Abstract

Right to Information Act Is a Tool for Strengthen Good Governance

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Information is essential for good governance. Good governance and the Right to Information are so intertwined so as to appear like two sides of the same coin. To promote good governance and to make actions, decisions, policies and programs more transparent, the RTI Act, 2005, was passed. Presenting the details of how the elements of good governance essentially demands the Right to Information, the paper introduces the RTI Act, 2005, its process, and shows how this Act can effect for good governance. The free flow of information is must for a democratic society because of in democratic country people has a right to access the information from the government and it helps the society to grow and to retain a continuous debate and discussion among the people. No democratic government can survive without accountability and the basic postulate of accountability that is the people should have information about the functioning of the government. Gone are the days when public dealings were kept in strict secret, a practice which often led to corruption, misuse and abuse of statutory and administrative power. Freedom of information brings openness in the administration which helps to promote transparency in state affairs, keep government more accountable and ultimately reduce corruption. Disclosure of information in regard to the functioning of the government must be the rule and secrecy an exception. The Right to Information Act, 2005 was passed for making the government transparent and more accountable; the effective use of it would, in a long run, curb corruption. In a responsible Government like ours where all the agents of the public must be responsible for their conduct, there could be no secrets. There has been no vehicle available for individual citizens to impact the governance structure. In a system reeking with corruption and becoming increasingly insensitive to the problems of the disadvantaged Citizenry, the Right to Information has shown promise of empowering Citizens to get accountability and act as an enforcer of good governance the paper highlights that how and what manner the present Act plays an important role for strengthen good governance.

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