

2005 provides that every State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a State Information Commission to exercise the powers conferred on, and to perform the functions assigned to, it under this Act. As per Section 15(2) of the RTI Act, 2005 the State Information Commission shall consist of (a) the State Chief Information Commissioner, and (b) such number of State Information Commissioners, not exceeding ten, as may be deemed necessary. State-wise data on number of Information Commissioners and other staff is available in each State Information Commission.

(c) Section 25(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 provides that the State Information Commission as soon as practicable after the end of each year, prepare a report on the implementation of the provisions of this Act during that year and forward a copy thereof to the appropriate Government. Further, Section 25(4) of the RTI Act, 2005 provides that the State Government may as soon as practicable after the end of each year, cause a copy of the report of the State Information Commission referred to in sub-section (1) to be laid before each House of the State Legislature, where there are two Houses, and where there is one House of the State Legislature before that House.

However, the 9th Annual Report of Maharashtra State Information Commission is available on their website.

Pendency of RTI application

2177. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications under Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI) are pending in various Government departments, if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether information sought has been denied in a large number of cases, if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year; and

(c) whether several complaints have been received by Government regarding rejection of application under the RTI Act, if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Based on the information received from Central Information Commission(CIC), a total number of 154512 were pending as on 30th September, 2015 with various Public Authorities under the Central Government.

With regards to the Public Authorities under the State Governments, the State-wise Information is available with each State Information Commission.

(b) The details of applications rejected by the Public Authorities under the Central Government under various clauses of Right to Information Act, 2005 in the last three years and current year is as under:

| Year | Application received | Application rejected |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2012-13 | 886681 | 62231 |
| 2013-14 | 962630 | 60127 |
| 2014-15 | 845032 | 63351 |
| 2015-16 (upto 30.09.2015) | 376435 | 25792 |

(c) The RTI Act provides that a request for information may be rejected if it is covered under exemption clauses of Section 8 or Section 9. Also, information pertaining to a third party is to be provided only after giving third party a notice, who may, in turn, object to providing such information.

The Information Commission may receive and inquire into a complaint from any person:

- (i) who has been unable to submit a request to a Public Information Officer either by reason that no such officer has been appointed under this Act, or because the Assistant Public Information Officer has refused to accept his or her application for information or appeal under this Act for forwarding the same to the Public Information Officer or senior officer specified in sub-section (1) of section 19 or the Information Commission;
- (ii) who has been refused access to any information requested under the Act;
- (iii) who has not been given a response to a request for information or access to information within the time limit specified under the Act;
- (iv) who has been required to pay an amount of fee which he or she considers unreasonable;
- (v) who believes that he or she has been given incomplete, misleading or false information under the Act; and
- (vi) in respect of any other matter relating to requesting or obtaining access to records under the Act.

Science parks in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

2178. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up science parks in the country particularly in Hyderabad, Telangana and in Andhra Pradesh also; and