

Certificate Course on Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI)

Duration: 7 Days

Mode: Online (Video Lectures + PDF Notes + Daily Assignments)

Assessment: Final Assignment on Day 7

Certification: E-Certificate

Instructor: [MJ Sir / RTI Expert]

Language: Hindi + English

Day 1: Introduction to RTI – The Foundation of Transparency

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Historical background of RTI in India and globally
 2. Objectives and philosophy behind the RTI Act, 2005
 3. Constitutional basis: Article 19(1)(a) – Freedom of Speech and Expression
 4. Salient features of the RTI Act
- **Assignment:** Write one paragraph on why RTI is called a "weapon in the hands of common people".

Day 2: Structure of RTI Act – Understanding Definitions and Key Provisions

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Definitions under Section 2 (Public Authority, Information, Record, etc.)
 2. Obligations of public authorities (Section 4)
 3. Suo moto disclosure of information
- **Real-life examples** of how these definitions are interpreted
- **Assignment:** Identify any 3 public authorities in your district and check their RTI disclosures on their website.

Day 3: Filing an RTI Application – Practical Training

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Who can file an RTI? (Eligibility)
 2. Step-by-step process to file RTI online and offline
 3. Format of RTI application (with sample)
 4. Fees, time limits, and reply procedure (Sections 6 & 7)
- **Demo:** Filing an RTI online using <https://rtionline.gov.in/>



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- **Assignment:** Draft a sample RTI to your municipal body asking for sanitation expenditure

Day 4: Rejection of RTI and Appeals Process

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Grounds of rejection under Section 8 and 9 (Exemptions)
 2. First appeal and Second appeal process (Section 19)
 3. Role and powers of Appellate Authorities and Information Commissions
- **Judgment Analysis:** CBSE v. Aditya Bandopadhyay (2011)
- **Assignment:** Write short notes on 3 exemption clauses under Section 8.

Day 5: Penalties, Offences and Protection for RTI Activists

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Section 20 – Penalty provisions for PIOs (Public Information Officers)
 2. Section 21 – Protection of action taken in good faith
 3. Threats to RTI activists – real case studies and suggested reforms
- **Case Study:** Shehla Masood's case
- **Assignment:** Prepare a list of penalties that can be imposed on erring PIOs with conditions.

Day 6: Landmark Judgments & Impact of RTI in Governance

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Analysis of major Supreme Court & High Court rulings:
 1. ADR v. Union of India – Candidate criminal records disclosure
 2. Reserve Bank of India v. Jayantilal N. Mistry – Financial transparency
 2. RTI success stories in exposing scams and corruption
- **Assignment:** Choose one RTI judgment and summarize its impact in 200 words.

Day 7: Final Assessment & RTI as a Tool for Empowerment

- **Topics Covered:**
 1. Drafting a powerful RTI based on any real-life issue
 2. How to use RTI to bring systemic change
 3. How to train others in RTI usage



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- **Final Task:**

1. Draft and submit a comprehensive RTI application.
2. Submit a reflection note: "How will I use RTI in my life?"

What You'll Receive

- Daily video lectures and notes
- Assignments checked by experts
- Certificate of Completion
- Lifetime access to course content
- Bonus: RTI Templates, Judgment eBook, and FAQ Guide

- **Quiz on RTI Provisions**



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