

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

INTRODUCTION

India being democratic Nation securing the liberty, freedom and rights of its citizen under the Constitution of India, the Central Government has enacted Right to Information Act, 2005 for promoting transparency and accountability in the working of the Public Authority.

Basic features of the Right to Information Act, 2005

The main and brief basic features of this Act of 2005 are enumerated as follows:

1. To empower every citizen to obtain information from the Public Authority.
2. To promote transparency and practical accountability in the working of Public Authorities.
3. To check corruption.
4. Strengthening the democracy through its informed citizens.
5. Empowering its citizen to obtain in the form like records, documents, e-mail, press release, advices, memos, opinions, circulars, orders, contract, reports, papers, samples etc.
6. Empowering its citizen for inspection of records, taking notes, certified copies etc.
7. Provision for Constitution of State Information Commission by the State.
8. Provision for Constitution of Central Information Commission by the Central Government.
9. Provision for appointment of Public Information Officer by the Public Authorities including non governmental organization duly finance by the Central or State Government.
10. Provision for designation of Public Information Officer by the Autonomous Institution or Authorities under any Act/ Acts.
11. Provision for imposing obligation upon the Public Information Officer to give the information within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receiving the application.
12. There is also provision for appointment of Assistant Public Information Officer at the Sub- Divisional Level.
13. However, the following Organization/Department are exempt from giving Information to the citizen under R.T.I. Act, 2005.
 - i. Intelligence Bureau.
 - ii. Research and Analysis Wing of the Cabinet Secretariat.
 - iii. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence.
 - iv. Central Economic Intelligence Bureau.
 - v. Directorate of Enforcement.
 - vi. Narcotics Control Bureau.
 - vii. Aviation Research Centre.
 - viii. Special Frontier Force.
 - ix. Border Security Force.
 - x. Central Reserve Police Force.
 - xi. Indo-Tibetan Border Police.

- xii. Central Industrial Security Force
- xiii. National Security Guards.
- xiv. Assam Rifles.
- xv. Shastra Seema Bal.
- xvi. Special Branch (CID), Andaman and Nicobar.
- xvii. The Crime Branch- CID - C.B Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- xviii. Special Branch, Lakshadweep Police.
- xix. Special Protection Group.
- xx. Defence Research and Development Organization.
- xxi. Border Road Development Board.
- xxii. Financial Intelligence Unit, India.

14. There is also provision for inflicting penalty upon the Public Information Officer who fail to discharge their duties under this Act. The Penalty may be amounting Rs. 250/- each day till application is received or information is duly furnished to the application. However, the maximum limit of Penalty shall be Rs. 2500/-.

Under this Act of 2005, every citizen of India is entitled to received information pertaining to the affairs of the Public Authority/Authorities including any subjects the applicants want to know. Applicant may filed their application before any Public Information Officer by paying requisite fees prescribed by the Government from time to time.