

Anti-Bribe Campaign

Assessment of the Enactment of the RTI Act in Government Departments by an active squad of the RTI Campaign

07 Dec 2007

RTI Kanpur organized a mobile camp today to determine, and collect information on the



implementation and current state of the RTI Act in various government departments in the city of Kanpur. The mobile camp started at 12 PM from the office of the SSP. A PIO board was found displayed outside this office, but the PIO himself was missing in action. The next stop of the active squad was the food provisioning department. In this department, both the PIO and the PIO board were available. Complaints had been registered against this department as it was not providing information. The RTI activists spoke to the PIO in this context, and the PIO assured them that information would be provided ASAP.

The mobile camp next reached the electricity department, KESCO, to find out RTI related facts. RTI applications were being filed here, and a board was also displayed in this office. The activists found Ravikant at this office, who was working as a postal scribe here. Ravikant narrated his story on how the RTI Act had helped him win the battle to retain his job. Ravikant's service record had been misplaced at the head office of KESCO because of which he had been receiving the same salary for 5 years. His multiple pleas to the MD, and several other officers had fallen on deaf ears. Finally he asked for information regarding his service record using the RTI Act. After being reprimanded by the central information committee, the MD provided the service record to Ravikant, and gave him a raise. 60 year old Ravikant was ecstatic to say that the RTI Act is a weapon for the common man which can help one win the battle for truth.



The next stop of the mobile camp was at the Water Department where the PIO was missing, and the primary scribe was accepting applications instead. The primary scribe informed the activists that the water department had been split into 6 zones with an APIO per zone so that public could receive information in a timely manner. Next the activists reached KDA after a brief stopover at the municipal corporation office. In both these departments, an RTI board was found displayed, and receipts were being provided to applicants.



The mobile camp was concluded at this point. An application was filed by the activist squad at all the departments that were covered inquiring about the implementation of Section 6B of the RTI Act. Also these departments were asked to provide details [name and address] on the number of applications that had been filed so far, and the number of applications that had been addressed.



The main participants in this mobile camp were activists from the RTI campaign of Uttar Pradesh, Jan Chetna Kala Manch, Lok Sevak Madal, Jan Soochna Jagriti Mission, Soochna JanHitaay Jaagrakta Kendra, NAPM, Asha Parivar and various labor / people's unions.

Press Coverage

