

Major amendments carried out with regard to implementation of RTI Act, 2005

1. Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019

This is the only formal amendment to the RTI Act in the last decade that has been enacted by Parliament. It changed key governance provisions:

- The Act removed the fixed term of 5 years for the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners at both Central and State levels. Earlier, their term and service conditions were fixed in the original Act. After the 2019 amendment, these are to be determined by the Central Government through rules.
- Similarly, the fixed salary and service conditions that were to be equivalent to that of Election Commissioners and Supreme Court judges were also changed now the Government prescribes these through rules.
- Broadly, this amendment has reduced the statutory autonomy of Information Commissioners by giving the executive government the power to decide their tenure, pay, and service conditions. [Central Information Commission+2PRS Legislative Research+2](#)

Key points of the 2019 Amendment:

- Changed Section 13 and related provisions so that the term of office is not fixed by the Act but by Government notification.
- Alters the manner in which salaries and service conditions of CIC/ICs are determined (executive discretion rather than automatic statutory equivalence). [Central Information Commission+1](#)

2. Related Legal Developments Impacting RTI Application (Not direct amendments but relevant)

While not RTI Act amendments per se, the following legal changes have affected the practical application of RTI within the last decade (especially recently):

a. Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

- This law amended how personal data is treated in the context of RTI by modifying the scope of Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act personal data whose disclosure would be an invasion of privacy can be excluded from information disclosure, even if it is held by public authorities.
- This change has the effect of limiting the information available under RTI, especially for personal details that were previously accessible unless exempt under RTI's own provisions.

b. Evolving RTI Rules and practices

- Although the RTI Rules were notified earlier (e.g., the RTI Rules of 2012 remain in force), changes in rules or guidelines from the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) continue to affect procedure (e.g., timelines, online filing processes, etc.). Specific rule revisions are less frequent but guidelines evolve with digital practices. [Central Information Commission](#)

Summary — Key Changes in Last 10 Years

Year	Change	Effect
2019	RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019	Removed fixed 5-year tenure & statutory conditions for CIC/ICs; Government determines terms & service conditions. Central Information Commission
2023	Digital Personal Data Protection Act	Limited RTI disclosure of personal data by redefining exemptions; impacts RTI implementation.

Note

- No other major amendment to the RTI Act itself has been passed by Parliament in the last decade besides the 2019 amendment.
- Most discussions on changes (e.g., proposed bills in 2023) relate to proposed amendments that have not yet been enacted into law.

Remarks

- For further updated guidelines, kindly visit CIC website at <https://cic.gov.in/>