RESPONSES OF RESPONDENTS IN THEIR OWN WORDS

A. In your opinion what are problems related to Governance & Rural Development that can be addressed with the help of RTI?

1. Effective implementation will definitely act as a first step towards building a transparent, progressive, corruption free society at micro level and a nation at macro level.
2. We can make the system and the administrators more accountable and they will realize that there is some monitoring body above them so they will work more responsibly.
3. Bringing the Awareness among the labors and landlords regarding the minimum wage applicable in the state, get the information of the same through RTI and put up to the public.
4. Beneficiary schemes for poor are not reaching to them, and government shows the use of fund. This can be checked through the RTI. Many schools tries to avoid applications for scholarships, not putting the information on noticeboard, rejecting the applications due to small errors, etc can be resolved by proper use of RTI. Government schools and their poor statistics and track records of dropping of students.
5. You get information on basis of allocate work amount, work Area, who are beneficiary etc.
6. I have nothing to add to the issues that I have checked in the question above.
7. Delay in completion of the particular project. Quality work done, Benefit to right beneficiaries.
8. Corruption, Un accountability, Un transparency
9. The bureaucratic system of governance, centralized authority, top-down planning (the bottom-up planning is only on paper - as very limited staff is
there to execute the program; and as such the planning process is simply a paper work being completed), very miserly style of process for extending benefits to the concerned, many schemes for the same type of benefits, lack of coordination between the executing officials of different schemes, hiding the facts of schematic benefits from the beneficiaries, unrealistic procedural requirements, non-responsibility of individual officers for non-execution of the scheme/not reaching to the needy with the schematic benefits, achievement of targets are the only object of the highest authorities, un-human behaviour of the executing officers, the behaviour of the officers at every ladder seems to be such that they are interested in making money (out of the way) and not in helping poor people in uplifting their life....... and many more. The RTI can help only in learning where there is fault?? Again, one has to approach the Court of Law to get the problems solved.

10. Use of Natural Resources, Forest & Forest Products, Land, Agriculture Production, Educational Facilities, Health issues, Panchayati Raj Institutional System, Companies' or NGOs' overlapping and pressure, Infrastructural Development etc. are the concern matters are related.

11. The RTI will help to understand the process of governance and rural development with more realistic and transparent way.

12. People will become aware of the tool of RTI, creating an enabling environment for information dissemination relating to schemes. This intern will make sarpanches, implementers and program executors more conscious and careful in selection of beneficiaries, use of right material, financial matters etc. Ultimately it will result in better delivery and function like a social audit. over time, RTI will become a method of accountability and create transparency and decentralized decision making.

13. Corruption, reasons for delay in implementation, RTI is a tool which can help in identifying the problem but problems can’t be solved with the use of RTI
14. Absence of awareness of the rural dev schemes, programs etc. among the prospective targeted beneficiaries are a major problem of governance & RD which can be rectified by the mechanism of RTI.

15. For rural Development Government should organise awareness programs on whatever programs made for poor/rural people. Every citizen have to co-operate rural people as well as poor people for getting basic education and employment. Nowadays people agitating against Government for corruption, but I personally believe that more than 90% agitators are involved in corruption. Everybody should vote for right candidate, not for party.

16. Asking for information on allocation on various rural development schemes

17. neglect of government to rural areas, corruption, illiteracy, unawareness of people,

18. Information on government projection for development plans for particular village.

19. BPL not fully correct, Data need to be updated from verifying the actual, Income not proporelly calculated. Often family size over stated, Caste/reservation system to be removed, New norms/new methods to calculate BPL/Income should be adopted.

20. Estimates/Plans for RD programmes must be done with care.

21. Budget allocations should be fully monitored.

22. Wage payments must reach the intended beneficiaries without middleman.

23. The right example is NAREGA money being misused. Like this RTI can be useful for any number of activities.


25. Eradication of corruption

26. All of them listed in the last question can be handled in transparency in implementing the schemes is increased by faithful implementation of RTI.
27. There will be an overall improvement in governance as it will empower the people.
28. Available surveys and results of action taken
29. Transparency
30. Lack of information
31. Bringing transparency in the system will reduce
32. Arbitrary use of power
33. Exploitation
34. Communication gaps resulting in mushrooming of middle man
35. Lack of transparency and accountability in Government transactions/programmes/schemes.
36. Corruption
37. Transparency
38. Accountability
39. RTI can be used to know the budget allocation of fund, utilization of funds at the Panchayat level.
40. It could be used to check the effectiveness of various developmental programs by asking the people participation and verification of beneficiary details provided by Panchayats or for that matter any developmental organization. These are some of the areas where it can benefit. Buts its scope is huge.
41. Information availability; factual position, fund utilization, insights on ground reality, channels used by beneficiaries, mutual benefits exploited by influential persons, etc.
42. Lack of transparency in the fund utilization
43. Arbitrates on the part of local leaders in implementation of rural development schemes
44. Effective utilization of fund
45. Adherence to time lines
46. Identification of primary beneficiary
47. Information asymmetry
48. Arbitrary decisions in selection of beneficiaries & total lack of transparency in implementation of welfare schemes

49. RTI can help ameliorate almost every problem related to Governance & Rural Development. It depends on the user how he/she uses it.

50. In my opinion, RTI is a very powerful initial tool for governance and RD. It can help in all fields, if it is suitably followed.

51. Beneficiaries list

52. Whether fund transferred or not

53. How much time taken to deliver the fund

54. Scheme or Project selection

55. Selection of beneficiary

56. RTI can be used for openness and transparency that can lead to accountability in a long run...ultimately reducing corruption, so that limited resources will be utilized to the maximum extent possible resulting into sustainable, inclusive Human development and freedom. So, issues related to governance and rural development will be addressed meaningfully and objectively.

57. I feel there is no reason related to Governance and Rural Development. In few states with same law framework things are moving quite fast and some place no stone is moving. This shows only leadership interest. There is need of improvement in leadership to do development.

58. Proper selection of beneficiaries

59. Adequate & accurate delivery of funds spent to the targeted beneficiary

60. Proper evaluation of Ongoing schemes

61. Implementations can be made more accountable and if any injustice to the beneficiaries done can be identified which will help in further action taken

62. Suo-moto disclosure and dissemination of information under section 4(2) of RTI Act by the grass-root public authorities is essential for their effective accountability to the beneficiaries of development schemes. Such accountability is essential for ensuring that benefits reach intended citizens
63. Right to Information can help in ensuring good and gender responsive governance
64. Delay, corruption
65. Non-transparency
66. Corruption of govt. officers
67. Problems of revenue dept - land is major source of livelihood and revenue dept acts as an exploiter for poor people
68. RTI can keep an effective check over the government activities and total transparency will be established
69. Through RTI it can be ensured that the TRUE and REAL beneficiaries have got the advantage and an effective check will be provided by the RTI Act. AT any stage, while the procedure is going on regarding implementing the scheme OR when the scheme is over, it can be easily known: Whether the motto of the government has been fulfilled and in which way the whole procedure has been carried out.
70. In short only RTI Act is the way and mean to have a check over the usage of the public money.
71. Now a days the govt. officers and employees have become conscious and overall scenario has been created that they do bear in their mind that at any stage they would be asked for the information under the RTI Act. So actions of government servants are now always have become watchful even though when no reference under the RTI Act has been made by any civilian.
72. Inspection of records of panchayat, Check the implementation of Panchayati Raj Act, Examine the reports of panchayat submitted to the Development Officers.
73. Increasing "agency" of the marginalised in engaging with governance. This is the most important aspect of deepening democracy which can be overcome by assisting people use RTI as a tool for engaging with demanding accountability. Though the use of RTI is individual based, community organising can assist groups of marginalised to engage with
government on provisioning of public services/ utilities and drawing attention to the gaps.

74. With the help of RTI, many problems can be solved, if the RTI is implemented in the right meaning. It can help in developing infrastructure in the rural areas, as per the Govt. formulation, without any prejudice. The central Govt. is pouring in crore of Rupees for rural development, but the results are very unsatisfactory. The poors have remained poor, inspite of Govt. spending for development.

75. Local Authorities will be accountable to the people for every cents used and can be audited by people which can be published

**B. In your opinion what are the problems related to rural development that CAN NOT be solved with the help of RTI? Please describe as per your perception**

1. Indeed RTI is the best and most effective instrument to curtail the ill practices existing in the system but it should be channelize properly and without any political influence.
2. You cannot tackle the discrimination regarding the gender, caste and religion cannot be tackle with the help of RTI
3. Some cases where the victims are required to be awake and his participation is required are tough. For example, labors are paid less, but he is required to come forward for this situation and need support also. He doesn’t have time to go to the labour commissioner etc. He may be paid as per rules in front of government officers, but the money will be taken back later from him.
4. Some of the rural public cannot read & writing so they thumb (Sign) on paper and get less amount for their work... these cannot be solved.
5. The problem of lack of empowerment of the poor. The RTI Act does not work very well in cases where action has to be taken against the corrupt
and so they continue to rule and even threaten the poor if they resort to RTI Act.

6. Strategy adopted for implementation of the project
7. Personal biases of implementing agency
8. bad politics
9. Delayed works / Deliberately delaying works
10. Efficiency and Effectiveness of the works
11. Quality Standards
12. No problems, except, related to availing the information, can be solved with the help of RTI
13. Internal Documentation System of the offices and Manipulation at top to bottom level; rigid and superstitious behavior or culture; casteism; gender discrimination etc
14. The community disputes commonly take place which become part of controversy due gain of political mileage and matter of pride and proud with assigning impotence to community needs. Such things can be solved under RTI.
15. RTI cannot create capacity, cannot ensure that people get better delivery in the first round of any program as RTI is used only after a scheme or program is launched. Hence it is not an effective tool during the launch of a program. Rather the limitation of RTI is that it is a retrospective measure.
16. RTI also cannot take care of many issues that must be decided before any program is created since it is a methodology for use after something is done.
17. Allocation of funds from above, making of the schemes, executing the programs of RD, people's participation are some of the probs which cannot be solved by the RTI. They need active judicial and punitive intervention.
18. Rural People are not aware of the benefits. As per my opinion, without awareness, RTI is not helpful to them.
19. the dominance of powerful people and taking all the benefits given by government could not be solved by RTI. The people who are in need for such help are kept away
20. Disbursements of minimum wages as per guidelines to the rural people under MGNERGA
21. where discretionary powers are given to executives any problem can’t be solved
22. RTI Act can get you information, but it cannot compel the officials to act in a manner that everybody wants. All genuine demands can be met using RTI, but not all of them could be genuine in the eyes of applicant and the officials.
23. RTI is not the silver bullet but is a major empowerment tool. Resource allocation issues will still be dependent on a planning process that must be decentralized as much as possible
24. Innovative and relevant solutions
25. participation of stakeholders
26. High cost of delivery
27. overlapping roles of various government agencies
28. Bureaucratic tangles
29. Timely implementation of projects
30. Actual transfer of resources
31. Awareness in rural areas about the schemes
32. Lack of participation
33. Middlemen
34. Education, subsidies, Corruption, social problems, illegal allocations, misuse of Govt. machinery, political influence in decision making
35. Undue interference of touts and self proclaimed social workers in day today administration & implementation of welfare schemes
36. As indicated earlier, RTI can help ameliorate almost every problem related to Governance & Rural Development. But this does not mean RTI can do
it on its own. It can only act the first step. It needs to be suitably and necessarily followed up in an appropriate manner.

37. Transfer of benefits to poor, paper based implementation complexities, high cost of delivery.

38. Macro level aberrations and distortions in effective democracy in Parliament and State Legislature. Lack of sincerity amongst political elite, who have circumvented the system, is a difficult problem, as they also try to evade RTI. Persistence is needed for using RTI to expose these distortions. On the other, public administration at Village level is comparatively simpler and RTI can be very effective.

39. The evils of Corruption and black marketing cannot be solved simply through usage of an effective RTI. It is something larger.

40. Illiteracy, unemployment, poverty.

41. The beneficiaries do not come forward.

42. The real and needy beneficiaries are not aware about the benefits those are being provided by the government.

43. On one hand government is sincere to provide benefits to the real group or class while on the other hand general public and mainly the targeted groups do not have faith and trust in government and they are unable to accept the in real the government is desired to help them.

44. Persons in the power, they may be in a political position or may be as a government officers, but they do capture the rights of the others so those who do not have this element they prefer to leave the benefits which are meant for them and ultimately the other get the same.

45. The RTI cannot solve the mentality problems of the people, either in the Govt. or in other areas. The implementation of RTI cannot change the heart/mentality of the people (Govt.). There may be several laws, acts and rules to check corruption in our country, however, this cannot be enacted fully (in totality) until the heart of the persons concerned desires. For example, in Nagaland state, there is prohibition for alcoholic drinks, which was enacted about more than a decade now. The state is declared as "dry
state”. But, in reality, it is not so. Those who were using the alcoholic drinks before the declaration of dry state are still using them, in spite of the prohibition. It shows that if I want to become good, then I have to change my habits from within myself. Just making rules will do no good. If we really want to check/stop corruption, then every individual should put effort, and say no to corruption etc. from within their self.

46. RTI cannot by itself help in identification of the "poor" or eliminate the leakages that are largely occurring from the top, correct "policies" which are anti-poor. RTI is also not useful by itself in furthering bottom up planning and increasing engagement of collectives/ institutions of people like gram sabha's in development.

47. RTI needs to be coupled with effective grievance redressal and punitive measures to curb corruption. RTI is especially not useful in reducing gender discrimination since it is targeted towards duty bearers / state alone

C. What is your opinion regarding free information to Below Poverty Line (BPL) persons?

1. Infect BPL family members are the most prominent segment of the society who should not only know but able to execute the usage of the same. The first step should be effective IEC activities to make them aware about the RTI act

2. It should be based upon the more accurate data to decide about the BPL persons and the information should be free

3. Information is free for everyone, for RTI there is minor payment one has to pay. But some agencies are asking for huge money for zeroxing etc, this can be avoided by suitable waiver schemes for BPL persons

4. It is good for BPL person, they cannot think about fees paid for the get information regarding their query. So they defiantly take help RTI....
5. Providing this is a costly exercise and so it is never done.
6. Reducing the lack of awareness among BPL person
7. Implementation of Project in right direction
8. It is very useful for all people with and without BPL
9. Put all the services in online
10. Publish the rural development departments and activities in daily local newspaper covering each activities/day
11. Many a times it is being misused.
12. Adequate, but first they should be aware of this act and it’s use with being a literate too.
13. Must get without fee. Personal visit should be treated at par as matter of relevance under RTI as information seeker pays more efforts in the process.
14. It is an effective tool of information dissemination
15. Have no information on this. But info is only a tool. How to use it gainfully is all together different process
16. Rs. 10/- for information is not a big amount. But BPL persons can not get the information because they are not aware of the Govt. Policies.
17. There should be transparency in the system. It will expose all the wrongdoing in the system. So the RTI information should be provided free of cost to make it reachable to common man. If it is not possible it can be charged a nominal fee. It is good to have a provision to provide such information free of costs for those (BPL persons) that are not capable of paying any fee at all.
18. Yes BPL people must be properly informed, since they are BPL category they should not be charged fee to seek any vital information from any agency/dept./Min./organisation. Others can pay to seek information as per RTI rules
19. They are mostly ignorant and may not be able to use the information for their benefit.
20. I see no problem, there is no choice as long the Act provides for it. Officials need to be trained to handle these cases so that the requirements of BPL are met without any difficulty.

21. Don’t think there is an issue that is particular to BPL persons

22. It is irrelevant so long as assistance is assured.

23. Should be provided free of cost/minimal cost like PDS services

24. Do these people have resources (in terms of time, money and confidence) to demand information?

25. Free information is a right for every Indian citizen including persons below the poverty line. Steps must be taken to ensure that all BPL persons are able to access information in a smooth and fair manner.

26. It should be need based, with an objective, otherwise providing all the information to everyone will be a sheer waste of money.

27. It should be charged and nothing should be offered free.

28. It is misused by third parties making application under the act by obtaining signature/thumb impression of BPL card holders

29. It has to be mandatory to give free information to BPL people

30. At least in some cases application under RTI Act is made under signature of BPL person by somebody else for free information

31. I completely agree.

32. It must be there

33. Information given to Free to BPL but in some cases we found that another person will take benefit of BPL card and ask many question.

34. Actually real benefit of RTI will not get, if we cannot use it properly. Because unnecessary information asked sometimes.

35. We will educate the people how to ask information under RTI Act so that government offices give it fast and smoothly.

36. Up to certain limit free information of BPL is ok but if the information is in bulk suppose 3 to 4 hundreds pages charge some amount because no value of free
37. Yes, this is used; overused, misused or abused....there should be some reasonable restriction for supplying information free of charge

38. There is no use of free information to BPL if he/she is not able to use. First thing to strengthen them

39. BP should get the info. Free provided it pertains it recent period say, 5 years.

40. Education program under section 26 of RTI Act are needed to educate BPL persons of their rights and modalities for exercising these rights.

41. Now PIO can not ask why the information is sought. So proxy information is demanded much,99% information demanded by BPL is proxy, so when information is demanded by BPL the scrutiny should be permitted why and for what purpose the information demanded

42. Of course the definition of the BPL may have many opinions but the present provisions of the Act and Rules regarding RTI Act seems in order

43. BPL should be provided not only concession if fees but they should also be provided real assistance, there should be officers appointed who may listen to the applicant and then th BPL should be provided the guidance so as to make an application under RTI Act to the exact officer and the particular documents that can be proven helpful the BPL persons can be asked for..

44. Government should make policy and rules to create this position: When the applicant says orally, his voice should be recorded and then the officer converting the application into paper will process the same. So those who do not have any knowledge about the act can also make their application without consulting the advocate. Now a days the advocates are earning money with the instrument of the RTI Act and it is another issue up to what extent the RTI proves helpful to the general public.

45. A large amount of information would be available if the section 4B is implemented in letter and spirit.

46. Conducting awareness programmes for the benefit of the rural people, on various livelihood issues, developmental issues, etc. are very
necessary/important. Unless the poor villagers know their rights, the persons at the higher strata of the society (which includes Govt. too) would always involve in different levels of corruption. The villagers would be sucked off. The implementing agencies, other higher-level individuals etc. would always be parasites and live life at the cost of poor people's sweat and blood.

D. Suggestions to curb the misuse of This act?

1. In proven case of misuse of the act, heavy financial penalty and imprisonment should be there.
2. The information proved under act should be scanned that for what purpose the information is being used
3. Not misused but used.
4. Misuse cannot be stop, when we take one action they find out another window for misuse...
5. The Information Commissioners should hand down penalties to the recalcitrant PIOs then the RTI Act will get implemented well. Less than 1% of the cases result in penalties being imposed even though the PIOs have clearly not provided information within thirty days.
6. Proper and specific identity of the person must be checked before sharing any information.
7. The objective must be specified for use of such information.
8. Uncover that type of people who misuse of the RTI by Govt.
9. RTI should be used only the concern individual those who directly or indirectly part it.
10. Ask the applicant for his/her exact purposefulness with proof that concerns with him only
11. Educate people about RTI
12. Ensure that the information given has a better outreach so that it is available to all in the first place and thereby not used by corrupt persons, and middle men.


14. Like the PIL in judiciary, there must be some administrative filtering device for eliminating the wrongly intended RTI applications.

15. Information is like a tool open to use and abuse. Once the misuse is noticed punitive steps can be taken.

16. Information should be given to every citizen what he wants, but it should be clear that for what purpose the information is being sought for.

17. Verify the credentials of the applicant

18. Put penalty condition if the information is misused

19. Strong actions against wrong doers included in laws with very clear information.

20. It should be made mandatory for a firm/NGO/Agency/Dept./Min./Org./Pvt. firm/ to pass the facts/information/notings of cases be made public to the extent possible. By putting on web all important decisions/rules/actions/plans to everyone who needs it without asking/demanding.

21. Under good governance/e-governance all matters should be made public by way of making them transparent.

22. Reliable, accurate, accountable and responsible to its citizens at large.

23. Some information should not be given.

24. The RTI act should be implemented in true sense everywhere.

25. Don’t waste your efforts in curbing the misuse which cannot be defined easily.

26. Not required

27. Discretion to weed out irrelevancies

28. Asking for the reason in the application/ assessing the genuineness of the information sought
29. Bring more transparency into the system and more use of the act will reduce the misuse. Even today the benefits are more than the misuse of the act.

30. Information sought under the RTI should also be freely available in the public domain to give institutions/persons in question a fair chance at their defense. For example, the floor map of the Taj Hotel was given out to terrorists under the RTI (as per newspaper reports). The tragedy may have been averted has this piece of information been communicated to the Taj administration/police personnel.

31. We can ask for nominal fee to the information seeker. We can also ask him to give the reason for seeking the information. I feel there is no need to put any curb.

32. Power should be curtailed from functionaries. They should share information in time bound manner and if default then responsible person should lose their jobs/authority. Ensure Authority provide accurate information and should not indulge in wrong practices.

33. BPL card holders making application under the act must be asked to prove their identity/bonafides

34. The information should be given in written and the record has to be kept for public inspection - whom it has been shared and the address/contact of the recipient.

35. Proper identification and verification of bonafides of BPL applicants

36. A suitable hike in the fees for RTI applications


38. No need to look at this aspect. This happens with every good thing.

39. I think the best way is to categorize and enlist those people who have regularly been asking for personal information. No other coercive measure shall be adopted
40. If information is free there will be a limit to give information i.e 10 or 15 pages or more if another person using BPL card other than BPL then some penal provision must be there.

41. No free information for any body

42. Get a justification about use and purpose of information instead of providing information

43. Restrictions on the data to be given (if the information of past 15 years asked) to check the relevancy of the data being asked to the person who is asking.

44. Mechanism to identify the genuine information seeker is a challenge.

45. The notions about “misuse of RTI Act” tend to curb the rights. Every public authority should review practical instances of misuse of RTI Act in their organization and formulate policies for dealing with it. “Harm” arising from transparency and public accountability, if any, should be ascertained.

46. Purpose can be known

47. Only the morals of the general public can become helpful in this regard.

48. In western countries public do follow all the traffic rules and other rules too. The situation prevails in those country requires to be restored in our country. At school level, the children should be taught and educated in such a way that they may have love for our country. But in our country when general public come to know about so many scams carried out by the political leaders in the power, the general public also goes on that line and dishonesty become the parameter.

49. RTI Act may be misused by some however this is the powerful means to keep control over the corruption in public sector and to have transparency in government working.

50. There is no need to curb misuse as misuse has its own advantages. When all people know about the hidden secrets, misuse will automatically stop. Withholding of information lead to misuse. By implementing section -4, misuse can be curbed to some extent.

51. Save the person's previous records and not eligible in future
52. The misuse of this act can only be reduced by more Fruitful "use" of the act, more transparency and greater accountability from the state.

E. In your opinion what arrangements can be made by the Office/Department for helping people who are illiterate and/or who live below the poverty line to make an application for disclosure of information at all levels?

1. There should be a separate cell at every step of three tier system.
2. Government should derive the mechanism through which it can reach to these people and provide them adequate information of their use to their door step.
3. Set the responsibility of the Information Officer
4. Take help from Some NGO who really work for the needy people
5. There must be charter displayed at the govt. office for accessing such information
6. A support staff must be there who can help BPL person to fill the form
7. Make big information board or hording and put it the affected area in all over the country
8. Set up RTI facilitation centre at district and block level to help the people
9. Post Offices, Jan Sahay Kendra / Lok Seva Kendra, Nagarik Suvidha Kendra, Information Offices at Rural level and E-Gram can be used for that.
10. RTI help desk at all the offices
11. have a counter available in each village office with one volunteers who helps people avail the service of RTI
12. Free availability of information, disclosure of information without asking
13. Like saksharta abhiyan, speed literacy drives can be initiated wherein the targeted beneficiaries can be prepared to use the RTI in a simplified form
14. In the short run, administrative device can be created to help out the needy as in Free Legal Aid schemes.

15. In every village, every week/month, they have to organize workshop on use of RTI and its benefits.

16. Camps by RTI officers at village level.

17. All the mandatory disclosure should be published timely in many newspapers, magazines and papers to make them reachable to all persons.

18. Arrangement should be made available at all Panchayat, Post-offices to assist BPL and Uneducated people to write and post on their behalf. Special postal letters or envelop should be made available for BPL which is free of cost.

19. Like Social Audit, Display of schemes with all particulars, in regional and local languages. Pass on on vital projects/allocation of funds in GRAMshaba Meeting without fail.

20. Posters indicating host of schemes/beneficiaries eligible for such programmes, by media, community radio and also communicate through mobile phone to all concerned and affected masses in that region/area.

21. The Bihar experiment is ideal to meet such requirements. A centralized phone number where an application for RTI could be made over phone, where the phone company charges the application fee in the bill. The operator taking the request need to be trained for sending such application on the internet and by post to the concerned public authority will be an ideal solution for helping all including illiterates and the BPL.

22. E-kiosks should be placed at appropriate places with officers to help file RTI applications.

23. Some of the basic information can be put on public domain.

24. Department should record the requirement who can not write. This recording should be used as basis of information seeking request with intent to share the required information. Requester should have authority to put in complaints in verbal mode.
25. Special RTI cell with knowledgeable staff members who are dedicated & possess proven track record.

26. Creation of special RTI cell in every Govt. department with knowledgeable and dedicated staff for guidance to the poor & illiterate applicants

27. Need to provide helping hands, in the form of assistant staff.

28. It is there in the act....PIO is duty bound to render required assistant to illiterate for making his oral request into a written form...for BPL...they are entitled to free information ....so, indicated arrangements are already in place with the provisions in the act.

29. Section 4 and 26 of RTI Act should be implemented by public authorities at all levels, in letter and spirit.

30. Voice activated intake methods, use of free phone lines and boxes to take in requests.

31. Use technology especially mobile technology and newspaper for dissemination of proactive information useful to people

F. Which part of the act is never implemented? Why?

1. The provision for penalizing PIOs is rarely implemented because the information commissioners are themselves retired bureaucrats who have stone walled information during their careers. there must be a clear directive not to penalize PIOs and thus render the Act ineffective

2. Unable to inspect the site of an on-going public work and draw samples of construction material being used

3. Act should have provision to consider matter criticality and according to it punishment. This should be under purview of Court. (e.g., people doing 1.76 lack crore rupees scam get bail, why???)

4. Officials dealing with this act must at any cost try to do justice to the effected party/stakeholder to provide information/data/facts immediately without any delay whatsoever.
5. The governments, public authorities and the Information Commissions are responsible for implementing the Act. They all need to give more efforts to implement the Act. There is no penalty for not implementing the Act. Perhaps the Commission should exercise powers to compensate the applicants for failure of implementation of the Act.

6. Proactive disclosure is not implemented because of Reasons -1 Lack of staff, ----- 2 Non availability of facility for updating of Website

7. The penalty part is less used and the part related with action against the Information Commissioners is never used

8. Sections 4(1)(a), $(2)4)3), 4(4) and 26

9. Only symbolic implementation of 17 points listed in 4(1)(b)

10. Section 4 of the Act is never implemented in true sense, because the Officers/public authorities are either lax or does not wish to disclose information.

11. Proactive disclosures - there is a wide gamut of information that is to be updated and disclosed- in a manner which is obfuscated by clear and simple to understand. This has not been done on scale.

G. Share your Views about Role of Right to Information Act in reforming the Governance in general and Rural Development in particular

1. Indeed a transparent and effective implementation of the act can prove to be an accurate instrumental weapon to nullify the corruption from the system.

2. It is the most powerful tool to tackle the corruption and mismanagement

3. Lots of improvements are coming, some misuse of powers and delays have been avoided.
4. It has played some role in making information available but not a very large role primarily because PIOs are not penalized for not providing information on time
5. RTI is one of the instruments that can help to curb corruption to some extent in governance
6. RTI is an instrument to create awareness of govt. schemes among people of rural areas.
7. RTI is one of the powerful to bring all the government services in transparent way and accountability
8. Definitely, the RTI act has a big role in reforming the Governance in General as well as the in Rural Development, but without socio-economic developmental activities both is not possible, even the RTI is being useless. Even, if there is not an easy way available to rural people for using and applying it by being illiterate and unaware about the act, the RTI can't perform at all.
9. Share information to educate people and make RTI one of the strongest tool to survive democracy
10. It is a effective tool in selection of beneficiaries, financial matters and raising of regional development disparity matters
11. Do not have any experience of using it. But it has tremendous potential to improve the administrative system of delivery of goods and services at the local level. It can expose the malpractices and free the governance from it
12. RTI is useful in reforming the Governance in General as well as Rural Development, but most activists/politicians etc. are misusing it
13. It has been helpful in getting information. Putting it to effective use has been slow
14. The biggest problem is that the RTI act is not at all known in rural area. They even don't know if there is any RTI act. So the biggest need is to make RTI act reachable to rural people and making them aware about it. It is also required to reduce its many complexities in its provisions, those are not understandable to common man
15. RTI is a very positive step towards transparent governance

16. RTI Act has tremendous role and it is changing the face of bureaucracy which will become more and more accountable with time as the implementing of the Act takes deep roots in our functioning over time.

17. In streamlining the gaps in the implementation of the programmes

18. A check on bureaucrats is very important. RTI enables transparency in governance. It also helps implementation of schemes, programmes and thus benefits not just rural but also urban development

19. Govt seems to have wasted interest. It should not amend the landmark act. It is finding it difficult to find some of miss management

20. It has improved the situation. However, our objective should be to achieve transparent governance. It means information seeking needs to be reduced and Authority should share all the decision taken. It should be prime responsibility and the same can not be avoided. If it is avoided then concerned individual should be punished and it should be known to public

21. It has created awareness among the poor & illiterate masses

22. The recalcitrant talaties, sarpanches and other office bearers associated with Rural development have become cautious at least to some extent

23. It has indeed created awareness among the masses and it serves as a deterrent among those who used to circumvent rules and regulations prior to enactment of R.T.IActs

24. This has been a real revolution for the country's better governance

25. RTI has great role to play in governance as well as in rural development. It increases the accountability and checks the corruption. So the implementers are conscious and the quality of delivery increased

26. Speed is coming due to RTI

27. The fear transparency and accountability has created fear and alertness in the minds of officers. Rural people are yet to reap the benefits of the Act, due to lack of knowledge of the Act.
H. SHARE YOUR VIEWS REGARDING "improving the qualitative use of the instrument of Right to Information Act with an appropriate policy changes "SHARE YOUR VIEWS

1. Transparent implementation and should free from political and beurocratic influence

2. The information commissioners should without exception penalize the PIOs for delay in providing information. if this is done then the Act will become a very potent force for ensuring transparency in governance.

3. Citizen charter must be displayed at govt. offices which help people to access information easily

4. Through comparative analysis of citizen’s action in two provinces, an attempt has been made to unravel the dynamics of civil society collaboration and the mix of ingredients which bring about policy change.

5. More awareness campaign programme may be organized for effective use of Right to Information ACT by all the stakeholders

6. First, the proper documentation system should be maintained and the person who is providing that information should be liberal

7. Should be applicable to corporate matters, NGO schemes and multinational companies/private business houses

8. Once info. Collected thru RTI, its use for correcting the situation must be ensured otherwise it causes frustrations

9. For rural development, the people of rural areas should aware of the Act and for it Government should organize workshop on RTI & Its benefits.

10. Procedure should be short and simple, fees of RTI can be paid anywhere in banks or post-offices instead of particular department office

11. Just implement the Act and everything will be taken care of, nothing additional needs to be done

12. RTI should be free for BPL/ SC/ ST persons

13. Reason should be asked

14. All files used in Government operations should be computerized. Nothings should be made in the computer through the help of software and these
should be made automatically available in the public domain through the internet. Appropriate MIS software / programmes need to be developed for the same

15. Govt. should make it compulsory to share the information up to lowest level of hierarchy. This should be in time bound and directly reachable to rural level

16. There should be a limit on quantity of points for which information is sought for in a single application

17. There is a need for amendment in the Section 8 of this Act since it is used as a tool for suppressing material facts by some agencies like CID - CRIME branch of Police

18. Training to both side- demand and supply..focus on proper and scientific record management...digitization of old record..Maximizing computerization in present day working of the govt. machinery... mandatory and proper - effective Pro Active Disclosure....more participatory governance -further to Panchayati Raj...speedy disposal of appeals/complaints at CISs/SICs...

19. The person who is seeking information must give justification about information required. If person seek information not for his use should have strong punishment to use the law

20. More educated people should be aware of this RTI act and they should use them as and when required accurately

21. There has to be a public movement for imposition of penalties on recalcitrant PIOs

22. Key concerns of implementation are also presented as implications for effective adoption of the model at the elementary school level

23. RTI act may be taught at school and collegiate level

24. Should be introduced as a subject for high school level students so that they tart to understand the power of the Act

25. The post of Information Commissioner must be filled by eminent personalities but government should not politicize for vested interest
26. Cases still pending und Information Commissioners must be disposed off immediately without any delay.

27. Awareness generation among users is very important, but equally important is making access to the resources needed to file applications readily available. Both lack in the system at present.

28. Vigorous training to the rural folk in a vernacular language

29. Dos & don's should be properly explained to the rural folk so as to enable them to develop a concept on The R.T.I. Act

30. It should be a part of school syllabus and there should be a mandatory paper in school-college examinations

31. Publicity of salient features of the Act in cinema houses; hoardings at public places

32. The definition of "information" under the act is required to be properly explained to the common people so that uncalled for information is not sought for and backlog of RTI applications is not piled up

33. more program on media...so as to reach common man.....can be interwoven in entertainment serials and programs so that message could reach to maximum targets...some financial benefits should be given to such program producers who incorporate elements of RTI in their serial...more talk show on RTI....part of syllabus for school/college curriculum....annual essay/ elocution competition for youths...etc.

34. Add in curriculum and organize street plays on improvement of Act

35. There is need for compulsory suo-moto disclosure and dissemination of information by grass-root public authorities, for their effective accountability. There is need for sustained qualitative improvements, to enable social audit by beneficiaries

36. One trained facilitator should be appointed at village level on voluntary base who can give proper guidance to the villager about which information can be demanded, from where and how to solve any problem with the use of RTI