

Right to Information Act 2005

Chameli Devi Group of Institutions, Indore

The Right to Information Act, 2005 is an Act passed by the Parliament of India to provide for setting out the practical regime of right to information for citizens to secure access to information under the control of public authorities, in order to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority and the constitution of a Central Information Commission and State Information Commissions. The Constitution of India has established a Democratic Republic and democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information which are vital to its functioning and also to contain corruption and to hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed. Revelation of information in actual practice is likely to conflict with other public interests including efficient operations of the Governments, optimum use of limited fiscal resources and the preservation of confidentiality of sensitive information and thus it is necessary to harmonise these conflicting interests while preserving the paramountcy of the democratic ideal. It is therefore expedient to provide for furnishing certain information to citizens who desire to have it and the Right to Information Act, 2005 is an effective legislation in the hands of the citizens to get empowered by information in their hands.

A person, who desires to obtain any information under this Act, is required to make a request in writing or through electronic means in English or Hindi or in the official language of the area in which the application is being made, accompanying such fee as may be prescribed, to- (a) the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, of the concerned public authority; (b) the Central Assistant Public Information Officer or State Assistant Public Information Officer, as the case may be, specifying the particulars of the information sought by him or her. Where such request cannot be made in writing, the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, shall render all reasonable assistance to the person making the request orally to reduce the same in writing. An applicant making request for information shall not be required to give any reason for requesting the information or any other personal details except those that may be necessary for contacting him. Where an application is made to a public authority requesting for an information- (i) which is held by another public authority; or (ii) the subject matter of which is more closely connected with the functions of another public authority, the public authority, to which such application is made, shall transfer the application or such part of it as may be

appropriate to that other public authority and inform the applicant immediately about such transfer.

For further details, please contact members of RTI Committee:

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