



**DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIYA NATIONAL LAW
UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW**

(An Institution Established by the Government of Uttar Pradesh)

Presents

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE RIGHT TO
INFORMATION ACT, 2005: TWO DECADES OF
TRANSPARENCY AND DEMOCRATIC
ACCOUNTABILITY**

Advancing Citizens' Right to Know

15TH – 16TH NOVEMBER 2025

Venue

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University

Sec- D1, LDA Colony, Kanpur Road Scheme,
Lucknow – 226012, Uttar Pradesh, India

ABOUT THE DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIYA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University was established by an Act of Govt. of Uttar Pradesh in 2005, U.P. Act No.28 of 2005 and came into being on 4th of January 2006 to meet up the new challenges in legal field and to strengthen the vision that was given by the establishment of first National Law School of the country. Originally incorporated as 'Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law Institute, Uttar Pradesh' word 'Institute' was substituted by the 'University' later, vide an amendment in the Act in November 2006. This was done to give a comprehensive national character to the Institute on lines with the other premier National Law Universities of the Country.

The University, which is getting liberal grants from the State Government, is committed to provide excellent infrastructural facilities and environment to advance and disseminate learning and knowledge of law and legal process and to develop in the students and research scholars a sense of responsibilities to serve the society in the field of law by developing skills in advocacy, judicial and other legal services and legislation and the like. The present law has to meet the requirements of the society, which is entering into 21st Century. Law has to deal with problems of diverse magnitudes and a student of law, and an Advocate has to be trained in Professional skills to meet the challenges of globalization and universalization of law. With the advent of multinationals in India as anywhere else, the task of lawyers would be highly technical, and an imperative need would arise to have competent lawyers who would be trained in the right culture of Legal Education. This makes a sound case for introducing reforms in Legal Education, and we at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University aim at all these aspects.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This conference marks the twentieth anniversary of the enactment of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005, in India. Over two decades, RTI has been a cornerstone in promoting transparency, citizen empowerment, and accountable governance. However, new challenges such as digital governance, privacy conflicts, implementation gaps, and comparative international practices demand a renewed, critical reflection.

By hosting this two-day international conference, RMLNLU aims to bring together practitioners,

academics, policymakers, information commissioners, and civil society to:

- Revisit and review the journey and impact of RTI in India
- Integrate global perspectives on information laws
- Identify challenges, gaps, and future trajectories
- Promote interdisciplinary and comparative research

The conference will consist of keynote addresses and sessions for paper presentations.

CONCEPT NOTE

The RTI Act has transformed India's administrative landscape by enabling citizens to access government-held information. Over the past twenty years, it has catalyzed transparency, fostered investigative journalism, empowered marginalized communities, and served as a check on corruption. Yet, as governance evolves especially in the digital age, the RTI regime faces fresh tests: issues of cybersecurity, algorithmic decision making, data privacy, proactive disclosures, and balancing openness with national security.

This conference is conceived as a platform to interrogate the past, assess the present, and envision the future of RTI and related information laws. It will also facilitate exchange of best practices from jurisdictions abroad and encourage policy-oriented recommendations. We hope to generate scholarship, debate, and actionable insights that would be relevant to policymakers, civil society, and academia.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. To critically examine the legal, institutional, and social impact of RTI over twenty years.
2. To explore intersections between RTI and emerging issues like digital governance.
3. To foster comparative dialogue by inviting information commissioners and experts.
4. To deliberate on contemporary challenges facing transparency and accountability.
5. To provide a scholarly forum for students, research scholars, and academicians to present original research.

CALL FOR PAPERS

We cordially invite academicians, research scholars, lawyers, students, and professionals to submit their

unpublished and original research papers on the sub-themes to be covered in different technical sessions during the International Conference.

THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

1. Institutional Practices & Implementation

- i. Functioning of Central and State Information Commissions
- ii. Procedural and administrative challenges in implementation
- iii. Role and accountability of Public Information Officers (PIOs)
- iv. Backlog, pendency, and disposal rates of RTI appeals
- v. Institutional reforms and capacity-building mechanisms

2. RTI in the Digital Governance Era

- i. RTI and proactive disclosure through digital platforms
- ii. Integration of e-governance and open data systems
- iii. Use of ICT and AI in transparency enforcement
- iv. Cybersecurity, data storage, and electronic record management
- v. Digital divide and accessibility challenges in exercising RTI

3. Privacy, Data Protection & RTI

- i. Conflict between RTI and the right to privacy
- ii. Interpretation of Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act
- iii. Handling of sensitive personal data under RTI requests
- iv. Judicial approach to privacy vs. public interest disclosure
- v. Harmonizing transparency with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

4. Judicial & Legislative Interface

- i. Landmark judgments shaping RTI jurisprudence
- ii. Constitutional basis of the "Right to Know" under Article 19(1)(a)
- iii. Legislative amendments and their impact on the RTI regime
- iv. Role of tribunals and appellate authorities
- v. Judicial approach to balancing national security and transparency

5. Comparative & International Perspectives

- i. Comparative study of global freedom of information laws

- ii. RTI and international commitments under SDG 16
- iii. Innovations and best practices from other jurisdictions
- iv. Global organizations and their role in promoting transparency
- v. International cooperation and cross-jurisdictional learning

The above sub-themes are indicative and not exhaustive. Participants are encouraged to submit papers on any other topic relevant to the main theme of the conference.

NOTE: A book comprising selected high-quality research papers presented at the conference will be published by the organizers. The publication will carry an **ISBN number**, and the papers will be **selected through a rigorous review process** by the Editorial Committee.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

- Students
- Academics/Faculty
- Research Scholar
- Legal Professionals/Practitioners

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ABSTRACT

- **Length:** Approximately 300 words + 5 keywords
- **Font / Style:** Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing; **Title** [Times New Roman, 14 points, 1.5 line spacing, Bold, All Caps, Centre Aligned]
- **Cover Page Must Include:** Name, Designation / Institution, Contact Details, Email ID
- **Submission Format:** Microsoft Word (.doc / .docx)
- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 25th October, 2025

FULL PAPER

- **Word Limit:** 5,000–7,000 words (excluding footnotes)
- **Font / Style:** Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing; **Title** [Times New Roman, 14 points, 1.5 line spacing, Bold, All Caps, Centre Aligned]
- **Footnotes:** Times New Roman, 10 pt, single spacing
- **Alignment & Page Setup:** Justified text, A4 size, 1-inch margins
- **Citation:** Use **ILI Journal Style** for footnoting
- **Co-authorship:** Maximum two authors
- **Plagiarism Limit:** 10%

- **Submission Format:** Microsoft Word (.doc / .docx)
- **Full Paper Submission Deadline:** 7th November, 2025

All submissions will be subject to a plagiarism check, and any paper exceeding the permissible plagiarism limit will be immediately disqualified from presentation and publication consideration.

All paper presentations will be conducted strictly in **offline mode** at the University campus. **Online or virtual presentations will not be permitted** under any circumstances, and authors of accepted papers are required to be physically present during their respective sessions to present their work before the panel and participants.

HOW TO SUBMIT?

All abstracts and full papers must be submitted via email only to the official conference email ID. Please mention the **email subject and file name** as either “**Abstract – International Conference on RTI**” or “**Full Paper – International Conference on RTI**”. While composing the email, kindly include your Name, Designation, Institution, Contact Number, and Email ID.

Submission Email for Abstract and Full Paper: rticonference2025@gmail.com

In addition, authors are required to complete the registration process before the specified deadline to confirm their participation.

Note for Co-Authors: All co-authors are required to register themselves and pay the applicable fees as per their category (Student, Research Scholar, Academician, or Professional). **Registration of one author does not imply automatic registration for co-authors.**

Participants not presenting papers are also welcome to attend the conference. Such participants must register themselves through the official Google Form and pay the applicable registration fee within the stipulated time.

AWARDS

- **Best Paper Award:** Presented to the author of the paper judged to have the highest research quality and will be awarded a cash prize of **Rs. 10000**.

- **Best Paper Presenter Award:** Presented to the participant delivering the most effective and engaging presentation and will be awarded a cash prize of **Rs. 5000**.
- All **paper presenters** will receive a *Certificate of Presentation*.
- All **attendees** will receive a *Certificate of Participation*.

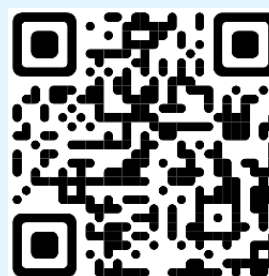
TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

<u>Schedule of Events</u>	<u>Date</u>
Abstract Submission Deadline	25 th October 2025
Notification of Abstract Selection	27 th October 2025
Full Paper Submission Deadline	7 th November 2025
Registration & Fee Payment Deadline	7 th November 2025
Conference Dates	15 th –16 th November 2025

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Participants may register through the following link of QR Code:

<https://forms.gle/mM9GCH9eBLLAb1ReA>



PAYMENT DETAILS

1. Registration Fee

- Students: ₹750/-
- Research Scholars: ₹1000/-
- Academicians/Professionals: ₹1500/-

The registration fees shall include the conference kit, lunch, and certificate for all paper presenters and attendees.

Note for Co-Authors: All co-authors are required to register themselves and pay the applicable fees as per their category (Student, Research Scholar, Academician, or Professional). **Registration of one author does not imply automatic registration for co-authors.**

Note: Transport and accommodation facilities will **not** be provided to the participants.

2. Mode of Payment

- Payment shall be made **only through online mode**.

3. Steps for Payment of Registration Fee

- **Step 1:** Visit the registration payment link:
<https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=288415>
- **Step 2:** Select **Category:** Educational Institution
- **Step 3:** Enter the **Institution Name:** DR RAM MANOHAR LOHIA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY
- **Step 4:** Select **Payment Category:** Registration Fee
- **Step 5:** Choose **Event/Academic Activity:** Seminar/Workshop
- **Step 6:** Complete the form by entering the required details along with the **Name of the Event: International Conference on RTI** and then proceed with the payment.
- **Step 7:** Upload the payment receipt on the Google Form provided in the registration details.

FOR ALL QUERIES:

For any questions or assistance, participants may contact the organizing committee via email: rticonference2025@gmail.com

Participants may also reach out to the **Student Organizing Committee members** directly via their phone numbers for guidance and support.

Note: Please message via **WhatsApp** only.

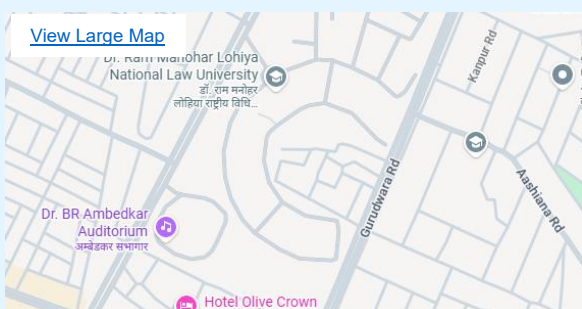
VENUE:

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HOW TO REACH RMLNLU

- 08 KM from Charbagh Railway Station
- 05 KM form Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, Amausi, Lucknow,



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

PATRON-IN-CHIEF



Prof. (Dr.) Amar Pal Singh
Vice-Chancellor

PATRON



Prof. (Dr.) Manish Singh
Head of Department, Law

CONVENOR



Prof. (Dr.) Rajneesh Kumar Yadav
Professor of Law

CO-CONVENOR



Dr. Maneesh Kumar Bajpai
University Librarian

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