

Publication of a Special Book on “Freedom of Information”

Centre for Transparency and Accountability in Governance (CTAG), National Law University Delhi, India (*National Law University, Delhi established in 2008 by Act No.1 of 2008 of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Govt of Delhi, is one of the premier law universities established in India*) has been constituted to uphold the commitment of the rule of law and good governance. The Centre emphasizes on sensitizing people on transparency and accountability in governance; empowering people such as students, lawyers, & public officials to contribute effectively to ensure transparency and accountability in governance; and creating and promoting quality research in the area of transparency and accountability in governance. The Centre also provides for free of cost consultative services, training, sensitization and promotion, on Right to Information, Labour and Industrial Laws governance and other governance related issues.

The CTAG has organised some International Conferences on various dimensions of Corruption and governance, in 2012, 2013, 2015, and 2016 national workshop on freedom of information/RTI, 2013 and other events. The Centre regularly publishes “*International Journal of Transparency and Accountability in Governance*” covering contemporary challenges arising out of abuse of public resources and quality of governance.

The CTAG has also entered into formal MOUs with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), India, the Association for Democratic Reforms, (ADR) New Delhi, and National Campaign for People’s Right to Information (NCPRI), New Delhi for the promotion of transparency and accountability in governance. The CTAG and Transparency International India (TII) have also been collaborating for the advancement of transparency in the operations of the state since Jan 2012.

In order to promote endurance of innovative thinking and quality research in the fields of transparency and accountability in governance, through *Access to Information/Right to information/ Freedom of Information endeavours*, The CTAG has decided to publish a Special book titled “**Freedom of Information**” with ISBN number, by International/national publisher, covering the following themes:

Note: (Freedom of Information is also known as ‘Access to information’ and ‘Right to Information’ (RTI) across the globe)

1. International instruments & modal freedom of information drafts and municipal laws
2. Effectiveness of Pro-active disclosure scheme
3. Freedom of Information/Right to Information Laws and Corruption Control

4. Accountability of the Public Authority, Public Information officers and Information Commissioners.
5. Nature and Scope of Exemptions under the Freedom of Information Laws
6. Dilution of access to Information by the Judiciary.
7. Empowerment and accountability of the Information Commissions
8. Transparency Reforms related to functioning of the Right to Information Schemes.
9. Protection to Right to information (RTI) Applicants/whistleblowers under Law.
10. Political Parties under RTI/Freedom of information scheme
11. Private Institutions performing public functions and Access to information
12. International Public and Private Organisations under the ambit of RTI/Freedom of Information
13. Comparative Analysis of Freedom of Information Laws in the SAARC Nations: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Maldives, and Bangladesh
14. Challenges of the Freedom of Information/Right to Information endeavours in the SAARC Nations.
15. Role of International Bodies/institutions in promoting Freedom of Information endeavours
16. Fundamentals of Freedom of Information laws across the world
17. UN Convention On Freedom Of Information: 1966
18. UN Model Freedom Of Information Law
19. Commonwealth Model Freedom Of Information Law
20. Critical Comparative analysis of FOIs across the World
 - a. US Freedom Of Information Act, 1966
 - b. UK Freedom Of Information Act, 2000
 - c. Indian Right To Information Law, 2005
 - d. Swedish, German, French and *others Freedom of Information Laws*
 - e. Access to information in the common law and civil law systems
21. Feasibility of the Global Model Freedom Of Information Law
22. Abuse or misuse of RTI or freedom of information instruments
23. Support of political parties for the promotion of Right to information
24. Empirical Research/studies on access to information
25. Role of print and electronic media in promoting access to information.
26. Above themes are only illustrative but not exhaustive. Research paper may select any specific topic related to the major premise of the publication.

Research paper should apply research skills and use of appropriate research methodology. Research paper must highlight specific research problem/Issue and should also reflect on the viable solution of the /problems/issues identified. Research paper including foot notes should not exceed the words limit of 12000 words.

At the end of the paper, there should be a brief profile of the author with his e-mail ID, contact number and address.

Papers received after the stipulated deadline will not be entertained. Papers received shall be subject to the scrutiny of double blind reviews by the Editorial Board and Panel of experts.

Empirical Research papers & Non-Empirical research papers, analysing specific issue(s), without any generalisation, will be given priority in the publication.

Papers are accepted for publication on the condition that they do not infringe the copyright or any other rights of any third parties and that the work does not contain any obscene, offensive, defamatory, or racially prejudiced material. As a condition of the publication, authors grant the CTAG, NLU Delhi, India, an irrevocable, transferable, non-exclusive, royalty-free right and license to reproduce, publish and distribute their submission(s) in all print media including electronic services.

Please consider the following specifications while submitting research papers for the book:

Guidelines for Submissions:

- Submissions should be in Times New Roman font of size 12 with 1.5 line spacing, justified text and 1 inch margins on all sides of an A4 sheet. (page number)
- Footnotes should be in Times New Roman font of size 10 with 1.0 line spacing. Endnotes are not allowed.
- Graphics, Charts, Tables, and Diagrams should be numbered consecutively and included in the body of the work. Submission must be compatible with Microsoft Word

• **Headings should follow the following standard:**

- **1. LEVEL 1 HEADING:** All Capitals & **Bold**;
- **1.1. LEVEL 2 SUB-HEADING** First Letter CAPITAL & **BOLD**;
- **1.1.1. Level 3 Sub-Sub-Heading:** First Letter CAPITAL & **BOLD & ITALIC**;
- **1.1.1.1. Level 4 Sub-Sub-Sub-Heading:** Normal

- All manuscripts must be accompanied by an abstract of about **250- 300 words** stating the theme of the paper precisely along with keywords.

- The submission must be the original work of the authors. Any form of plagiarism will lead to disqualification.
- Submitted entries must not have been sent for consideration to any other place for publication.
- One Co-author is allowed.
- Authors should provide their contact details, designation and institutional affiliation in the covering letter for the submission.
- Footnotes must conform to the **BLUE BOOK**; Rules of citation (Latest Edition)
- Copyright of all entries shall exclusively vest with NLU Delhi. The submission would imply that the author has assigned such rights to NLU Delhi.

Important Date: The last date for submission: June 15, 2016

Contact Information: Email: ictag@yahoo.co.in or ctag@nludelhi.ac.in

Editor In Chief: Prof. (Dr.) Ranbir Singh, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Delhi, India

Executive Editor: Dr. Jeet Singh Mann, Associate Professor of Public Law, Director, *Centre for Transparency and Accountability in Governance (CTAG)*, National Law University, Delhi, India; Web site: www.nludelhi.ac.in