

COURSE-III OPTIONAL-II: RIGHT TO INFORMATION

UNIT-I

Historical development of Freedom of Information in Sweden, USA & UK. Right to Information before Right to Information Act, 2005 in India. Significance in democracy; Constitutional basis; Supreme Court on right to information.

UNIT-II

RTI Act- definitions; Right to information and obligations of public authorities.

UNIT-III

Central information commission; State information commission; Powers and functions of information commissions; Appeals and penalties.

UNIT-IV

Other related laws - The Official Secrets Act, 1923; The Public Records Act, 1993; The Public Records Rules, 1997; The Freedom of Information Act, 2002; The Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952; The Commission of Inquiry (Central) Rules, 1972.

UNIT-V

RTI Judicial response: Supreme Court & High Court decisions on RTI: Best practices - A study of decisions rendered by state commissions and central Commission in the following areas of Police, Revenue, PWD, Irrigation, Secretariat, BSNL, Posts and Telegraphs, Scheduled Banks, CPWD, Income Tax Department, Central Excise Department, Local Authorities.

Prescribed Books:

- J.H.Barowalia, Commentary on the right to Information Act (Universal Law Publications)
- Kamath, Nandan, A Guide to Cyber Laws and IT Act, 2000 with Rules and Notifications, 3rd Edition, (Universal Law Publisher, 2007)

Reference Books:

- Dr. Farooq Ahmed, Cyber Law in India, 3rd Edition, (New Era Law Publisher, 2008)
- Joga Rao, S.V., Law Relating to Right to Information-A Comprehensive and Insightful Commentary
- with comparative Perspectives, (Jain Book Agency, 2009)

Dr. Madubhushi Sridhar: Right to Information, Law & Practice (latest edition).