

## SHARING POWER WITH PEOPLE

# Conference on RIGHT TO INFORMATION: LAW, INSTITUTION AND CITIZENS

21-22 June, 2009  
Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE



Right to  
Information  
Forum

### Objectives

- To build different stakeholder's capacity on the use of essential mechanisms and strategies to ensure effective implementation of the RTI Act through knowledge sharing.
- To highlight the positive development impacts and challenges of access to information based on country experiences.

### June 21, 2009

9:30 am - 10:00 am	<b>Inauguration</b> Guests take their Seats Pot Song
10:00 am - 11:30 am	<b>Welcome Address</b> <i>Shaheen Anam</i> , Executive Director, MJF and Convener, RTI Forum
<b>Room</b> Winter Garden Ground Floor	<b>Keynote Paper presentation</b> <i>Dr. Iftekharuzzaman</i> , Executive Director, TI Bangladesh <b>Speech by Special Guest</b> <i>Abul Kalam Azad</i> Minister for Information and Cultural affairs <b>Launching of Training Manual by Honorable Chief Guest</b> <b>Speech by Chief Guest</b> <i>Sheikh Hasina</i> , Honorable Prime Minister, People's Republic of Bangladesh <b>Remarks by Chairperson</b> <i>Syed Manzur Elahi</i> Former Adviser, Caretaker Government and Chairperson, MJF Board
11:30 am - 11:45 am	Tea break
11:45 am - 13:15 pm	<b>Plenary Session : Key Steps Towards Effectively Implementing an RTI Law, Lessons from International Experience</b> <b>Chairperson</b> <i>Tahseen Sayed</i> , Operations Adviser, the World Bank
<b>Room</b> Winter Garden Ground Floor	

### June 22, 2009

9:30 am - 11:00 am	<b>Plenary Session: Use and Potentials for Information Communication and Technology (ICT) to protect People's Right to Know</b> <b>Chairperson</b> <i>Dr. Atiur Rahman</i> , Governor, Bangladesh Bank <b>Speakers :</b> <i>Ananya Raihan</i> , ED D.Net <i>Abdullah Zahid</i> , CPDI, Pakistan <i>Mahboob Zaman</i> , MD, Data Soft System Bangladesh limited <i>A. Munir Hasan</i> , Programme Implementation Specialist Access to Information Program, Prime Minister's Office
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Tea break
11:30 am - 13:00 pm	<b>PARALLEL WORKSHOPS</b> <b>Parallel Workshop 1: Addressing RTI Needs for Rural Areas, Strategies and Mechanisms (case presentation)</b> <b>Chair Moderator</b> <i>Anisatul Fatema Yousuf</i> , Director- Dialogue & Communication, CPD <b>Speakers :</b> <i>Venkatesh Nayak</i> , CHRI, India <i>Ranjan Karmaker</i> , Executive Director, Steps <i>Bazlur Rahman</i> , BNNRC, Bangladesh. <i>Manjurul Ahasan Bulbuli</i> , Hoed, News & Current Affairs, NCA, ATN Bangla
<b>Room - Bakul</b> Level 2	
<b>Room - Chamell</b> Level 2	<b>Parallel Workshop 2: Capacity Development, Record Management and Building a Communications Model for Effective RTI Implementation</b> <b>Chair Moderator</b> <i>Marcos Mendibury</i> , The World Bank

### Speakers :

*Sailesh Gandhi*, Commissioner, Central Information Commission India.  
*Juan Pablo Guerrero Amparán*  
Commissioner, Mexican Federal Access to Information Institute  
*Aruna Roy*, Executive Director, MKSS, India  
*Rasheda K. Chowdhury*, Former Adviser Caretaker Government and ED, CAMPE  
*Andrew John Ecclestone*, Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Constitution Unit  
University College London, UK

13:15 pm - 14:15 pm

Lunch

14:15 pm - 16:15 pm

**Room - Palash**  
Level 2

### PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

**Parallel Workshop 1**  
**RTI Act : Scope for Legislature and Courts, International Experiences**

**Chair Moderator**  
*Shahidul Huq*, Additional Secretary Ministry of Law Justice and  
Parliamentary Affairs

### Speakers :

*Abdullah Zahid*, CPDI, Pakistan  
*Dr. Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury* - MP, Bangladesh Parliament  
*Barrister Manzoor Hasan*, Director IGS, BRAC University  
*Barrister Tanjib Ul Alam*, Dr. Kamal Hossain and Associates

**Room - Chamell**  
Level 2

### Parallel Workshop 2

**Role of Right to Information Commissions: Functions, Interactions with other Stakeholders, Reporting Mechanisms and Performance Indicators**

**Chair Moderator**  
*Saber Hossain Chowdhury*, MP, Bangladesh Parliament

### Speakers :

*Sailesh Gandhi*, Commissioner, Central Information Commission India  
*Juan Pablo Guerrero Amparán*  
Commissioner, Mexican Federal Access to Information Institute  
*Nikhil Dey*, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS), India  
*Venkatesh Nayak*, Project Coordinator, CHRI, India

**Room - Bakul**  
Level 2

### Parallel Workshop 3

**Creating a Culture of Openness and Participation using the RTI Act**  
**Chair Moderator**  
*Shaheen Anam*, Executive Director, MJF

### Speakers:

*Badiul Alam Mazumder*, Global Vice President, The Hunger Project, Bangladesh  
*Sirajul Hossain*, Deputy Director, National Institute of Local Government (NILG)  
*Mr. Shaikat Mahmud*, President, National Press Club  
*Aruna Roy*, Executive Director, MKSS, India

16:15 pm - 16:30 pm

Evening Tea

16:30 pm - 17:30 pm  
**Room - Bakul**  
Level 2

### Editor's meeting to meet with International Guests

**The Role of the Media in Implementing the RTI Act**  
**Chairperson**  
*Dr. Debopriya Bhattacharia*, Economist and Researcher, CPD

### Speakers :

*Aruna Roy*, ED, MKSS, India  
**Editors of Print and Electronic Media**  
**Guest of honor**  
*Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman*, Former Advisor, Executive Chairman  
Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC)

### Speakers :

*Sailesh Gandhi*, Commissioner, Central Information Commission, India  
*Juan Pablo Guerrero Amparán*, Commissioner  
Mexican Federal Access to Information Institute  
*Kelvin Smith*, IRMT, UK  
*Md. Ashraf Hossain*, MDS  
Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center, (BPATC)

**Room - Palash**  
Level 2

### Parallel Workshop 3: Designing an Effective Information Commission

**Chair Moderator**  
*Faruq Sobhan*, President Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI).

### Speakers :

*Shahnaz Huda*, Professor, Law Department Dhaka University  
*Tahmina Rahman*, Director, Article 19 Bangladesh.  
*Andrew John Ecclestone*, Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Constitution Unit  
University College London, UK

13:00 pm - 14:00 pm

Lunch

14:30 pm - 16:00 pm  
**Room**  
Winter Garden  
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### Concluding Session

**Recommendations and Agenda Setting**  
**Chairperson**  
*Shaheen Anam*, Convener, RTI Forum

### Special Guests

*Sailesh Gandhi*, Commissioner, Central Information Commission, India  
*MA Aziz*, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet division  
*Dr. Rahman Sobhan*, President Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)  
**Chief Guest**

*Barrister Safique Ahmed* Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs  
**Concluding Remarks:** Convener RTI Forum