



FULFILLING THE COMMITMENT OF SETTING OUT A REGIME OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN IMPLEMENTING THE RTI ACT, 2005 IN ODISHA.

In a bid to effect transparency and accountability in the system of governance, the Government of Odisha in Information and Public Relations Department has sincerely implemented the Right to Information Act, 2005. To expedite the process of implementation, it has put in place a robust IT intervention in the form of RTI Central Monitoring Mechanism called ‘**Lok Soochana**’ available at www.rti.odisha.gov.in.

While studying this initiative, the World Bank has termed it as “**truly impressive**”. The Confederation of Indian Industries State Chapter has conferred best IT Award on this Technology Intervention.

It has also brought crowning glory to the State bagging **best website Award of eGov 2.0** as the most user friendly interface in the whole country. Prior to this distinction, this IT application has also been awarded in the **international e-India 2010 Conclave** held at Hyderabad. More particularly, these achievements made in the front of implementation of RTI in Odisha has been appreciated by the sitting Judge of **Hon’ble Supreme Court of India**.

In a significant development, this RTI Portal of Government of Odisha has won **the National Awards on e-Governance 2011-12** instituted by **DAR&PG, Govt. of India in the Best Government Portal Category**.

The Government of Odisha in the Nodal Department of Information & Public Relations has mooted an intensive information campaign to make aware the public on the utility of this Act and train the government machinery for effective implementation catering to the provisions as enshrined in the Section-26 of the RTI Act, 2005.

As a part of multi-pronged strategy, this RTI Campaign has been launched through print, electronic, visual and oral medium at State, District, Block and Panchayat level. Stress has been laid to create awareness among rural public involving PRI functionaries and civil societies. This initiative will be continued till the end of 12th Five Year Plan.

To make available citizen friendly services on RTI, attempts are being made to create an RTI Call Centre, Online and e-payments of RTI Applications, Project Management Unit (PMU) and make available services through Common Service Centres (CSCs) all over the State during the period of 12th Five Year Plan.