

Right to Information Act 2005

The dictum “**Knowledge is Power**” is truly applicable to the modern world and information is the most important means to acquire knowledge.

The information in the possession of the Public Authorities by itself does not give any added value to the public. This information belongs to the public and is held for the benefit of the public. UN General Assembly realised this and has resolved that freedom of information is a fundamental human right and touchstone for all freedoms to which the UN is consecrated. The Human Rights Initiative propounds that the right to information underpins all other human rights.

How to apply for seeking information from Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd (BL) :

BL accepts application from citizens in plain paper. The applications should contain:

- The name of the applicant
- The address for correspondence
- Details of the information sought by the applicant
- Currently BL does not have any provision to receive RTI applications by e-mail.

The fee to be forwarded with the application is Rs.10/- (Rupees Ten).

Fee (including Additional Fee) is payable by way of DEMAND DRAFT / BANKER PAY ORDER (drawn on any scheduled Bank)/INDIAN POSTAL ORDER in favour of “Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.”and payable at Kolkata. Variations in this shall lead to rejection of the application for want of proper RTI basic fee.

Court fee stamps, Treasury Payments, Bond Papers, Payments at Post offices are NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Please note that additional fee payable on account of document copies / document inspection, if any, shall be advised by the CPIO to the information seeker, on need basis.

In line with the tenets of the RTI Act 2005, citizens who are Below Poverty Line (BPL) need not pay the prescribed fees. It is essential that BPL Citizens enclose a proof of them belonging to the BPL category.