

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CENTRE

RIGHT TO INFORMATION TRAINING FOR INDIAN NGO ACTIVISTS 21 - 24 January 2007, Bangalore, India

Venue information/ Contact details:

The training programme will be held at the Hotel Nandhini, which is located near M.G. Road in central Bangalore.

Address of hotel and conference hall:

Hotel Nandhini
72, St. Marks Road, Bangalore – 560 001

Telephone: +91 (0)80 4126 6666

Website: www.nandhini.com

Contact detail of the Project Coordinator - Right to Information Programme:

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Training Programme Schedule:

Day 1 – Sunday 21 January 2007

13:00 – 18:00	<i>Participants arrive / registration</i>
18:00 – 20:00	<i>Session 1 – Welcome & introduction</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening: Dr. Samuel Paul• Short round of introduction of participants• Introduction of Public Affairs Centre• Introduction of project and goals of the training programme• How well do you know the right to information – A Quiz
20:30	<i>Dinner</i>

Day 2 – Monday 22 January 2007

9:00 – 10:00	<p>Session 2 – The right to information as a human right</p> <p><u>Topics covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The international human rights system – an overview • The role of the right to information in the international human rights system <p><u>Resource person</u> Sabine Benzing-Balzer (Public Affairs Centre)</p>
10:00 – 10:30	Comments and questions
10:30 – 10:45	REFRESHMENT BREAK
10:45 – 11:45	<p>Session 3 – The right to information in India</p> <p><u>Topics covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of the right to information in India – a brief history • The National Campaign for People's Right to Information • The Right to Information Act No. 22 of 2005: What is the right to information? What information must be proactively published? What information can I seek? From whom can I get information? <p><u>Resource persons</u> Palyam Suresh (KRIA Katte)</p>
11:45 – 12:15	Comments and questions
12:15 – 13:00	A Practical Exercise: SWOT Analysis - Part I
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00 – 14:45	A Practical Exercise: SWOT Analysis - Part II

14:45 – 15:30	<p><i>Session 4 – The Right to Information Act No. 22 of 2005</i></p> <p><u>Topics covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I file an application? • How is a decision made on my application? • What do I do if I do not get the information I requested? <p><u>Resource person</u></p> <p>Palyam Suresh (KRIA Katte)</p>
15:30 – 15:45	<i>REFRESHMENT BREAK</i>
15:45 – 17:30	<i>A Practical Exercise: Filing applications and response to the applications by a Public Information Officer as well as opportunity to interact with the Public Information Officer</i>

Day 3 - Tuesday 23 January 2007

9:00 – 9:15	<i>Participant's review of day 2</i>
9:15 – 10:15	<p>Session 5 – Advocacy for the right to information</p> <p><u>Topics covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology – The art of advocacy • Some tips for effective advocacy • Doing advocacy for the right to information <p><u>Resource person</u> Cyril W. Vas (Public Affairs Centre)</p>
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Comments and Questions</i>
10:30 – 10:45	REFRESHMENT BREAK
10:45 – 11:30	<i>Group work on advocacy</i>
11:30 – 13:00	<i>Group presentations and discussion</i>
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00 – 15:00	<p>Session 6 – Strategic litigation on right to information</p> <p><u>Topics covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic litigation – an introduction • Doing strategic litigation in the field of right to information <p><u>Resource person</u> Sabine Benzing-Balzer (Public Affairs Centre)</p>
15:00 – 15:15	REFRESHMENT BREAK
15:15 – 17:00	<i>Group work and presentations on strategic litigation</i>

Day 4 – Wednesday 24 January 2007

8:30 – 8:45	<i>Participant's review of day 3</i>
8:45 – 9:30	<i>Session 7 – Case Study</i> <u>Topics covered</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public hearings – An introduction Video presentation: Public hearings of Parivartan <u>Resource person</u> Ritu Mehra (Parivartan)
9:30 – 10:30	<i>Session 8 – Capacity building on right to information</i> <u>Topics covered</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to design a training on right to information How to conduct a training on right to information How to get project funding <u>Resource person</u> Cyril W. Vas (Public Affairs Centre)
10:30 – 10:45	<i>REFRESHMENT BREAK</i>
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Comments and questions</i>
11:15 – 12:30	<i>Session 9 – Capacity building of citizens</i> <u>Topics covered</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right to information camps – Experience from Parivartan Education project – Experience from Parivartan <u>Resource person</u> Ritu Mehra (Parivartan)
12:30 – 13:00	<i>Group discussion:</i> <i>Can these right to information projects be replicated? where do you see scope for right to information projects in your work?</i>

13:00 – 14:00	<i>LUNCH BREAK</i>
14:00 – 15:00	<i>Session 10 - The way forward</i> <u>Topics covered</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of PACs interactive right to information website • Group discussion about future right to information projects <u>Resource persons:</u> Sripad Sriram, Cyril W. Vas, Sabine Benzing-Balzer (Public Affairs Centre)
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Feedback and evaluation</i>
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Closing Remarks</i>