

Right to information and Good Governance

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Lecture No. 12

Legislating the Right to Information: Background and Challenges – III

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The slide features the title "Political Landscape for Right to Information" in blue text. It lists several key events in Indian political history related to the Right to Information Act. In the top right corner, there are logos for NPTEL and the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru. In the bottom right corner, there is a small video inset showing the professor, Sairam Bhat, speaking. A watermark for "Activate Windows" is visible over the video inset.

- Internal Emergency u/A 352: 1975
- Lok Sabha Elections 1977 Janata Government:
 - Cradle to Grave
 - Election Manifesto
 - Reforms Suggested
 - Collapse of Janata Party
- 1989 Lok Sabha Election: Prime Minister V. P. Singh on legislating the RTI: National Front Government
- 1997, Conference Of Chief Ministers

Holding the party together seemed to have been predominant effort and pre occupation the Janata Party leaders. However, this led to the downfall of the party of its political bantering on very minor and trivial efforts. The government lacked direction on all senses and was left completely paralyzed at the center and in the states. The different constituents were also problematically bound only by an anti Indira Gandhi sentiment and for the desire for power with regional parties becoming disintegrated.

The national integration of a popular objective was lacking. This left the desire for having an open fair government which could not be realized by the Janata party. Subsequent events such as the infamous Bofor scam which involved then Prime Minister and others allegedly created a sense of clear and transgression on the rights of the people. Heading the national front dominant and then Prime Minister V.P Singh further laid emphasis on the right to information and stressed on the importance as a legislated right. There was an attempt that was made between 1989 to 1990, to bring out the law on the right to information.

However, the government led by Prime Minister V.P. Singh could not do the same as well as

removed from office in 1990 on account of the loss of confidence which was a motion that was passed in Lok Sabha. With growing international embarrassment for India, wherein India was criticized as one of the highly corrupt nations, it became necessary and prudent that faith be restored in the minds of people on this count on twenty fourth May of 1997 at the conference of Chief Ministers there was a national debate on effective and responsive administration. The measures that were taken across were built towards fairness and capacity of administration and looked forward to creating a coordinated action in having an accountable and citizen friendly government.

On this front transparency and right to information was looked across as a particular parameter that would allow for in doing the performance and integrity of public service.