



Internal Quality Assurance Cell University of Calcutta

A Report

IQAC Sensitization Workshop-cum-Training Programme on

Major Reflections on Right To Information: Awareness, Challenges and Perspectives

Organized jointly with

Law Office, Registrar's Department, CU

in the Senate Hall University of Calcutta on 21st May, 2026 at 2:30 P.M.

IQAC Sensitization Workshop-cum-Training Programme on the theme **“Major Reflections on Right To Information: Awareness, Challenges and Perspectives”** was successfully organized jointly with the Law Office, Registrar’s Office on 21st May, 2026 at 2:30 P.M. in the Senate Hall of the University of Calcutta. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from Officers, Superintendents, faculty members and other stakeholders of the University, reflecting the growing importance of awareness and understanding regarding the Right to Information Act in institutional administration and governance. Prof Pijushkanti Panigrahi, Director, IQAC welcomes the gathering mentioning the need of such workshop and immense support of Prof Ashutosh Ghosh, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof Debasis Das, Registrar in organizing this IQAC Sensitization Workshop-cum-Training Programme.



The workshop commenced with a warm welcome to the distinguished Speakers, Shri Rahul Kumar Samanta, Additional Director, NSATI, West Bengal, and Shri Saurav Sengupta, Learned Advocate, Calcutta High Court. Prof Ashutosh Ghosh, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the program highlighting major points of RTI and problems faced by the University. Prof Debasis Das pointed out the challenges of replying queries by the University. The inaugural session created an atmosphere of academic seriousness and administrative relevance, setting the tone for a highly interactive and informative programme. The presence of senior officials and dignitaries further enhanced the significance of the event.



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The programme was graced by the august presence of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Asutosh Ghosh, and the Registrar, Prof. Debasis Das, whose encouragement and support added immense value to the workshop. Their emphasis on transparency, accountability and institutional responsibility under the RTI framework inspired the participants and highlighted the University's commitment towards promoting good governance and administrative efficiency.



During the technical sessions, both the resource persons delivered highly informative, practical, and thought-provoking deliberations on various dimensions of the Right to Information Act. Shri Rahul Kumar Samanta elaborated on the importance of RTI awareness among public authorities, emphasizing proactive disclosure, record management, and the responsibilities of Public Information Officers. He also discussed the common administrative challenges faced by institutions while dealing with RTI applications and provided practical guidance on ensuring compliance with statutory obligations.

Shri Saurav Sengupta, Learned Advocate of the Calcutta High Court, discussed the legal and procedural aspects of RTI in a lucid and comprehensive manner. His presentation focused on recent legal interpretations, case studies, practical implications of RTI-related disputes, and the role of transparency in strengthening democratic

institutions. The participants greatly benefited from his insightful explanations regarding exemptions, appeals, and legal responsibilities under the RTI Act.



One of the most remarkable features of the workshop was the highly interactive session between the speakers and the participants. Officers, Superintendents and Faculty members actively participated by raising practical queries and sharing experiences related to RTI implementation in their respective departments. The speakers responded to the questions with clarity and precision, making the sessions lively, engaging, and practically useful. The exchange of ideas significantly enhanced the participants' understanding of RTI-related procedures, challenges, and best practices.

The workshop proved to be highly successful in creating awareness and strengthening institutional understanding regarding RTI practices and responsibilities. Participants expressed their deep appreciation for the relevance, quality, and usefulness of the programme. Many participants observed that the sessions provided them with greater clarity regarding legal obligations, administrative procedures, and effective handling of RTI matters within the University framework. The practical examples and case-based discussions made the programme especially beneficial and intellectually enriching.

A notable aspect of the feedback received from the participants was the strong demand for organizing a more extensive programme of similar nature in the near future. Several participants expressed the view that the subject matter was highly relevant and vast, requiring more detailed deliberations and practical training. In view of the overwhelming response and the keen interest shown by the attendees, many participants requested the University authorities to arrange another one-day extension programme or an advanced follow-up workshop exclusively dedicated to practical RTI case handling, drafting of replies, appellate procedures, and recent judicial developments relating to RTI. Such feedback clearly reflects the success, effectiveness, and impact of the workshop among the participants.



Special appreciation is due to the IQAC, Law Section, and all members of the organizing team of the University of Calcutta for their sincere efforts, meticulous planning, and efficient coordination in ensuring the smooth and successful conduct of the programme. Their dedicated teamwork and administrative support played a crucial role in making the event meaningful and well-organized.

The University authorities deserve heartfelt gratitude for encouraging such important awareness and capacity-building initiatives, which contribute significantly towards promoting transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and good governance within the institution. Programmes of this nature not only strengthen administrative knowledge but also foster a culture of responsibility and openness among stakeholders.



Overall, the Sensitization Workshop-cum-Training Programme was highly successful and achieved its objectives effectively. The programme left a positive and lasting impact on all participants and created a strong foundation for further academic and administrative engagement on RTI-related issues. The enthusiastic participation and the demand for an additional one-day programme clearly indicate the necessity and usefulness of continuing such training initiatives in future for the greater benefit of the University community. Mr Jyotirmoy Roy, Deputy Registrar (BCW) and SPIO, CU proposed vote of thanks.

---IQAC and Law Office Team