A FRAMEWORK FOR TRANSPARENCY AUDIT

The RTI Act under section 4 provides a comprehensive framework for promoting openness in the functioning of the public authorities.

While Section 4(1) (a) provides a general guideline for record management, so that the information could be easily stored and retained, the sub-sections b, c and d of Section 4 relate to the organizational objects and functions. Sub-sections (b), (c) and (d) of Section 4 of the RTI Act and other related information can be grouped under six categories; namely, 1-organsiation and function, 2- Budget and programmes, 3- Publicity and public interface, 4- E. governance, 5- Information as prescribed and 6. Information disclosed on own initiative.

1. Organisation and Function

	S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	
	1.1	Particulars of its organisation, functions and duties	(i) Name and address of the Organization	Saurashtra Gramin Bank, Address: Wing-2, First Floor, LIC Jeevan Prakash Building Mahila College Chowk, Rajkot- 360001
			(ii) Head of the organization	Chairman
	[Section 4(1)(b)(i)]	(iii) Vision, Mission and Key objectives	Mission: To cater to the banking needs of people of Saurashtra through Ace Products, Delighted Customer Service & Financial Improvement of the targeted mass with a team of Self Motivated Man Power, Advance Technology, Well Defined Systems & Procedures. Vision: Building a professionally sound institution to cater the Banking needs of the People of Saurashtra Inter-alia covering Disadvantaged	

			Masses.
			Key Objectives :- Saurashtra Gramin Bank is incorporated with a view to develop the rural economy by providing, for the purpose of development of agriculture, trade, commerce, industry and other productive activities in the rural areas, credit and other facilities, particularly to the small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, artisans and small entrepreneurs.
		(iv) Function and duties	People can refer to RRB Act,1976, regarding relevant information.
		(v) Organization Chart	Saurashtra Gramin Bank operates in 11 districts of Gujarat having Branch network of 258 and Head office at Rajkot. These Branches are managed by efficient work force under the control & supervision of -05 Regional offices & Head Office.
		(vi) Any other details-the genesis, inception, formation of the department and the HoDs from time to time as well as the committees/ Commissions constituted from time to time have been dealt	
1.2	Power and duties of its officers and employees [Section 4(1) (b)(ii)]	(i) Powers and duties of officers (administrative, financial and judicial)	All the officers have certain financial powers and administrative powers depending upon their positions. The delegation of financial powers of various grades of officials is decided by the Central Board which are revised from time to time, depending upon the organization's requirement and also Government / RBI guidelines. The concerned sanctioning authority takes a decision to sanction a loan or otherwise on merits of each proposal.
		(ii) Power and duties of other employees	All the officers have certain financial powers and administrative powers depending upon their positions. The delegation of financial powers of various grades of officials is decided by the Central Board which are revised from time to time, depending upon the organization's requirement and also Government / RBI guidelines. The concerned sanctioning authority takes a decision to sanction a loan or otherwise on merits of each proposal.
		(iii) Rules/ orders under which powers and duty are derived and	The duties and of the officers and employees of Saurashtra Gramin Bank is governed by the Saurashtra Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.

		(iv) Exercised	Please refer to answer in point no. 1.2 (iii)	
		(v) Work allocation	Please refer to answer in point no. 1.2 (iii)	
1.3	Procedure followed in decision making process [Section 4(1)(b)(iii)]	making points	There is a well-defined system in the Bank regarding the decision making process. Financial decisions are taken at various levels by different officials depending upon their positions and also through committee approach. Further, there is a well-defined organizational structure and a clear system of accountability and control system, which also take into account the RBI / CVC guidelines.	
		(ii) Final decision making authority	Board of Directors	
		(iii) Related provisions, acts, rules etc.	There is a well-defined system in the Bank regarding the decision making process. Financial decisions are taken at various levels by different officials depending upon their positions and also through committee approach. Further, there is a well-defined organizational structure and a clear system of accountability and control system, which also take into account the RBI / CVC guidelines.	
		(iv) Time limit for taking a decisions, if any	Time limit for taking a decision, if any-Credit Decision (Annexure – III) Customer right policy (Annexure - IV) Banking Ombudsman Policy (Annexure - V) Frequent Dishonor of Cheque and Electronic Payment System Policy (Annexure – VI) Compensation Policy (Annexure – VII)	
		(v) Channel of supervision and accountability	The channel of supervision and accountability is as per the organizational structure of the Bank and every Officer is accountable towards duties assigned by higher authorities from time to time.	
1.4	Norms for discharge of	(i) Nature of functions/ services offered	Head Office decides the rates to be offered by the Bank for the deposits, for different tenures which are displayed in the Bank's website and also at	
	functions	(ii) Norms/ standards for functions/ service delivery	the branches. Regarding the advance, again the Head Office takes a	
	[Section 4(1)(b)(iv)]	(iii) Process by which these services can be accessed	decision on introduction of various loan products and details of which are available in the website as well as at the branches. Head Office also	
		.(1)(0)(11)]	(iv) Time-limit for achieving the targets	decides about the rates of interest for various advances which again are available on our website and also at the offices / Branches of the Bank. Whether to sanction a loan or not, is the absolute discretion of the concerned sanctioning authority of the Bank and such discretion is exercised, after taking into consideration the relevant facts and

			circumstances of each case.
		(v) Process of redress of grievances	Complaint may be filed online on Bank's website.
1.5	Rules, regulations, instructions manual and	(i) Title and nature of the record/ manual /instruction.	Rules are regulations of the Officers and employees are governed as per Saurashtra Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010. (Annexure – VIII)
	records for discharging functions [Section	(ii) List of Rules, regulations, instructions manuals and records.	There are quite a number of documents like manuals, book of instructions, codified circulars, scheme of delegation of powers, proceedings of the board etc. and also the periodical circulars used by the employees for discharging various functions.
	4(1)(b)(v)]	(iii) Acts/ Rules manuals etc.	There are quite a number of documents like manuals, book of instructions, codified circulars, scheme of delegation of powers, proceedings of the board etc. and also the periodical circulars used by the employees for discharging various functions.
		(iv) Transfer policy and transfer orders	Transfer Policy - https://www.nabard.org/auth/writereaddata/tender/E-20152015 Cir 213 E.pdf Transfer orders are being issued at management call/as per banks requirements under obligation of banks transfer policy and as per CVC
			guidelines at decentralized structure level. Hence transfer order cannot be uploaded. However same is sent to the staff for compliance.
1.6	Categories of documents held by the authority under its control	(i) Categories of documents	These are mainly register of Shareholders/Record of the proceedings of the AGM, Board Meeting and various Committee meetings, documents executed by customers/ borrowers/ guarantors, contracts with third parties etc, which are kept in the custody of concerned departments/branches
	[Section 4(1)(b) (vi)]	(ii) Custodian of documents/categories	These are mainly register of Shareholders/Record of the proceedings of the AGM, Board Meeting and various Committee meetings, documents executed by customers/ borrowers/ guarantors, contracts with third parties etc, which are kept in the custody of concerned departments/branches
1.7	Boards,	(i) Name of Boards, Council, Committee etc.	Board level Committee PDF (Annexure - I)
	Councils, Committees and other Bodies constituted as part of the	(ii) Composition	Composition of Board of directors is governed by S.9 of the Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976- https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1492/1/197621.pdf

	Public Authority [Section 4(1)(b)(viii)]	(iii)	Dates from which constituted	Board level Committee PDF (Annexure – I)
		(iv)	Term/ Tenure	Term & tenure of the Board shall be as per S.10 of the Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976 — https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1492/1/197621.pdf
		(v)	Powers and functions	Further, power and functions of the board shall be as laid down under the Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976 - https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1492/1/197621.pdf
		(vi)	Whether their meetings are open to the public?	Public are not entitled to participate on the above committee meetings and minutes are not accessible to public.
				Public can also refer to the Annual report of the Bank available on website of the Bank for more information.
		(vii)	Whether the minutes of the meetings are open to the public?	Refer Point No. 1.7 (vi)
		(viii)	Place where the minutes if open to the public are available?	Refer Point No. 1.7 (vi)
1.8	Directory of officers and	(i)	Name and designation	Annexure - XIII
	employees [Section 4(1) (b) (ix)]	(ii)	Telephone, fax and email ID	Annexure - XIII
1.9	Monthly Remuneration	(i)	List of employees with Gross monthly remuneration	<u>Annexure - XIII</u>
	received by officers & employees including system of compensation [Section 4(1) (b) (x)]	(ii)	System of compensation as provided in its regulations	Annexure - XIV Annexure - XV

1.10	Name, designation and other particulars of public information officers [Section 4(1) (b) (xvi)]	 (i) Name and designation of the public information officer (PIO), Assistant Public Information (s) & Appellate Authority (ii) Address, telephone numbers and email ID of each designated official. 	
1.11	No. Of employees against whom Disciplinary action has been proposed/ taken (Section 4(2))	No. of employees against whom disciplinary action has been (i) Pending for Minor penalty or major penalty proceedings	0
		(ii) Finalised for Minor penalty or major penalty proceedings	13
1.12	Programmes to advance understanding of RTI	(i) Educational programmes	Saurashtra Gramin Bank organizes sessions on RTI awareness for its employees on regular basis. Last training program conducted on 22-08-2024.
	(Section 26)	(ii) Efforts to encourage public authority to participate in these programmes	Bank issues circulars to employees for participating in RTI sessions. Bank also forwards any communications/circulars issued by CIC to its employees.
		(iii) Training of CPIO/APIO	No. of person trained: 1. Date of Training: - 3-4 th February 2017.
		(iv) Update & publish guidelines on RTI by the Public Authorities concerned	The Bank updates guidelines on RTI on regular basis & last update is as on 22-05-2024.

1.13	Transfer policy	Transfer Policy - https://www.nabard.org/auth/writereaddata/tender/E-
	and transfer	<u>20152015_Cir_213_E.pdf</u>
	orders	
	[F No.	Transfer orders are being issued at management call/as per banks
	1/6/2011- IR dt.	requirements under obligation of banks transfer policy and as per CVC
	15.4.2013]	guidelines at decentralized structure level. Hence transfer order cannot be
		uploaded. However same is sent to the staff for compliance.

2. Budget and Programme

4.	Dudget and Frogramme						
S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure					
2.1	Budget allocated to each agency including all plans, proposed expenditure and reports on disbursements made etc. [Section 4(1)(b)(xi)]	 (i) Total Budget for the public authority (ii) Budget for each agency and plan & programmes (iii) Proposed expenditures (iv) Revised budget for each agency, if any (v) Report on disbursements made and place where the related reports are available 	Not Applicable				
2.2	Foreign and domestic tours	(i) Budget	There is no separate budget for foreign tours. It is met out of the general budget.				

	(F. No. 1/8/2012-IR dt. 11.9.2012)	 (ii) Foreign and domestic Tours by ministries and officials of the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government and above, as well as the heads of the Department. a) Places visited b) The period of visit c) The number of members in the official delegation d) Expenditure on the visit 	No person in the rank of Joint secretary.
		 (iii) Information related to procurements a) Notice/tender enquires, and corrigenda if any thereon, b) Details of the bids awarded comprising the names of the suppliers of goods/ services being procured, c) The works contracts concluded – in any such combination of the aboveand d) The rate /rates and the total amount at which such procurement or works contract is to be executed. 	Annexure - XI
2.3	Manner of execution of subsidy programme [Section 4(i)(b)(xii)]	(i) Name of the programme of activity (ii) Objective of the programme (iii) Procedure to avail benefits (iv) Duration of the programme/ scheme (v) Physical and financial targets of the programme (vi) Nature/ scale of subsidy /amount allotted (vii) Eligibility criteria for grant of subsidy	There are no subsidy programmes or plans for lending activities of the Bank as a whole, except targets for priority sector lending. There are different schemes for advances of the Bank and the terms and conditions are already available in the Bank's website. However all govt. sponsored schemes/ Programmes are being implemented in true spirit by the bank for the public benefit and being monitored by bank's financial inclusion dept. Bank is acting as channel to provide govt. subsidies to the public.

		(viii)	Details of beneficiaries of subsidy programme (number, profile etc)	
2.4	Discretionary and non-discretionary grants [F. No. 1/6/2011-IR dt.	(i)	Discretionary and non-discretionary grants/ allocations to State Govt./ NGOs/other institutions	Not Applicable
	15.04.2013]	(ii)	Annual accounts of all legal entities who are provided grants by public authorities	Not Applicable
2.5	Particulars of recipients of concessions,	(i)	Concessions, permits or authorizations granted by public authority	Not Applicable
	permits of authorizations granted by the public authority [Section 4(1) (b) (xiii)]	(ii)	For each concessions, permit or authorization granted a) Eligibility criteria b) Procedure for getting the concession/ grant and/ or permits of authorizations c) Name and address of the recipients given concessions/permits or authorisations d) Date of award of concessions/permits of authorizations	Not Applicable

2.0	CAG & PAC	CAG and PAC paras and the action taken reports	Not Applicable
	paras [F No.	(ATRs) after these have been laid on the table of	
	1/6/2011- IR dt.	both houses of the parliament.	
	15.4.2013]	-	

3. Publicity Band Public interface

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	
3.1	Particulars for any arrangement for consultation with or representation by the members of the public in relation to the formulation of	representation by the members of the public (i) Relevant Acts, Rules, Forms and other	As per present arrangement Bank organizes Gram Sabha / Customer meets periodically for their valuable suggestion as well as Bank's annual results / reports / policies are published in the Bank's website periodically for information of public which would give an idea about the policies of the bank and implementation thereof. Link -> https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1492/1/197621.pdf
	policy or implementation there of [Section 4(1)(b)(vii)] [F No 1/6/2011-IR dt. 15.04.2013]	representation by a) Members of the public in policy	As per present arrangement Bank organizes Gram Sabha / Customer meets periodically for their valuable suggestion as well as Bank's annual results / reports / policies are published in the Bank's website periodically for information of public which would give an idea about the policies of the bank and implementation thereof.
		Public- private partnerships (PPP) (i) Details of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), if any (ii) Detailed project reports (DPRs) (iii) Concession agreements.	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable

	·		
		(iv) Operation and maintenance manuals	Not Applicable
		(v) Other documents generated as part of	Not Applicable
		the implementation of the PPP	
		(vi) Information relating to fees, tolls, or the	Not Applicable
		other kinds of revenues that may be	
		collected under authorisation from the	
		government	
		(vii) Information relating to outputs and	Not Applicable
		outcomes	
		(viii) The process of the selection of the	Not Applicable
		private sector party (concessionaire	
		etc.)	
		(ix) All payment made under the PPP	Not Applicable
		project	
3.2	Are the details of	Publish all relevant facts while formulating	Not Applicable
	policies /	important policies or announcing decisions which	
	decisions, which	affect public to make the process more interactive;	
	affect public,	(i) Policy decisions/ legislations taken in	
	informed to them	the previous one year	
	[Section 4(1) (c)]		
		(ii) Outline the Public consultation process	Not Applicable
		(iii) Outline the arrangement for	Not Applicable
		consultation before formulation of	

		policy	
3.3	Dissemination of information widely and in such form and manner which is easily accessible to the public [Section 4(3)]	Use of the most effective means of communication (i) Internet (website)	Bank's website Link -> https://www.gujaratgb.in/ (Erstwhile Saurashtra Gramin Bank)
3.4	Form of accessibility of information manual/ handbook [Section 4(1)(b)]	Information manual/handbook available in (i) Electronic format (ii) Printed format	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/2065/5/a2005-22.pdf All the information manual/Handbook related to RTI/CIC/ Sec.4-RTI compliance/service charges/Rate of Interest/Application forms and other relevant information are available on bank website in electronic format, which can be downloaded/printed by any member of public as per his convenience without any charges. The print copy of Information manual is available in the office of CPIO.
3.5	Whether information manual/ handbook available free of cost or not [Section 4(1)(b)]	List of materials available (i) Free of cost (ii) At a reasonable cost of the medium	All the information manual/Handbook related to RTI/CIC/ Sec.4-RTI compliance/service charges/Rate of Interest/Application forms and other relevant information are available on bank website in electronic format, which can be downloaded/printed by any member of public as per his convenience without any charges. The Hard copy of the above listed material can be made available to citizens as per the fees described under the RTI act or at reasonable cost as per the service charges of the Bank.

4. E. Governance

S .No.	Item	Details of disclosure	
4.1	Language in which Information Manual/Handbook Available	(i) English (ii) Vernacular/ Local Language	https://cic.gov.in/sites/default/files/RTI-Act_English.pdf https://cic.gov.in/sites/default/files/rti-actinhindi.pdf
	[F No. 1/6/2011- IR dt. 15.4.2013]	(II) Vernaculai/ Local Language	nttps://cic.gov.m/sites/default/mes/rti-actininidi.pdi
4.2	When was the information Manual/Handbook last updated? [F No. 1/6/2011-IR dt 15.4.2013]	Last date of Annual updation	22-05-2024
4.3	Information available in electronic form [Section 4(1)(b)(xiv)]	(i) Details of information available in electronic form (ii) Name/ title of the document/record/ other	Various kinds of bank's products, services, duties, functions, service charges/Rate of interest/Application forms and other relevant information are available on bank website in electronic format, which can be downloaded/printed by any member of public as per his convenience without any charges. Please refer Point No. 4.3 (i)
		information (iii) Location where available	Please refer Point No. 4.3 (i)
4.4	Particulars of facilities available	(i) Name & location of the faculty	All kind of information related to facilities/services which Bank provides are made available to public at large on Bank's website.
	to citizen for obtaining	(ii) Details of information made available	All kind of information related to facilities/services which Bank provides are made available to public at large.
	information	(iii) Working hours of the facility	Information available through Bank's branches & offices time -10:00 AM to

	[Section 4(1)(b)(xv)]	(iv) Contact person & contact details (Phone fax email)	05:00 PM. And Information available through bank's website is available to public irrespective to any specific time, it is available 24*7*365. Annexure - IX
4.5	Such other information as may be prescribed	(i) Grievance redressal mechanism	Contact us -> Link -> https://www.gujaratgb.in/offices-branches.php Banking Ombudsman Policy (Annexure - V)
	under section 4(i) (b)(xvii)	(ii) Details of applications received under RTI and information provided	Details of RTI applications received and disposed. Financial Year: 2024-25 Applications Received: 87; Application Disposed:86
		(iii) List of completed schemes/ projects/ Programmes	Annexure – XI
		(iv) List of schemes/ projects/ programme underway	Annexure – XI
		·	All government sponsored schemes/Programmes are being implemented in true spirit by the bank for the public benefit and being monitored by bank's financial inclusion department.
		(v) Details of all contracts entered into including name of the contractor amount of contract and period of completion of contract	
		(vi) Annual Report	Annexure - XII
		(vii) Frequently Asked Question (FAQs)	Can be found under FAQ section of the Bank's website. Link -> https://cic.gov.in/sites/default/files/RTI-Act_English.pdf

		(viii) Any other information such as a) Citizen's Charter b) Result Framework Document (RFD) c) Six monthly reports on the d) Performance against the benchmarks set in the Citizen's Charter	https://cic.gov.in/sites/default/files/RTI-Act_English.pdf Further information available to citizens on Bank's website.
4.6	Receipt & Disposal of RTI applications & appeals [F.No 1/6/2011-IR dt.	(i) Details of applications received and disposed	Details of RTI applications received and disposed. Financial Year: 2024-25 Applications Received: 87; Application Disposed:86
	15.04.2013]	(ii) Details of appeals received and orders issued	Details of RTI Appeals received and disposed. Financial Year: 2024-25 Appeals Received: 10; Appeals Disposed:10
4.7	Replies to questions asked in the parliament [Section 4(1)(d)(2)]	Details of questions asked and replies given	For Lok Sabha Questions visit http://loksabha.nic.in/Questions/Qtextsearch.aspx For Rajya Sabha Questions visit https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/Questions/qsearch.aspx

5. Information as may be prescribed

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	
5.1	Such other information as may be prescribed [F.No. 1/2/2016-	(i) Name & details of (a) Current CPIOs & FAAs (b) Earlier CPIO & FAAs from 1.1.2015	(a) Annexure – IX (b) Annexure – X
	IR dt. 17.8.2016, F No. 1/6/2011- IR dt. 15.4.2013]	 (ii) Details of third party audit of voluntary disclosure (a) Dates of audit carried out (b) Report of the audit carried out 	(a) Date of audit carried out:- 03-06-2024 (b) Report of the audit carried out:- Available at CIC website: https://cic.gov.in and on Bank's website.
		(iii) Appointment of Nodal Officers not below the rank of Joint Secretary/Additional HoD (a) Date of appointment (b) Name & Designation of the officers	(a) Date of appointment :- 02-05-2024(b) Name & Designation of the officer :-Shri M.D. Patel, Senior Manager, Saurashtra Gramin Bank.
			Address:- Saurashtra Gramin Bank, Wing-2, First Floor, LIC, Jeevan Prakash Building, Tagore Road, Rajkot – 360001

(iv)	Consultancy committee of key stake holders for advice on suo-motu disclosure (a) Dates from which constituted (b) Name & Designation of the officers	, ,	Constituted on which committee constituted -> 27 Name & Designation of officers :-	7-03-2024
		1.	General Manager (O) [in case of absence of GM(O) then GM (P&D) to preside]	Head of the committee
		2.	CPIO (H.O.) Nodal Officer (H.O.)	Member Member
		4.		Member
		5.	PIO and FAA of Regional Office Jamnagar	Member
(v)	Committee of PIOs/FAAs with rich experience in RTI to identify frequently sought information under RTI			,
	(a) Dates from which constituted(b) Name & Designation of the Officers	,	Constituted on which committee constituted -> 27 Name & Designation of officers:-	7-03-2024
		1.	General Manager (O) [in case of absence of GM(O) then GM (P&D) to preside]	Head of the committee
		2.	CPIO (H.O.)	Member
		3.	, ,	Member
		4.	PIO and FAA of Regional Office Rajkot	Member
I		5.	PIO and FAA of Regional Office Jamnagar	Member

6. Information Disclosed on own Initiative

S. No.	Item	Details of disclosure	
6.1	Item / information disclosed so that public have minimum resort to use of RTI Act to obtain information		Information as available on Bank's website under various Heads. • Annexure - XIV • Annexure - XV • RRB Act — https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1492/1/ 197621.pdf • For Grievance Redressal -> Annexure - V

6.2	Guidelines for	(i)	Whether STQC certification obtained	Not Applicable
	Indian		and its validity.	
	Government	(ii)	Does the website show the certificate	Not Applicable
	Websites (GIGW)		on the Website?	
	is followed			Ans-
	(released in			
	February 2009			Bank had initiated the process of getting the certification. However, during
	and included in			the preparation of the documents for the certification, Bank staff got in
	the Central			touch with the STQC officials and they had informed us that this particular
	Secretariat			certification is for GOI websites only. In other words, the websites with
	Manual of Office			domain names ending with gov.in or nic.in or edu.in or similar domains are
	Procedures			eligible for the certification. And since our Bank's website is having .in,
	(CSMOP) by			.com, .co.in domain names, we are not eligible for the same.
	Department of			The same is mentioned in the Guidelines for Indian Govt Websites -
	Administrative			GIGW2018_Releasedversion.pdf under point 2(page no 23 to 31).
	Reforms and			
	Public			The document is linked here -
	Grievances,			https://www.stqc.gov.in/sites/default/files/Guidelines%20for%20Indian%20
	Ministry of			Govt%20 Websites%20-%20GIGW2018_Released%20version.pdf
	Personnel, Public			
	Grievance and			
	Pensions, Govt.			
	Of India)			
