

RIGHT TO INFORMATION IN INDIA

Mr. RAMAKANTA SATAPATHY
(Guest Faculty)
BBA, LLB(H) Branch
Lajpat Rai Law College,
Sambalpur, Orissa

Dr. BIKRAM KUMAR DAS
(Senior Faculty)
Course Coordinator BBA, LLB(H) Branch
&
Director PGDIR & PM Course
Lajpat Rai Law College,
Sambalpur, Orissa

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REGISTERED OFFICE

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Mob.: +91 99561 27040, Ph.: +91 512 6553705
Web.: www.vsrdpublishing.com, Email: vsrdpublishing@gmail.com

MARKETING OFFICE (NORTH INDIA)

Basement-2, Villa-10, Block-V, Charmwood Village, FARIDABAD–121009 (HY) (INDIA)
Mob.: +91 98999 36803, Ph.: +91 129 4036803
Web.: www.vsrdpublishing.com, Email: vsrdpublishing@gmail.com

MARKETING OFFICE (SOUTH INDIA)

340, First Floor, Adarsh Nagar, Oshiwara, Andheri(W), MUMBAI–400053 (MH) (INDIA)
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FOREWORD



JUSTICE RAGHUBIR DASH FORMER JUDGE ODISHA HIGH COURT

A vibrant democracy requires an enlightened, informed and empowered citizenry. Democracy is sustained with openness and free debate. Secrecy is the anti-thesis of democratic principles. The Right to Information Act, 2005 is a milestone for the progressive society like India. It has ushered in a new era in the area of good governance. It is a beautiful piece of legislation to eliminate the curse of corruption. The passing of the enactment is not enough to reach the objective. It requires to be utilized with affirmative action. It is a challenged task to implement at different levels. There is high need to spread the working condition of RTI Act. The learned authors, Dr. B.K. Das and R.K. Satapathy have tried to explain various facts concerning current development of the Act.

I would like to compliment the authors of this book for creating an opportunity for students, academicians, officials and all the stakeholders of public administration. They have tried to provide some important pronouncements of Central Information Commission, the State Information Commission of high importance. They have tried to touch some virgin area in the context of RTI. I anticipate that this publication will prove fruitful for common men and intellectuals.

Place : Cuttack
Date : 14.06.2016



Raghubir Dash
(Former Judge)
High Court of Odisha

PREFACE

Democratic government can't survive without accountability and transparency. Disclosure of information with regards to the functioning of the government reflects the true value of our democratic life. Openness is one of the surest means of healthy democratic living. It paves the path to end corruption and protects the rights of citizen. The Right to Information Act, 2005 is a big step to make the people aware about the activities of the government. It is a means to empower citizen to know about their government and welfare activities to endure social justice. However, the Right to Information Act will be futile, unless more information concerning the Act is disseminated in diverse form. This book is an honest attempt to spread information in the light of constitutional goals. It contains some important decisions of adjudicating authorities and it highlighted the legislative venture of the enactment. It is a mere initiative to enlighten people to achieve the democratic spirit.

The book is divided in to ten chapters. In all the chapters the basic objective of the law is discussed and complexities of the provisions have been explained. This book is designed to cover origin, scope, object and development of Right to Information. It will be a user friendly book for the students, academicians, govt. Official, and social activist and common men. The arrangement of the chapter makes the reading easy and simple. We are confident that the layman who have occasion to peep into it will grow awareness. We have enjoined appendices which will help the professionals to have easy reference. At the end, we sincerely request our readers to give their feedback for further improvement and make the endeavour purposeful.

Sambalpur

Dated: 12.07.2016



✍ Ramakanta Satapathy



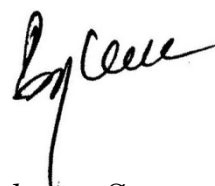
✍ Dr. Bikram Kumar Das

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Sambalpur

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✍ Ramakanta Satapathy



✍ Dr. Bikram Kumar Das

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