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# RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT: A TOOL FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Good governance is a form of governance by which institutions implement results that meet the needs of the society. Good governance is a form of administration wherein there is sustainable use of natural resources and the environment. For good governance to function effectively, it is imperative that citizens form a part of the decision-making process. This is possible by way of a citizen's right to collect as well as share information. The foundation of a functional democracy lies in its well-informed citizens.

The idea of transparency and openness in good governance finds its roots in India in the fundamental right of Freedom of speech and expression enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) of the constitution. The supreme court has declared that this right includes the right of a citizens to both receive and impart information.

Article 19 of United Nations' International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 says that— "everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the right includes freedom to hold opinion without interference and to seek, and receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."<sup>1</sup>

In order to uphold the covenant as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), India imbibed the concept of liberty of thought and expression both in the preamble as well as provisions of the constitution.

The impetus on a citizen's right to information became popular in India in the 1990s and as a result the Law Commission in its 179<sup>th</sup> report of 2001 called upon the need for easy access to information by citizens. This resulted in the formulation of the Freedom of Information Act,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.caluniv.ac.in/global-mdia-journal/WINTER%202010%20COMMENTARIES/Commentaries%201.pdf>, retrieved 1 April 2021

2002 which provided citizens access to information available with public authorities to fulfill the objective of responsibility, transparency and openness.

Due to certain lacunae in the Act, the National Advisory Council suggested changes such as setting up an appellate authority with investigating powers, imposing sanctions for failure to provide information and provisions to ensure effective disclosures.

Thus the Right to Information Act was enacted by the Parliament in 2005 by incorporating all the changes mentioned by the National Advisory Committee. It replaced the Freedom of Information Act, 2002.<sup>2</sup>

The Right to Information Act, 2005, is an essential tool in the hands of Indian citizens. It ensures they have access to information from a public authority. This makes the Government and other authorities answerable, accountable and responsible to the public. The aim of the Right to Information Act, 2005, as set out in its Preamble, is to secure information under the control of public authorities, to promote transparency and accountability in the working of public authorities. It also aims to curb corruption and to hold Governments accountable to the people.

The Act has helped increase a citizen's control over authorities by increasing transparency and reducing secrecy. The article discusses how the act works as a catalyst of social change by expanding social opportunities and helping provide better services by the government.

Good governance is essential for the growth and well-being of all people in India. The enactment of the Right to Information Act aims at achieving the objective of inclusive growth and better governance. Right to information aims at helping India curb corruption and lead to a social change.

## **A. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

1. **The Right to Information Act, 2005—Use & Misuse, Ajay Kumar Jain-** the article traces the origin and history of concept of right to information in India. It sheds light on the role of international organization and agencies in pushing for this right and the role they play in its incorporation in India, in the form of a statute. The article discusses

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<sup>2</sup> Shilpa. (2013). Right to Information Act: A tool to Strengthen Good Governance and Tackling Corruption. International journal of Humanities and Social Science invention: p.46.

the provisions of the Act at length. The author further discusses the pros and cons of the act and the scope of its effectiveness in a country like India.

2. **A Decade of "The Right to Information Act, 2005" - Critical Exploration of the Scope and Impact of the Act, Aishwarya Deb and P.R. Chaudhary-** the article celebrates 10 years of implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005. It traces its history and sheds light on the committees and organizations that helped formulate the act. The author traces the journey of the act and the role it has played in ten years in acting as a social catalyst for change. The paper further highlights the successes of the act and how it has helped make the government more effective, answerable and accountable. At the same time, it highlights the shortcomings of the act and calls for urgent action to do the needful.
3. **Strengthening the Mission of Right to Information in India, Jeet Singh Mann-** the author has shed light upon the importance of right to information in India with the help of his article. He draws attention upon various violations of rights of citizens in Delhi and the need for an effective tool in their hands against public authorities. The author discusses the effective and ineffective aspects of the act and the need for better implementation to cater to the needs of the society.
4. **Right to Information in India: Issues and Challenges, Ramesh Kumar-** the article discusses the concept of right to information in context of federal democracies. It discusses it as a tool of making the government responsible and accountable to the people. The author analyses the various provisions of the acts with the help of case laws and helps reach a conclusion regarding their efficacy.
5. **Good Governance and Right to Information: A Perspective, Anshu Jain-** the paper sheds light on the importance of right to information in India. It discusses the various provisions of act in detail and discusses its effectiveness. Furthermore, the paper highlights the various aspects by way of which the Right to Information Act has helped bring about a positive social change in the society. It also lays emphasis on the role of the Act in ensuring good governance in the nation by way of increased transparency and better delivery of services by the authorities to the people.
6. **Right to Information Vis-A-Vis Privacy Right: Balancing of Interest, Aparna**

**Singh-** The author attempts to shed light on the importance of balancing interest of right to information of citizen and one's right to privacy. Both the rights are entailed as fundamental rights. The paper discusses if any right takes precedence over another and their individual importance in the age of internet and technology. The article discusses the scope of Article 8 of the Act to understand exemptions to the right to information. The author writes about the central role of government in case of such a conflict.

#### **A. STATEMENT OF PROBLEM**

The paper traces the origin and evolution of Right to Information Act, 2005. It underlines the potential of the act in bringing about a positive change, however the improper implementation of the act acts as a hinderance in achieving the desired outcome.

#### **B. HYPOTHESIS**

The organs of the government have not been able to turn the balance of power in favour of the common man by making the government responsible, accountable and answerable.

#### **C. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the paper is to understand the following:

1. Concept and importance of Right to Information Act
2. The scope and evolution of Right of Information Act
3. Role of Right to Information Act in attaching responsibility of government and upholding rights of individuals

#### **D. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research is a doctrinal research. The main source of information is secondary in nature. The study is not empirical in nature. Cases decided by the Courts, books, scholarly articles, magazines and newspaper articles are relied upon to develop and examine the role of Right to Information Act in ensuring good governance and social change in India.

## **II. RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005**

### **A. EVOLUTION OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION**

One of the indicators of a strong democracy is the involvement of its citizens in the governance process of the nation. For a citizen to be a part of the political-legal system of a nation, it is necessary for them to be informed of the various policies, law, rules, regulations of the government. The foundation of an efficient democracy thus depends on well-informed citizens. This sheds light on the importance of right to information amongst the people.

In India, the exchange of information has its roots in Article 19(1)(a) of the constitution which bestows the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression on a citizen. This right allows one to receive information, impart information, share information etc.<sup>3</sup>

India as a party to the United Nations, incorporated Article 19 of its ICCPR Covenant onto its own constitution. It is this article which provides the right to express one's opinion freely as well as seek information freely.

The Law Commission in its 179<sup>th</sup> report of 2001 called upon the need for easy access to information by citizens which resulted in the formulation of the Freedom of Information Act, 2002 which provided citizens access to information available with public authorities to fulfill the objective of responsibility, transparency and openness.

Due to certain lacunae in the Act, the National Advisory Council suggested changes such as setting up an appellate authority with investigating powers, imposing sanctions for failure to provide information and provisions to ensure effective disclosures.

Thus, the Right to Information Act was enacted by the Parliament in 2005 by incorporating all the changes mentioned by the National Advisory Committee. It replaced the Freedom of Information Act, 2002.

The Right to Information Act, 2005, is an essential tool in the hands of Indian citizens. It ensures they have access to information from a public authority. This makes the Government and other authorities answerable, accountable and responsible to the public. The aim of

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<sup>3</sup> Article 19(1)(a), Constitution of India

the Right to Information Act, 2005, as set out in its Preamble, is to secure information under the control of public authorities, to promote transparency and accountability in the working of public authorities. It also aims to curb corruption and to hold Governments accountable to the people.

Thus, citizens having right to information under the control of public authorities can help in promoting openness, transparency and accountability in public administration.

Accountability and responsibility of government are essential for a democracy to survive and the Right to information Act helps towards fulfilling such objectives.

The Right to information Act includes provisions for disclosure of information which was earlier restricted by the Official Secrets Act 1923 and other statutes in India.<sup>4</sup>

The RTI Act 2005 applies to all States and Union Territories of India and it permits any citizen to ask for information from a "public authority". The Act places responsibility on authority to submit the information within 30 days. The Act also makes the computerization of records compulsory to achieve the objective of large dissemination of information. Right to Information Act provides for publishing some information on its Citizens Charter and Official Website to effectively help the citizens and also to ensure that they have to take minimum recourse to avail such information.

## **B. SALIENT FEATURES OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005**

The Right to Information Act is categorised as reactive in nature to the requests of states and citizens for availability of information on public authorities rather than proactive in nature. The act is unambiguous and provides clear provisions on the process of attaining information from authorities. This information is attained in consequence of a request made by a citizen to the Public Information Officer (PIO), who is appointed by the authorities covered under the Act.<sup>5</sup>

Section 2(f) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, defines "information as any material in any form including records, documents, memos, e-mails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in

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<sup>4</sup> The preamble to the RTI Act, 2005

<sup>5</sup> [rti-assessment.org/rti\\_assessment05.ppt](http://rti-assessment.org/rti_assessment05.ppt).. RTI in India A People's Assessment, retrieved 1 April 2021

any electronic form and information relating to any private body which can be accessed by a public authority under any other law for the time being in force”.<sup>6</sup>

Furthermore, Section 2(h) of the Right to Information Act, provides for “public authority to mean the following, any authority or body or institution of self-government established or constituted—

(a) by or under the Constitution;

(b) by any other law made by Parliament;

(c) by any other law made by State Legislature;

(d) by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government, and includes any—

(i) body owned, controlled or substantially financed;

(ii) non-Government organisation substantially financed, directly or indirectly by funds provided by the appropriate Government;”<sup>7</sup>

As per Section 6, the request must be a written request and the request must pertain to the authorities mentioned in the Act. It must be in the official language of the area or in Hindi or English. It is the responsibility of the PIO to provide the information to the citizen as well as send the important parts of the request to a PIO of the other authority within 5 working days.

The Act also lays provisions to appoint an Assistant Public Information Officers (APIOs) with responsibility to receive right to information requests as well as appeals which can be sent the PIOs of their public authority.

The applicant must mention their name, contact details and are not required to mention the reasons for seeking information.

The RTI authorities are provided at two levels – State level and Central level. The State Information Commission (SIC) for states and Central Information Commission (CIC) for Center are appointed to deal with the complaints from citizens who were unable to submit their

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<sup>6</sup> rti-assessment.org/rti\_assessment05.ppt.. RTI in India A People's Assessment, retrieved 2 April 2021

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

requests to a Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer. The reason for this is because the Central and State Information may not have been appointed by the respective governments or they have refused to provide information or have provided incomplete or misleading information.

The Central Information Commission/State Information Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of the following matters, namely,—

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of persons and compel them to give oral or written evidence on oath and to produce the documents or things;
- (b) requiring the discovery and inspection of documents;
- (c) receiving evidence on affidavit;
- (d) requisitioning any public record or copies thereof from any court or office;
- (e) issuing summons for examination of witnesses or documents; and
- (f) any other matter which may be prescribed.<sup>8</sup>

The Central Information Commission/State Information Commission has the power to require the public authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure compliance of the provisions of the Act, including—

- (a) providing access to information in a particular form;
- (b) appointing a PIO where none exists;
- (c) publishing certain information or categories of information;
- (d) making necessary changes to its practices in relation to the maintenance, management and destruction of records;
- (e) enhancing the provision of training on the right to information for its officials;

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<sup>8</sup> The Right to Information Act, 2005, A Guide for Civil Society Organisations



- (f) requiring it to provide an annual report in compliance with Section 4(1)(b) of the Act;
- (g) requiring it to compensate the complainant for any loss or other detriment suffered;
- (h) imposing any of the penalties provided under the Act;
- (i) rejecting the application.<sup>9</sup>

The Act further specifies the time or replying to the request for information, for example the request made to the PIO must be replied within 30 days of receipt, request made to an APIO must be answered within 35 days of receipt. If the PIO transfers the request to another public authority, then they must answer within 30 days. Information which involves corruption and Human Rights violations by Security agencies which have been listed in the Second Schedule to the Act, must be provided within 45 days with the prior approval of the Central Information Commission. Information relating to life or liberty of any person must be answered within 48 hours by the PIO.

If information is not provided within this period, it is treated as deemed refusal and has the right to be appealed. Sections 18, 19 and 20 of the Act lay down provisions for Appeal and Complaint procedure if information is denied.

There however are certain exemptions provided by the Act as far as disclosure of information is concerned, for example, agencies such as Central Intelligence and Security agencies specified in the Second Schedule like IB, Directorate General of Income tax(Investigation), RAW, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, Directorate of Enforcement, Narcotics Control Bureau, Aviation Research Centre, Special Frontier Force, BSF, CRPF, ITBP, CISF, NSG, Assam Rifles, Special Service Bureau, Special Branch (CID), Andaman and Nicobar. Those Agencies specified by the State Governments through a Notification are also excluded from the purview of the RTI Act. The exemptions mostly apply to matters of national defense, national security and those under criminal investigations.

This exclusion, however, is not absolute in nature. The agencies have a duty to provide

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<sup>9</sup> *ibid*

information in cases of corruption and human rights violations.

Section 8 of the Act exempts the disclosure of information in cases relating to which could “prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, relation with foreign State or lead to incitement of an offense, disclosure which may constitute contempt of court, disclosure causing a breach of privilege of Parliament or the State Legislature, trade secrets or intellectual property, information available in a fiduciary relationship, disclosure of information which would endanger the life or physical safety of person, information which could hamper the process of investigation or apprehension or prosecution of offenders, Cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers.”

Despite the exemptions, a public authority has been allowed to access information for the cause of public interest in situations wherein the disclosure outweighs the harm to one’s protected interests, except trade secrets protected by law.

### **III. RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

The Right to information Act has emerged as a triumphant legislation in enhancing the foundation of democracy in India. It has become an effective tool in bringing forth the secrecy that exists in government administration and has become a weapon in the hands of the people to fight corruption.

The Second Administrative Reform by understanding the importance of the Act prepared a report called “Right to Information: Master key to good governance” in order to draw significance of right o information towards achieving the goal of good governance.<sup>10</sup>

Good governance refers to the desired object of a nation’s political-legal development. Good governance can be described as authorities being accountable, answerable, responsible, effective, efficient, participatory, transparent, and equitable.

Good governance is characterized by transparency and accountability. Active and informed participation by the citizens is the best way to ensure transparency and accountability in governance. People play a central role in governance in a democracy. The Right to information

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<sup>10</sup> FIRST REPORT, SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMISSION, RIGHT TO INFORMATION JUNE 2006, Master Key to Good Governance

act helps inform and empower a citizen and thus plays a crucial role in the administration of good governance in a nation. Informed citizenry promotes participation and thus strengthens democracy. Furthermore, the Act helps a citizen in curbing corruption since they are informed and aware and act as a part of mechanism of checks and balances in ensuring transparent and effective administration by the government.

The right to information upholds concept of participatory democracy and keeps them informed on how the government departments function.

The public has the right to know all the policies and programs of the government. This access to information by the public helps curb secrecy on part of the government and increases transparency.

The Act further lays impetus on information which involves human violations since it is sensitive information and applies disclosure of information even for departments which have been exempted from providing information under the said act.<sup>11</sup>

The more access a citizen has to information, the more open the government is. This openness helps facilitate better grievance redressal of citizens by the authorities and in turn it increases a citizen's faith in the government.

Some of the effects of the RTI Act below help India in imbibing the virtue of good governance. They are as follows:

1. Greater Transparency: In a democracy the public has the right to know about the workings of the government. They have the right to know about the policies and programs of the government. Greater access to information about the government increases transparency. Transparency is essential pre-requisite for good governance. The idea of easy access to information by the citizens also requires each public authority to maintain all its records. With openness about the functioning of the government, people can have more effective grievance redressal. It increases the interaction between authorities and the people and provide effective solutions to their problems.

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<sup>11</sup> 3 <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/resources.htm>, retrieved 3 April 2021

2. **Greater Accountability:** Accountability is a very important tool to achieve good governance. If authorities are not accountable then it destroys the foundation of a democracy. Accountability refers to the answerability of authorities with respect to discharge of their duty, upholding rights of citizens, use of resources etc. If an authority cannot justify their actions, then their power can be taken away. Transparency and accountability in government ensures check on their actions and reduces the scope of corruption and abuse of powers. The government must be able to justify their actions to the public to stay in power.
3. **Easy accessibility to any information:** the Act lays down provisions to ensure that a citizen can access information with ease. One of the objectives of the Act is to make the process of disclosure and access easy and inclusive for all. Citizens have the right to know their entitlements and this information ensures they have access to such information. A citizen has the right to access government departments, documents, records, tapes, cassettes etc<sup>12</sup>. The access provided by the Act curbs the distance between the administration and the people. It allows a common man to seek information that might affect them and ensures that the authorities co-operate in providing such information.
4. **Participation of people:** participation of people is the founding stone of a democracy. A popular sovereignty is one which is run by the choice of the majority of the people, keeping in mind the interest of the minorities. In a democracy people generally vote by participation. The Right to information Act however ensures a wider ambit for inclusion of people in the governance process. Since people have been given the right to seek information on activities of the government, they are more politically informed. Thus helps a citizen in realizing their rights and also making claims for upholding it. Greater awareness amongst people ensures greater action on their part to urge authorities to enforce the welfare policies made to serve them.
5. **Citizen-Centric Approach to Development:** before the passing of the Right to Information Act, a common man' participation was limited to voting in elections. However, post the Act, the citizen plays a more important role in the process of governance. The approach now is citizen-centric. The citizens have been empowered

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<sup>12</sup> <http://pcgt.org/current-projects/rti.html>, retrived 3 April 2021

to demand information the policies and services of the government which affects the citizens. The Act has helped decentralize the process of democratic participation.

6. Democratization of information and knowledge: by allowing citizens access to information on government departments, it ensures higher participation by the people. It helps people make more informed decisions. It also ensures more active participation of the people, which goes beyond voting. Information on the various schemes of the government helps people realize their rights and when the government is overstepping their jurisdiction. Information and knowledge regarding the activities of the government is easily available now. The Govt. is easily assessable.
7. Reduction in Corruption: corruption has been a very important issue in India and exists at all levels of administration. The cause for persistence of corruption is secrecy and lack of transparency in circulation of information related to the government. When an individual is not aware of their rights, they can easily be exploited. Corruption is the abuse of authority at the hands of the government representatives and bureaucrats. This abuse is possible due to the lack of awareness amongst people. The Right to information Act however, has paved way for the avenue of transparency and accountability in the working of the government<sup>13</sup>. This helps provide easier access to information on their policies, amongst the people, which in turn helps them realize the duty of such officials. This easy access to information has caused the government to become more cautious of their actions and also helps place responsibility with ease, in case of a breach of duty.
8. Promotion of Citizen-Government Partnership: the Act is very inclusive in nature. It ensures that everybody is kept at a same footing and no one is discriminated against in terms of right to get information. This persuades individuals to seek information and become an active part of governance in a nation. It helps increase the citizen government partnership because it makes the citizen more active and it also places duty on the government to work effectively with the objective of providing welfare to the people. They develop a healthier inter-dependent relationship.
9. Empowering the people: since the act is very citizen centric, it does a good job at empowering people. Their fate is not at the behest of authorities but by generating more

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<sup>13</sup> <http://legalservicesindia.com/article/article/right-to-information-as-a-procedural-justice-491-1.html>, retrieved 5 April 2021

awareness amongst the citizens, the Act aims at placing more power in the hands of the people. Access to information on the workings of the government makes the government answerable and accountable to the people. It thus curbs arbitrary use of power by authorities and helps create a balance between roles of citizens and government.

10. Equality and Inclusiveness: The Act has been framed in a way which upholds the idea of equality of people. It allows any and every individual to approach the Information authorities to seek government records, documents etc. The Act thus emphasizes on the concept of inclusiveness and does not discriminate in providing access of information to the people.

#### **IV. LIMITATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005**

The Right to Information Act suffers from certain lacunae which cause hurdles in effectively administering good governance in the country.

There are a lot of cases wherein voluminous information is asked from authorities, which may be difficult to deliver. There are also cases wherein RTIs are filed for publicity and also as a tool to harass or pressurize a public authority.

Furthermore, due to a large portion of the Indian population being illiterate and unaware, the exercise of RTI is curbed and is not used by many people.

There are various provisions in statutes which exempt authorities from disclosing information, for example, Sections 123, 124, and 162 of the Indian Evidence Act exempts head of department from obligation to provide information in matters pertaining to affairs of state secrecy.

Similarly, no public officer shall be compelled to disclose communications made to him in official confidence.

The Atomic Energy Act, 1912 makes the disclosure of information restricted by the Central Government, a punishable offense.

The Central Civil Services Act provides a government servant not to communicate or part with

any official documents except in accordance with a general or special order of government.

The Official Secrets Act, 1923 provides that any government official can mark a document as confidential so as to prevent its publication.

Thus, there is a conflicting interest between a citizen's right to information and the State's right to secrecy. While RTI provides access to information, the right to secrecy protects the secrecy of the information.<sup>14</sup>

The state's right to secrecy is backed by the Official Secrets Act, 1923, enacted by the British to keep certain kinds of information confidential, including, but not always limited to, information involving the affairs of state, diplomacy, national security, espionage, etc.

Whenever there is a conflict between the two laws, the provisions of the Right to Information Act override those of the Official Secrets Act. Section 8(2) and Section 22 of the Right to Information Act support the same by imposing duty on a public authority to provide access to information covered under the Official Secrets Act, in public interest.

The Right to Information amendment Bill 2013 dilutes the powers of the Act since it removes political parties from the ambit of the definition of public authorities and hence from the purview of the RTI Act.

The Right to Information Amendment Act 2018 further dilutes the provisions of the Act since it places excessive powers in hands of the Centre government. The central government has been given the power to fix the tenures and salaries of state and central information commissioners, and also decide their length of their tenure. These changes drastically reduce the authority, autonomy and independence of the information commissioners.

The Act also suffers from effective implementation due to inadequate authority of information commissioners, poor record-keeping practices, lack of adequate infrastructure and staff, dilution of supplementary laws like the Whistleblowers Protection Act, etc.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

The Right to Information Act was enacted in 2005 with the objective of achieving social justice,

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<sup>14</sup> <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/governance-comes-before-a-lokpal/775352>

transparency and accountability of the government. It is an effective tool to ensure good governance in the nation. The Act has helped people become more aware of the workings of the public authorities and has thus generated political education regarding one's rights and entitlements.

The Act has helped strengthen the foundation of democracy by increasing the role of the public in the process of democracy.

At the same time, the Act has also helped create duty upon the State to be answerable and responsible to its people. Since the people now act as a means of check upon the functioning of the government, the government cannot use their powers arbitrarily and need to work towards the welfare of the people.

However, the Act has not yet achieved all its objectives due to certain challenges. While the right to information is necessary, it is not sufficient, to improve governance. In order to improve accountability and transparency of government, there needs to a proper mechanism to ensure protection of whistleblowers. Rather than making efforts to centralize more and more powers, power must instead be decentralized for more participation of the public at the grass root level.

The act can further imbibe provisions to allow governments to make information available voluntarily to increase the trust between government and the people it governs.

There is a need for an Information Management System by public authorities which can be used for storage and retrieval of data and information. It can further be shared with anyone seeking records for developmental and welfare purposes.

In order to reach the illiterate population, a multimedia approach may be used to educate them about their rights.

NGOs play an important role in spreading awareness amongst people and also demanding data from the authorities on behalf of the people to ensure developmental activities in the country are moving forth as promised by politicians.

Thus the Right to Information is definitely a step in the right direction towards empowering the citizens and making the government more responsible and accountable, an effective system of good governance can be established by increasing the autonomy of the people and the



Information Commissioners and reducing the involvement of the government in the implementation of the provisions of the said Act.

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