil Nadu Forest	1	36	356	392		323	4					65		1	12	42	54	44		10
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board	34	3	2 234	2 237		2 231						6	41 907	1	7	107	114	113		1
Directorate of Environment	1		78	78	19	59							1 004	1						
Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation Limited	7		18	18		18								1		1	1	1		
Arasu Rubber Corporation Limited	1	5	66	71		49					7	15	278	1		12	12	8	1	3
The Tamil Nadu Tea Plantation Corporation Limited	1	5	44	49		48						1	33	1		2	2	2		
<b>Env &amp; Forests Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3 011</b>	<b>3 060</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>2 766</b>	<b>8</b>				<b>9</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>43 480</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>
Finance	12	54	1 042	1 096	205	871	1					19	12 310	9	2	65	67	64	2	1
Treasuries and Accounts	50	11	1 743	1 754	67	1 635	17	8	1		8	18	635	13		103	103	101	1	1
Co-operative Audit	36	8	195	203	7	173			1		5	17	16 007	8	2	39	41	39		2
Small Savings	32		34	34	1	33								32						
Local Fund Audit	68	29	752	781	5	757						19	182	9		682	682	682		
Internal Audit and Statutory Boards Audit	38	1	52	53	1	49						3	1 010	1		3	3	3		
Government Data Centre	1		130	130		130								1		5	5	5		
Pension	1		716	716	110	547						59		1		9	9			9
<b>Finance Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>4 664</b>	<b>4 767</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>4 195</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>30 144</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>
Handlooms, Handicrafts,	1		70	70	54	16								1		8	8	8		



Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Textiles and Khadi, Secretariat																				
Handlooms and Textiles	36	4	691	695	201	467	6			4	14	3	792	36	2	83	85	78	6	1
Sericulture	36		94	94	8	63	13	2			5	3	400	36		31	31	24	7	
Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation	1		8	8	8									1		8	8	8		
Co-optex	12		110	110		106	2					2	590	12		6	6	5		1
Tamil Nadu Khadi Village Industries Board	27	4	91	95		93	1					1		17		17	17	17		
Tamil Nadu Palm Product Development Board	1	2	9	11		11								1						
<b>Handlooms Total</b>	114	10	1 073	1 083	271	756	22	2		4	19	9	1 782	104	2	153	155	140	13	2
Health & Family Welfare Department, Secretariat	9		659	659	364	238	1				53	3		5		29	29	25	4	
Medical Education	63	48	3 579	3 627	234	3 161	205					27		63	3	152	155	148	4	3
Public Health and Preventive Medicine	43		950	950	99	794	6				51		2 068	43		117	117	110	7	
Medical and Rural Health Services (ESI)	14		131	131	4	101	10				14	2	144	13		1	1	1		
Family Welfare	5		41	41	7	33						1		2		3	3	3		
Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy	32		369	369	27	294	22		1		25		606	9		6	6	6		
Food Safety and Drug Administration	39		656	656	1	617	4	2				32	486	10		8	8	8		
Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation Limited	1		52	52	1	47	2				2		1 250	1		5	5	5		
Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project	1		62	62	7	55								1		3	3	3		
Tamil Nadu State Health Transport Department	17	2	25	27	2	21			1		1	2	306	1		1	1	1		
Drugs Control	17	11	423	434	29	381	16					8	4 918	17	3	44	47	43		4
<b>Health Total</b>	241	61	6 947	7 008	775	5 742	266	2	2		146	75	9 778	165	6	369	375	353	15	7

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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Higher Education, Secretariat	5		634	634	408	205	5				16		110	3		45	45	45		
Technical Education	1	23	638	661	31	612						18	476	1	24	82	106	106		
Collegiate Education	87	584	2 251	2 835	19	2 248						568		10	86	322	408	364		44
Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research	12	48	7 009	7 057	266	6 702						89	23 064	1		33	33	33		
Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education	1		12	12		12								1		4	4	4		
Tamil Nadu State Council for Technical Education	1													1						
Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre	4		5	5	1	4								4		5	5	5		
Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology	1		2	2		2							80	1						
Science City	1		2	2		2								1						
University of Madras	1	28	1 015	1 043	4	1 013			2			24	450	1	2	71	73	67		6
Annamalai University	3	1	776	777		777								3		40	40	40		
Madurai Kamaraj University	1	331	831	1 162		710						452		1	40	110	150	85		65
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University	1		1 227	1 227		1 175						52		1		54	54	38		16
Bharathidasan University	1	94	230	324	9	167					6	142	442	1		20	20	15		5
Bharathiar University	2	6	250	256		256								2	6	7	13	13		
Alagappa University	1		238	238		238							464	1		5	5	5		
Thiruvalluvar University	1		21	21		21								1						
Periyar University	1	216	781	997		721	1					275		1	35	110	145	96	1	48
Mother Teresa Women's University	1		40	40	5							35		1						
Tamil Nadu Open University	1		101	101		101								1		2	2	2		
Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University	1		145	145	14	131							778	1		3	3	3		
Anna University	1	141	889	1 030	72	844	5		1	16		92	9 468	1	14	144	158	140	4	14
<b>Higher Edn Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>1 472</b>	<b>17 097</b>	<b>18 569</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>15 941</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1 747</b>	<b>35 332</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>1 057</b>	<b>1 264</b>	<b>1 061</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>198</b>

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Highways and Minor Ports Department, Secretariat	4		215	215	150	52	12					1		2		14	14	14		
DirectorateHighways	127	15	2 795	2 810	644	2 124	11		1		15	15		70	2	197	199	195	2	2
Tamil Nadu Maritime Board	1		13	13		13							167	1						
Poompuhar Shipping Corporation	3		6	6		6							2	1						
Tamil Nadu Road Infrastructure Development Corporation	1		15	15		15								1						
<b>HighwaysTotal</b>	136	15	3 044	3 059	794	2 210	23		1		15	16	169	75	2	211	213	209	2	2
Home Prohibition and Excise (Home Wing)Department, Secretariat	15		1 113	1 113	851	215	44		1		1	1	514	1		62	62	55	6	1
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department (Prohibition and Excise Wing), Secretariat	4		85	85	68	17								1		7	7	3	4	
Police	133	738	54 257	54 995	3 527	48 055	933	17	151	273	693	1 346	6 85097	119	82	3 134	3 216	2 780	341	95
Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation	1		23	23	1	20					2			1		3	3	3		
Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services Recruitment Board	1	16	456	472	12	388	8				21	43	380	1		29	29	21	6	2
Prisons	14	13	2 125	2 138	610	1 443	14	2	5		33	31	2 995	6	1	81	82	79	1	2
Transport Commissioner	129	91	5 143	5 234	185	4 876	8	47		7	60	51	25 590	62	3	67	70	64	5	1
High Court of Madras	1	80	1 743	1 823	262	1 450								1	23	554	577	535		42
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai	1		583	583	73	510								1						
Government Litigations	10		31	31	3	26	2							3	3		3	3		
Prosecution	26		63	63	13	49		1						1		5	5	5		
Fire and Rescue Department	41	6	1 442	1 448	3	1 437	1		1		4	2	1 184	41		32	32	31	1	
Forensic Sciences	10	3	61	64	7	51					3	3	820	10		7	7	7		
Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation Limited	39	34	873	907		879						28		6		73	73	73		
Prohibition and Excise	4		51	51		51								1		1	1	1		
<b>Home Total</b>	429	981	68 049	69 030	5 615	59 467	1 010	67	158	280	817	1 616	7 16580	255	112	4 055	4 167	3 660	364	143

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Housing and Urban Development Department, Secretariat	8		246	246	119	117	7					3		1		31	31	31		
Tamil Nadu Housing Board	21		674	674		618						56		22						
Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board	34		783	783		783							1 956	8		97	97	97		
Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority	43		3 271	3 271	40	3 231							30 680	1		150	150	150		
Town and Country Planning	55	110	2 174	2 284	213	2 028	1					42	85 248	42	3	82	85	85		
Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Housing)	11		183	183	84	91	3					5	4 286	1		10	10	9	1	
Tamil Nadu Co-operative Housing Federation	1		50	50	1	44						5		1						
<b>Housing Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>7 381</b>	<b>7 491</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>6 912</b>	<b>11</b>					<b>111</b>	<b>1 22170</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>1</b>	
Industries Department, Secretariat	5		120	120	71	42	7							4		7	7	7		
Commissioner of Geology and Mining	43	142	1 725	1 867	159	1 606	12		2		10	78	50 293	1	120	181	301	22		279
Department of Sugar	1		171	171	22	149							1 092	1						
State Industries Promotion Corporation	1	11	128	139	31	103						5	860	1	1	10	11	9		2
Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation	1		13	13	2	11							20	1		1	1	1		
Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation Ltd.,	1	6	90	96	1	91						4	1 892	1	1	20	21	21		
Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation Ltd.,	1		10	10		10								1		1	1	1		
Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd.,	2		70	70		63	4				3			2		9	9	1	8	
Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation	5		50	50	3	37	6				4			1		7	7	7		
Tamil Nadu Magnesite Corporation	1	4	51	55		53						2	572	1	4	11	15	15		
Tamil Nadu Industrial Explosives Ltd.,	1		5	5		5								1						
Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd.,	1		31	31	3	21					7		70	1		10	10	9	1	
Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation	1		15	15	7	8								1						
<b>Industries Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>2 479</b>	<b>2 642</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>2 199</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>54 799</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>281</b>

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Information Technology Department, Secretariat	1		36	36	23	13								1						
Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Ltd.,	1	3	55	58		56						2	64	1		3	3	3		
e-Governance	1		5	5		5								1						
Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Ltd.	1	30	313	343		255						88		1		19	19	19		
Tamil Virtual Academy	1		2	2		2								1		2	2	2		
<b>IT Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>331</b>						<b>90</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>		
Labour and Employment Department, Secretariat	7		358	358	202	149	2				5		2 083	9		9	9	8	1	
Labour Department	493	5	1 853	1 858	145	1 549					139	25	14 897	48	3	126	129	122	6	1
Director of Industrial Safety and Health	66	17	624	641	75	565	1							36		35	35	17	18	
Director of Employment and Training- Employment wing	48	61	2 504	2 565	117	2 052	29		2		19	346	17 414	5	16	126	142	80	1	61
Director of Employment and Training- Training Wing	94	1	236	237	1	235						1	3 862	6	1	20	21	21		
Overseas Manpower Corporation Ltd.,	1		1	1		1								1						
Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board	1		34	34	2	32								1						
Tamil Nadu Construction Workers Welfare Board	33		143	143		142						1		1		25	25	24		1
Tamil Nadu Manual Workers Social Security and Welfare Board	1		91	91	51	37				3				1		20	20	20		
Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies	1		11	11		11							448	1		4	4	4		
Tamil Nadu Silk Development Corporation	1		9	9		9								1						
<b>Labour Total</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>5 864</b>	<b>5 948</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>4 782</b>	<b>32</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>38 704</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>63</b>

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
LawDepartment, Secretariat	1		265	265	104	141					20		212	1		17	17	4	13	
Legal Studies	1		66	66	2	64								1					--	
The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University, Chennai	1	2	113	115	3	112							84	1	2	23	25	24		1
The Tamil Nadu National Law School, Tiruchirappalli.	1		9	9		9								1		2	2	2		
<b>Law Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>326</b>					<b>20</b>		<b>296</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>
Micro, Small and Medium EnterprisesDepartment, Secretariat	3		58	58	37	21							614	1						
Industries and Commerce	37		230	230		230								33		6	6	6		
Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation	1	9	96	105	1	92	4					8	407	1	3	5	8	7		1
Tamil Nadu Small Industries Corporation Limited	5		10	10		6	4							1						
Entrepreneurship Development Institute	1		9	9		9								1						
<b>MSME Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>8</b>					<b>8</b>	<b>1 021</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>1</b>
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Secretariat	8		539	539	404	129					6			6		29	29	28	1	
Municipal Administration	4		865	865	251	601					13			1		61	61	61		
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board	36	4	807	811	51	743	4					13	3 069	17	4	89	93	93		
Greater Chennai Corporation	71	683	7 062	7 745	1 086	5 969	15		8		38	629	2 960	38	15	578	593	558	1	34
Town Panchayats	529	60	9 013	9 073	581	8 425	23		2		4	38	7 885	18		897	897	874	8	15
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board	32	15	716	731	20	695	1					15	5 363	32		83	83	82	1	
<b>MAWS Total</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>19 002</b>	<b>19 764</b>	<b>2 393</b>	<b>16 562</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>19 277</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1 737</b>	<b>1 756</b>	<b>1 696</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>49</b>

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department, Secretariat	15		1 843	1 843	403	1 392	7				41		12 608	10		81	81	65	16	
Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission	31	72	1 393	1 465	33	1 260					72	100	1 180	5	10	262	272	242	8	22
Vigilance and Anti Corruption	1	25	407	432	126	194	13		1	72	11	15		1	4	51	55	42	11	2
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Chennai	1		15	15		15								1		3	3	3		
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Tiruchirappalli	1													1						
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Madurai	1													1						
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Coimbatore	1		4	4		4								1						
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Tirunelveli	1		1	1		1								1						
Commissioner for Disciplinary Proceedings, Nagarcoil	1		1	1		1								1						
Director General of Training	1		3	3	3									1						
A & B wing foundational course Training Institute	1													1						
All India Civil Services Coaching Centre	1		7	7		7								1						
Civil Service Training Institute	1		27	27		27								1						
Anna Institute of management	1		7	7	2	5							56	1						
Vigilance Commission	2		44	44	44									1		1	1	1		
<b>P&amp;AR Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>3 752</b>	<b>3 849</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>2 906</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>13 844</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>24</b>

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department, Secretariat	1		32	32	19	13								1		2	2	2		
Evaluation and Applied Research	2													1						
Economics and Statistics	43		83	83	1	79					3		6 420	3		6	6	6		
State Planning Commission	1		4	4		4								1						
Hill Area Development and Programme	1		7	7	1	6								1						
<b>Planning Total</b>	48		126	126	21	102					3		6 420	7		8	8	8		
Public Department, Secretariat	21	1	3 543	3 544	2 584	320	1	7			631	1	68	8		59	59	56	3	
Governor's Secretariat	1	1	176	177	65	96					16		2 592	1		23	23	1	22	
Governor's House Hold, Raj Bhavan	1		6	6	2	4								1						
State Human Rights Commission	1		496	496	62	427	3		4					1		18	18	1	17	
State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5	1		1	1		1								1						
Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi	1		4	4		4							2 896	1						
Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam	1		1	1		1								1						
Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation	1		20	20		20								1						
Directorate of Ex-servicemen's Welfare	30		102	102	5	92			1		4			30						
<b>Public Total</b>	58	2	4 349	4 351	2 718	965	4	7	5		651	1	5 556	45		100	100	58	42	



Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Public Works Department, Secretariat	9	5	320	325	222	87	6				5	5	325	15		24	24	6	18	
Buildings	67	18	735	753	84	637		4			3	25	1 435	67		117	117	109	3	5
WRD	1		436	436	207	229						--		1		19	19	19		
Chennai Region	41		573	573	12	545						16	28	5		12	12	12		
Trichy Region	18		940	940		940								10		15	15	15		
Madurai Region	38		816	816		816								7		10	10	10		
Coimbatore Region	14		762	762	13	744						5	9 116	5		7	7	7		
Design Research	3		2	2		2								7						
Plan Formuation	74		34	34		33						1		63						
O&M	5		15	15		15								5						
SGSWRDC	13		87	87	7	80								6		2	2	2		
Inst. for Water Studies	1													5						
Irrigation Trg	1		3	3		2					1			1						
Cauvery Tech Cell			11	11		8		3					260	1						
Dir of Boilers	9		4	4		4								1						
<b>PWD Total</b>	294	23	4 738	4 761	545	4 142	6	7			9	52	11 164	199		206	206	180	21	5
Revenue Department, Secretariat	14		1 620	1 620	1 119	445					56		480	6		169	169	161	8	
Land Administration	5		717	717	514	203							18	3		5	5	5		
Survey and Settlement	78	215	8 718	8 933	4 739	3 864	122					208	1 55734	53	10	93	103	78	6	19
Urban Land Ceiling and Urban Land Tax	8		310	310	5	305							504	1		3	3	3		
Revenue Administration Disaster Management and Mitigation	603	3 722	1 09 462	1 13 184	35 692	69 052	1 179	78	200	12	2 152	4 819	33 815	407	487	9 249	9 736	8 553	727	456
Land Reforms	2		166	166	18	148							1 660	1						
<b>Revenue Total</b>	710	3 937	1 20 993	124930	42 087	74 017	1 301	78	200	12	2 208	5 027	1 92211	471	497	9 519	10 016	8 800	741	475

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Secretariat	9	1	532	533	378	152					3		674	5		38	38	37	1	
Directorate of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj	3,262	959	18 093	19 052	4 563	13 575	3				10	901		984	58	1 694	1 752	1 505	5	242
Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women	33		85	85	5	77	2					1	40	33		10	10	10		
Pudhu Vaazhvu Project	1		112	112	5	105						2		1		1	1	1		
IFAD assisted PTSLP	1													1						
Tamil Nadu State Election Commission	1	6	221	227	173	54								1		6	6	6		
<b>RD Total</b>	<b>3307</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>19 043</b>	<b>20 009</b>	<b>5 124</b>	<b>13 963</b>	<b>5</b>				<b>13</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1 025</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1 749</b>	<b>1 807</b>	<b>1 559</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>242</b>
School Education, Secretariat	6		1 600	1 600	1 302	259	1				38			4		93	93	91	2	
Directorate of School Education	33		12 575	12 575	2 859	9 131	114	44	14	17	231	165	526	33		478	478	429	12	37
Elementary Education	455		15 730	15 730	423	15 307								2		29	29	29		
Matriculation Schools	16	4	526	530	386	125						19		1	2	128	130	130		
Nonformal & Adult Education	1		23	23	7	16								1		1	1	1		
State Council of Education Research and Training	2	1	159	160	3	143					14			1	1	1	2	2		
Government Examinations	9		821	821	62	759							2 763	1		69	69	69		
Public Libraries	35		769	769	6	763							1 325	1		68	68	68		
Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation	1		22	22	1	21								1						
Teachers Recruitment Board	2	132	1 210	1 342	38	1 302	2						8 522	1	18	134	152	152		
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	31	15	833	848	7	821					1	19	823	33	7	33	40	29	8	3
Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan	1		38	38		38							130							
<b>School Edn Total</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>34 306</b>	<b>34 458</b>	<b>5 094</b>	<b>28 685</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>14 089</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1 034</b>	<b>1 062</b>	<b>1 000</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>40</b>

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Social Reforms Department, Secretariat	1		5	5		5							50	1						
<b>Social Reforms Total</b>	1		5	5		5							50	1						
Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Secretariat	39		285	285	204	79	2							4		19	19	14	2	3
Social Welfare	467	100	318	418	10	336					5	67		467	20	60	80	45		35
Director of Social Defence	17		83	83	10	73							1 324	1						
Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	467	7	38	45		45								467		3	3	3		
Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board	2		15	15	10	5								1		15	15	15		
<b>Social Welfare Total</b>	992	107	739	846	234	538	2				5	67	1 324	940	20	97	117	77	2	38
Special Programme Implementation Department, Secretariat	1		17	17	9	5					3			1						
<b>Spl Prog Implementation Total</b>	1		17	17	9	5					3			1						
Tamil Development and Information Department, Secretariat	4		40	40	18	20					2			2		3	3	1	2	
Directorate of Tamil Development	32		28	28		28							642	1						
Information and Public Relation	1	6	176	182	17	156					4	5	8	1	1	11	12	12		
Tamil Etymological Dictionary Project	1													1						
Stationery and Printing	10	4	207	211	14	185	4					8	613	10		7	7	6	1	
<b>Tamil Dev Total</b>	48	10	451	461	49	389	4				6	13	1 263	15	1	21	22	19	3	

<i>Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission</i>	<i>No. of PIOs</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>Petitions received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts</i>	<i>No disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 8</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 9</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 11</i>	<i>Rejected under Sec 24</i>	<i>Rejected for other reasons</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>	<i>Charges received</i>	<i>No of FAA</i>	<i>Previous pendency</i>	<i>FA received in 2015</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Disposed by giving information</i>	<i>Rejected</i>	<i>Pending as on 31/12/15</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments Department, Secretariat.	6		200	200	122	74					4		20	12		5	5	2	3	
Museum	1		9	9		5						4	200	1		4	4			4
Archaeology	1		40	40	5	29			3		3			1		2	2	2		
Art and Culture	16	10	61	71	2	64					5			2		21	21	17		4
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments	145	80	5 699	5 779	1 274	4 341	63					101	22 018	50	21	675	696	677	3	16
Tourism	1		30	30		30								1		2	2	2		
Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation	1		36	36		32						4	2 911	1						
<b>Tourism, Culture, Rel Endowment Total</b>	171	90	6 075	6 165	1 403	4 575	63		3		12	109	25 149	68	21	709	730	700	6	24
Transport Department, Secretariat	4	1	541	542	325	207					10			2		13	13	12	1	
Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd.,	1		602	602	19	490	49				44		4 975	1		100	100	76	24	
State Express Transport Corporation, Chennai	1	10	656	666	21	602	10		5		23	5	3 996	1	2	83	85	81	2	2
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Villupuram) Ltd.,	1	72	595	667	2	594	1		1		6	63	5 538	1	5	66	71	62	5	4
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam), Ltd.,	1		1 237	1 237		1 237							7 487	1		71	71	71		

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Tamil Nadu State Transport (Salem) Ltd.,	1		640	640		588						52	5 876	1		31	31	31		
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Coimbatore) Ltd.,	1	179	969	1 148	2	1 009	5	4	6			122	5 098	1	43	155	198	171		27
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Madurai) Ltd.,	1	24	814	838	10	812					16		10 304	1	24	23	47	24		23
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd.,	1	109	911	1 020	3	943	25					49	1 485	1	5	94	99	96		3
Motor Vehicles & Maintenance Department, Chennai	21		44	44		26					18			1		4	4	4		
Institute of Road Transport, Chennai	1	1	41	42	2	40								1		2	2	2		
Transport Development Finance Corporation Ltd.,	1		10	10		10							20	1						
Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services, Chennai	2		1	1		1								1						
<b>Transport Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>7 061</b>	<b>7 457</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>6 559</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>117</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>44 779</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>59</b>
Welfare of Differently Abled Persons Department, Secretariat	2		55	55	35	18					2			1						
Commissionerate for the Welfare of Differently Abled	40	2	338	340	9	329					2			34						
<b>Welfare of Diff Abled Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>347</b>					<b>4</b>			<b>35</b>						

Department/ Corporation / Board / Commission	No. of PIOs	Previous pendency	Petitions received in 2015	Total	Transferred u/s 6(3) to other depts	No disposed by giving information	Rejected under Sec 8	Rejected under Sec 9	Rejected under Sec 11	Rejected under Sec 24	Rejected for other reasons	Pending as on 31/12/15	Charges received	No of FAA	Previous pendency	FA received in 2015	Total	Disposed by giving information	Rejected	Pending as on 31/12/15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Secretariat	1		19	19	17						2			1						
Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu	34		57	57		57							96	1						
National Cadet Corps	58		13	13	1	8					4			1						
National Service Scheme	1		2	2		2								1						
Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University	1	1	20	21	1	16						4		1						
<b>Youth Welfare Total</b>	95	1	111	112	19	83					6	4	96	5						
Legislative Assembly Secretariat.	18	14	166	180	33	125	8				13	1	628	3		20	20	17	3	
<b>Assembly Total</b>	18	14	166	180	33	125	8				13	1	628	3		20	20	17	3	
Tamil Nadu Information Commission	1	80	732	812		540					169	103		1	58	76	134	25	33	76
<b>TNIC Total</b>	1	80	732	812		540					169	103		1	58	76	134	25	33	76
	17020	10743	381166	391907	75091	294011	3499	241	447	421	5422	12846	1505254	4718	1469	28025	29479	26038	1503	1980

Tamil Nadu Information Commission