

## THEORITICAL ASPECTS OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND ITS IMPACT ON EMPOWERING OF CITIZENS

Poonam<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Mahesh Kumar<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Usha Dahiya<sup>3</sup>

Department of Political Science

<sup>1,2,3</sup>OPJS University, Churu, Rajasthan (India)

### ABSTRACT

*This research area is centered on the Right to Information Act RTI has benefitted the citizens to get to the information and to profit the significant services in time. Regardless, each methodology or an Act has a negative impact too, that is RTI disclosures of malpractices and corruption has caused visit strikes, undermining and harassing of the activist. RTI has obliged the government to give time bound services in the service division. It has moreover settled the obligations and obligations of the various public specialists at various measurements. The transparency and its indivisible associate with responsibility India continues being harmed by traps and colossal corruption despite the enactment of RTI. This is expressive of the multifaceted idea of the disquietude and the resolution the issue. This research examines the state of Right to Information (RTI) and investigates the authority and obligations of Chief Information Commission of India in sorting out and accomplishing this empowering act. The article perceives the progression accomplished to expand democracy yet is obviously not unaware of the actuality where bundle ought to be done to root transparency into the essentialness of the governance. Systematizing transparency and responsiveness in governance, thusly, continues being protracted and vexatious experience in India*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### Concept of Empowerment

To guarantee improvement in the local fields and peoples participation control must be decentralized. This is additionally called empowerment of people.

As indicated by French scholar Michel Foucault, control is gotten from knowledge and information is the essential part of knowledge. Along these lines, in this period of innovation driven information upheaval, empowerment implies access to information. The primary thing any overbearing government does is to limit the people's entrance to the resources of information and monopolize over it while the guideline of good governance requests free progression of information. Concentration of information inevitability prompts centralization of intensity. Presently with establishment of Right to Information act people can take part in decision making procedure and it empowers the citizens to know about the government decisions. The Right to Information act empowering people by evacuating pointless secrecy encompassing in decision making procedure of the government.

## **2. RIGHT TO INFORMATION TO EMPOWER CITIZENS**

The 21st century is the time of Information; we are continually being attacked with and are searching for information. Information gets to has ended up being certain both to the people and notwithstanding the organizations. It is a key instrument for empowering locals to check out the political strategies of their countries. It gives the overall public information about what the Government is doing and how it is responding to changes in the present continually creating political scene. With increasingly conspicuous learning and information people can examine official courses of action and propose alternatives they feel could be all the more dominant. Thusly, access to information can be the best approach to moving from a formal to a responsive, consultative and compelling popular government.

The Right to Information Act 2005 was passed by the UPA (United Progressive Alliance) Government with a feeling of pride. It displayed the Act as an achievement in India's democratic journey. It is a long time since the RTI was passed; the presentation on the implementation front is a long way from immaculate. Thus, the impact on the frame of mind, outlook and personal conduct standards of the public specialists and the people isn't as it was required to be. The vast majority of the people are as yet not aware of their recently obtained power. Among the individuals who know, a noteworthy lump either does not know how to use it or comes up short on the guts and get up and go to summon the RTI. Somewhat more incitement by the Government, NGOs and other edified and empowered citizens can increase the advantages of this Act complex. RTI will help in moderating corruption in public life as well as in reducing poverty-the two immense diseases of India.

Right to Information Act – 2005 is a most popular, reformative and driven law in Indian political and administrative history. Right to Information Act enacted by United Progressive Alliance-1 (UPA) Government headed by Prime Minister Dr. M. Manmohan Singh in the time of 2005(14th LokaSabha). Right to Information Act empowers the citizens of India against Administrative corruption and unpredictable/wrong administration. This act uncovers the Governmental and Administrative functions, projects and procedure related information to each regular man.

India dependably invested wholeheartedly in being the biggest democracy; however with the death of the Right to Information Act in 2005, it has additionally turned into an accountable, interactive and participatory democracy. This right has launched the Indian citizen on a platform from where he can assess administrative decisions and actions and ensure that his interests are secured and advanced by the Government. The Right to Information Act is a significant landmark for Indian democracy. By this Act the citizen of India has been empowered more than ever. He would now be able to question, review, survey, analyze, and evaluate government acts and decisions to guarantee that these are reliable with the standards of public interests, good governance and equity. This act advances transparency and accountability in administration by making the government progressively open to public scrutiny.

The RTI act empowers the people of India against administrative corruption, anomalies and unmoved frame of mind of administrative machinery. The Right to Information advances transparency and accountability in the working of each public authority. At the end of the day through this act, the citizens of India have been empowered to question, review, audit, analyze and evaluate the government acts and

decisions to guarantee that these are reliable with the standard of public interest, good governance and equity.

### **3. RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND IMPACT ON ADMINISTRATION AND EMPOWERING CITIZENS**

The Right to Information infers the participation of people during the time spent governance and organization which winds up inescapable. The Right to Information is the main rightful law in India. This is the most popular, native driven and changes situated law in Indian regulatory history. The Right to Information (RTI) Act impacts the people and impact on Indian Administration in more noteworthy transparency in working of public experts; divulgence of information regarding government guidelines, directions, and decisions, each public authority is commanded to keep up all records properly inventoried and listed in a way and the shape which encourages the information right under the act. The Democracy implies important participation by the people in the public issues. A fair government must be delicate to the public assessment for which information must be touchy to the public sentiment, for which information must be made accessible to the people. The Right to Information infers the participation of people during the time spent governance and organization which winds up inescapable. The Right to Information is the main rightful law in India. This is the most popular, subject-driven and change situated law in Indian regulatory history[3].

The Right to Information (RTI) Act impacts the people and impact on Indian Administration in more prominent transparency in working of public specialists; revelation of information with respect to government tenets, controls and decisions, each public authority is ordered to keep up all records properly inventoried and filed in a way and the frame which encourages the information right under the act. Information is only learning; the information makes man solid and ground-breaking. On the off chance that the Information ought to be identified with Government and Administration, the individual winds up active in good governance and self-guarded and developing nature. The RTI act empowers the people of India against regulatory defilement, abnormalities and irresponsive mentality of managerial apparatus.

The Right to Information advances transparency and responsibility in the working of each public authority. Through this act, the citizens of India have been empowered to address, review, audit, look at and survey the government acts and decisions to ensure that these are predictable with the rule of public intrigue, good governance, and justice.

### **4. RTI AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE PEOPLE**

Before enactment of Right to Information Act, participation in political and economic procedures and the capacity to settle on educated decisions has been confined to India. As an outcome, commoners stay ignorant of different plans and are unfit to oppose when their rights become causality. In the meantime, people stay ignorant as far as the available resources through they can acquire their entitled rights from the concerned departments legally. Presently with enactment of Right to Information act people can participate in decision making procedure and it empowers the citizens to know about the government

decisions. The Right to Information act empowering people by evacuating pointless secrecy encompassing in decision making procedure of the government.

RTI is the best law which empowers the citizens to have an entrance to information and their commitment in the governance. Be that as it may, because of different challenges, the primary goal of RTI is yet not accomplished. Hence it tends to be rightly referenced that Right to Information act is an operator of good governance. It makes administration increasingly accountable to the people. It makes people aware of administration and offers them a chance to partake in decision making process. It advanced democratic belief system by promoting openness and transparency in the administration. It reduces the odds of corruption and abuse of authority by public servants. Since the act is set up for people's interest, thus its achievement likewise relies upon how they practice the act. In addition, there is need active participation from people, NGOs, civil society groups, coordination among RTI officials, trustworthiness among government departments and political will from government and elected leaders.

The Union Government has displayed a bill. "The Freedom of Information Bill" in parliament. The bill is "to oblige adaptability to every national to secure access to information under the control of general society specialists. Unsurprising with open issues, remembering the ultimate objective to propel responsiveness, straightforwardness, and obligation in organization and in association with issues related therewith or incidental thereto

A crucial request that ought to be tended to is: the reason do we require an alternate law for chance of information since it is presently suited an article 19 (1) (An) of our Constitution, which examines: "All subjects reserve the option to the right to talk unreservedly and explanation". Adaptability of information, it is plainly obvious, is guaranteed by the above secured game plan.

One clear reaction to this journey particle is that in spite of Constitutional Provisions, which guarantee key rights, we have not had the ability to make a culture and atmosphere where estimations of chance, rights and a vote based way of life are respected. What we have achieved is that we have raised a genuinely incredible looking structure on an amazingly shaky foundation, a foundation made have, as Jayaprakash Narayan expressed, sand and we call this law based administration. One reason for impacting laws to like the right to information, which is chiefly a human right, is to help make this culture.

Another quick inquiry that would rise up out of the above supposition is: would laws have the option to make an atmosphere for a greater part rule way of life? Laws autonomous from any other individual are not adequate; what is required is that such unique laws must be maintained by people's improvements. A law for right to information can be made amazing simply through people's improvements. We may audit what Raja Rammohun Roy said concerning the revocation of the Sati structure: A basic foundation of a law, without making a people group's improvement, won't win concerning invalidating the severe system

Give us a chance to come to the heart of the matter in such way. Despite every faithful wish and laws. We have not had the ability to make dowager remarriage a reality, distance, reduce barbarities submitted on Dalits and tribals, lift women, present required essential training, and so on, in spite of the fact that all

these are the wellsprings of the most exceedingly awful sort of human rights encroachment, The truth remains that the standpoint which deters advance must be changes; social improvements upheld by a fitting thinking, a rationality of chance can accomplish a modification in the demeanor.

It is in the above setting that we may take a gander at the whole inquiry of right to information, which has a greater reason than searching for information from the administration. It is normally said that an interest for right to information is made just by the regular workers or that it will pass on bit of leeway just to the favored segment of our family. This is an absolutely off base view. The improvement started, for example, by the MazdoorKisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS), grassroots affiliation built up by Aruna Roy, Shankar Singh, and Nikhil Dey in nation Rajasthan, should clarify that it is the poor and limited areas of our kinfolk who require the right to information. (Not long after its enlistment in 1990, MKSS's positions built up all of its people are minor laborers and landless specialists) It is essential learning, for example, that administration blessings inferred for the assistance of the poor don't contact them. In all honesty, it is perceived by government and its organizations.

Given this sort of government, people can fight degradation explicitly and suitably. The Right to Information advancement should be seen with respect to the common citizens in our country, regardless of the fact that ignorant, being prepared for deduction autonomously and of making their own specific fate. Our common citizens needn't mess with a "pioneer"; they need rationalist helpers.

It should be obvious that the special cases consolidated into the bill go far past what Article 19(2) prescribes. In addition, "subject to significant quality" is a dubious suggestion. What is "corrupt" today may not be so tomorrow. By then, for what reason should information exchanges between within and the States may be not accessible. After all issues relating to center State decision impact people when all is said in done; yet then such decisions won't be made open there is a most distant point to the despot frame of mind! We may similarly recall that the building up dads of the constitution excluded "the power and decency of India". To gather that political setbacks and civil workers can think so carelessly: that solitary they have tip top right to secure the trustworthiness of the country"

## **5. RTI IMPACT ON INDIAN SOCIETY**

- ✓ Greater Transparency.
- ✓ Easy access to any information.
- ✓ Citizen Centric Approach to Development.
- ✓ Democratization of information and knowledge.
- ✓ Reduction in Corruption.
- ✓ Promotion of Citizen Government Partnership.
- ✓ Greater Accountability.

- ✓ Solving Peoples Problems.
- ✓ Implementation of Welfare Schemes.

## 6. CONCLUSION

So it is concluded that the enactment of right to information Act, 2005 is surely a strong advance into making the environment of the constitutional democracy and empowering the citizens. The essence of any useful legislative enactment dependably lies in its implementation. Regardless of the inadequacies this law has the potential in starting another financial development in the nation just as transparency, accessibility and accountability. It very well may be condensed that the Act has made an enormous desires among common people and it is on the government to satisfy such desires and don't change or limit the Act in such manner to impeding the interest of the common people of the nation. Indeed, even the government should attempt to publicize the advantages of this Act by utilizing all the potential methods for empowering the common people to use the provisions of this Act.

## 7. REFERENCES

- [1]. Peisakhin, L., & Pinto, P. (2010). Is transparency an effective anti-corruption strategy? Evidence from a field experiment in India. *Regulation and Governance* 4(3). 261-280.
- [2]. Hazell, R. and B. Worthy (2010) Assessing the Performance of Freedom of Information, *Government Information Quarterly* 27, no. 4 (October): 352–359. [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)
- [3]. Webb, M. (2010b) Success stories: rhetoric, authenticity, and the right to information movement in north India, *Contemporary South Asia*, 18(3): 293- 304.
- [4]. United Nations Cultural Organization (2010) – “The right to know”, *WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2010*
- [5]. Desai, Sruthi (2010) *The Right to Information Act*, Snow white Publications, Mumbai, India.
- [6]. Roy, Aruna and Nikhil Dey (2010) *The Right to Information: Facilitating People's Participation and State Accountability*, in.Rupert Taylor (Ed) *Third Sector Research*, International Society for Third Sector Research, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- [7]. Peisakhin, L., & Pinto, P. (2010). Is transparency an effective anti-corruption strategy? Evidence from a field experiment in India. *Regulation and Governance* 4(3). 261-280.
- [8]. Venkatesan, J. (2010) Government Moots Amendments to the RTI Act, *The Hindu*, June 10, 2010. [www.beta.thehindu.com](http://www.beta.thehindu.com)
- [9]. Tiwari S.K. (2010) *Right to Information: An Important Tool of Social Development, Good Governance and Strong Democracy*, *Global Medical Journal Indian Edition*, Winter Issue:1-7.