

File No. SFAC/1-2/42/2024-GA.RTI Information.

Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium
(Society promoted by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
5th Floor, NCUI Auditorium Building, August Kranti Marg,
Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110 016.
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Dated: 12.12.2025

Mr. Manthan Ketan Kumar Shah
RDL46E2, New Colony, GIDC Estate, Ankleshwar,
Pin:393002
Mobile No: 91-9099099191

Subject: Request for seeking information under RTI Act, 2005 –reg.

Sir,

The undersigned being the CPIO refer to your RTI Application No. SFABC/R/E/25/00041 dated 28/10/2025 on the subject mentioned above. In so far SFAC is concerned, the information is as under:-

S. No	RTI Query	Information under RTI
1	1. Performance-Based Payment Criteria and Methodology A. Certified copies of all guidelines, circulars, office memoranda, and notifications that define “performance-based payment or incentive structures” for FPOs, Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs), and Resource Institutions under SFAC’s operational framework (from 01-04- 2019 to date). B. Certified copies of evaluation parameters, scoring methodologies, and key performance indicators (KPIs) used to assess FPO performance before disbursal of equity grant, credit guarantee, or operational cost assistance. C. Provide calculation formulae, weightage criteria, and benchmarking metrics used to determine payment slabs or incentive release for each performance category.	The clause 7.4 “payments to CBBO”, clause 10.0 “FPO Management Cost”, clause 11.0 “provision for equity grant” and clause 12.0 “Credit Guarantee Facility” under the weblink of “Operational guidelines for formation and promotion of 10,000 farmers producer Organizations” available in SFAC website having URL https://sfacindia.com/Guideliness.aspx may be referred to.
2.	2. Disbursement and Fund Flow Data D. Year-wise and State-wise list of FPOs that received performance-linked payments or equity grants through SFAC or NABARD under the Central Sector Scheme since 2019. 1. Include name of FPO, registration number, district, promoter institution, payment amount, date of sanction, and tranche-wise breakup. E. Certified copies of internal approval notes and file notings used by SFAC for release of such payments — particularly showing linkage between evaluated performance score and payment sanction.	The information sought by you pertains to a third party, and is of a personal/confidential nature. As per the provisions of Section 11(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the concerned third party was issued a notice and given an opportunity to make a representation regarding disclosure of the said information. The third party has objected to the disclosure of the information on the grounds that it is of a confidential nature and does not serve any larger public interest. After careful consideration of the third party’s objections and the nature of the information sought, and in accordance with Section 8(1)(j) and Section 11(3) of the RTI Act, it has been decided that the information requested cannot be disclosed, as its disclosure would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual/third party, and there is no overriding public interest in disclosure. Hence, the information sought by you is denied under Section 11 read with Section 8(1) (j) of the RTI Act, 2005.

3.	3. Third-Party Evaluation / Audit F. Copies of third-party performance evaluation reports, monitoring agency reviews, or audit findings (if any) regarding FPO performance and SFAC's disbursement efficiency, provide data analytics and performance where KPI achieved before yearly deadlines. G. Certified copies of MoUs, contracts, or terms of reference (ToR) between SFAC and any evaluation agencies hired for FPO performance linked appraisal disbursal.	Presently, no such information available with SFAC.
4.	4. Policy Integration and Accountability H. Copies of any inter-ministerial correspondence between SFAC, NABARD, and Department of Agriculture regarding modification or alignment of performance-linked incentives for FPOs under Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs Scheme. I. Certified minutes of SFAC Governing Board / Executive Committee meetings where payment-linked performance structures or disbursement policies were discussed or revised.	The specific information has not been sought.
5.	5. Legal and Administrative Justification J. If no performance-based payment structure exists, provide certified note of competent authority approval under which payments were made, and reasons recorded for absence of a defined formula or KPI framework. Format & Delivery Data: Excel / CSV (for payment and evaluation data), Documents: Searchable PDF (certified copies), Delivery: By email under Section 7(9) of the RTI Act	The information sought by you is denied under the reference of Order No. CIC/AT/A/2006/00045 dated 21.04.2006 issued by CIC.

Further, it is informed that the Central Information Commissioner in its Order No.CIC/AT/A/2006/00045 dated 21.04.2006 has conveyed that "the RTI Act does not cast on the public authority any obligation to answer queries in which a petitioner attempts to elicit answers to his questions with prefixes, such as, why, what, when and whether. The petitioner's right extends only to seeking information as defined in Section 2(f) either by pinpointing the file, document, paper or record etc., or by mentioning the type of information as may be available with the specified public authority."

As per Government of India office memorandum no 1/4/2009- IR dated 05.10.2009 pertaining to Right to Information Act, 2005 published by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Personnel & Training "The Public Information Officer is not supposed to create information; or to interpret information; or to solve the problems raised by the applicants; or to furnish replies to hypothetical questions." It is inform that answering a question or proffering advice or making suggestion to an applicant is beyond the purview of the RTI act.

First Appellate Authority

(Prasanth Chander N.)

Deputy Director (Admin.)

First Appellate Authority,

Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium, NCUI Auditorium Building, 5th Floor,

August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi- 110 016.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep kumar)

Dy. Director (PDF)

Central Public Information Officer