

## Right to Information Act

The Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005 is a tool that checks corruption, and holds the various bodies, agencies and department of the government accountable to the public. This prevents arbitrary state Action, which is the hallmark of a responsible democracy. The RTI Act has laid out a mission statement of sorts by stating that it is essentially a practical roadmap, detailing how citizens of India can gain access to information which in turn will promote good governance. Indeed, the Act itself states that the 'paramountcy' of the democratic ideal must be preserved by reconciling and harmonizing information that must be shared with the public, and secure information, that is integral to the security and economy of India. RTI application is simply:

- STEP 1 identifying the issue.
- STEP 2 Identifying the relevant department of the government. The law mandates a 'Public Information Officer (PIO)' to transfer the application to relevant department in case the applicant refers the application to the wrong department, in no case can the application be returned to the applicant.
- STEP3 On a plain sheet of paper, addressed to the 'Public Information Officer' of the relevant department write down your questions. This can be in a simple letter format with the subject; Application under Right to Information Act 2005 (there is no prescribed application form under the law the for filling an RTI application).
- SETP4 Paying a fee of Rs. 10The following modes of payments are acceptable a) Court Fees Stamp b) Cash c) Government Treasury d)Demand Draft e)'State Bank of India Payment can made under the RTI account head and the receipt should be attached to the application and sent by Registered Post Acknowledgement Due.
- STEP 5 The PIO should respond within 30 days of the receipt of the application failing which the applicant should make the 1<sup>st</sup> appeal to the appellate Authority' of the same department. The appeal should be addressed to the 'Appellate Authority (the postal address is usually the same as the POI).
- STEP 6 The Appellate gets anther 30 days to respond failing which the applicant can make the 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal to the 'State Information Commission' (for the state govt. depts.) or 'Central Information Commission' (for central govt. depts.) as the case may be.

### **Central Information Commission**

5<sup>th</sup> floor, Block No IV, Old JNU Campus, New Delhi 110 067

## Contact us

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# India No Bribe Coalition



[www.nobribe.co.in](http://www.nobribe.co.in)

Break BRIBERY

Cancel 'COVERS'

Value VALUES

Honour HONESTY

Stand for STANDARDS

## Spread the Virus!

We hate bribery! Most Indians detest the whole system of bribery which bleeds our time, efforts, resources and wealth to line the pockets of a tiny percentage of corrupt, controlling people. They have held us to ransom because we have not known how to fight the system. The bribe takers have had the upper hand because each 'bribe-hater' has been fighting on his own. But things are changing!

INBC brings the strength of a united voice and common purpose, backed by lakhs of people, to oppose any request for a bribe. We unite around a simple logo, which is spreading like a virus across the nation. Associates print it on their business cards and letterheads, and bribe-takers will groan when they see and recognise the logo. The more people who use it and stand with it, the more powerful it is. Our job is to infect

## Modus operandi

INBC will:

1. Operate informally to provide an easy, visible means for helping the fight against bribery.
2. Have no central organization or finances. If any person or organisation wishes to contribute to the fight, we would provide design material so that they can print stickers and/or visiting cards at their own cost, or pay for advertisements about INBC.
3. Encourage organisations and individuals to print the INBC logo on their own visiting cards with a reference to [www.nobribe.co.in](http://www.nobribe.co.in)
4. Maintain a register of organizations and individuals who agree to the above commitment and who are willing to use INBC stickers and/or cards. This register would be posted and regularly updated on the website.
5. Develop the web site to include stories of people who have achieved success while refusing to pay bribes. While they may have incurred losses in the process, they are nevertheless examples that show that not everyone does it, and that it is possible to get things done without bribes. These would counter the common refrains "everyone does it" and "it is impossible to get things done without paying bribes".
6. Seek associates through personal contacts and all other means
7. Seek out like minded organizations and NGO's – in India and overseas - to find means of co-operation in the fight against bribery, share success stories and learn strategies.
8. Publicise its activities and progress through all forms of media
9. Remove from the web site any associate or organisation found to be paying bribes. No other action would be taken by INBC.



[www.nobribe.co.in](http://www.nobribe.co.in)

## The Coalition

The India No Bribe Coalition (INBC) is a coming together of Indian businesses and individuals. A coalition is a group of people who stand together for a defined purpose, which, in this case, is to stop the giving and taking of bribes. Associates of the coalition will come from different business, social, economic and religious backgrounds, and are not required, or expected, to agree on other issues. Their only agreement is to work together to oppose bribery. The coalition will develop links to other groups that are fighting corruption and make common purpose where possible.

## Commitment

- Not to pay a bribe of any nature
- Not to ask another party to give a bribe on their behalf
- Not to ask for a bribe of any nature
- Not to receive a bribe of any nature

## You can help spread the 'no bribe' virus if you,

- download the logo from the website
- print the logo on your business cards, letterheads, publicity
- ask us for INBC stickers which you can use on your existing business cards. We also have plain business cards with the INBC logo. These are all available free to associates.
- use the Right to Information Act if you face a roadblock at a Government office. email us at [indianobribe@gmail.com](mailto:indianobribe@gmail.com) so that you can be listed on the website
- place INBC ads in local or national newspapers to infect more people. Ideas for ads are available with INBC
- infect as many people as possible with the 'nobribe' virus. A simple email from you can be highly contagious.

## Associates who make this commitment would

1. agree that their name and/or organization is listed on the INBC web site
2. attach the INBC logo sticker to their own visiting cards, use the INBC visiting card or print the INBC logo on their own visiting cards and/or letterheads. Stickers, cards and the logo design would be provided free by INBC
3. provide information to other INBC associates about any request for a bribe so that help can be mobilised.
4. provide assistance to any associate who is faced with a demand for a bribe. This could include making calls or sending emails, offering their knowledge of the offending organization or individuals, and/or supporting an associate in any other way.
5. seek to recruit like-minded individuals and organizations to become associates of INBC.