

Right to Information

From

Around the World

Issue: 210

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Information access most important than ever:

This pandemic has created many loopholes in the dissemination of information. With all focus on providing relief to public, governments are spending less of the resources on spread of necessary information. On the other hand, more and more of the world governments are shifting their data online which is useful for public in current times. The use of technology is helping in reducing resistance to big data obscurity disasters. States have realized that giving information to the citizens is vital in times like these so, states' institutions are accelerating the steps to move online. Information obscurity is a matter of life and death in present situation. Private businesses are adopting the new normal, state institutions should learn from those practices and adapt the new customs. Information blockage may cause mismanagement and corruption. These are the times when transparency and accountability are needed the most. This is an era in which misrepresentation of facts can have big impact on decision making. To tackle this disinformation problems, states need to realize this urge and ought to take steps to ensure the best practices of RTI.

European Union

[Media freedom and access to information](#)

European Economic and Social Committee

Media is sometimes referred to as the fourth power – a definition that underlines its critical role in a well-functioning democracy. When media freedom or independence is under attack, it is indeed our democracies that are weakened at large.....

India

[Minor son of RTI activist arrested under Arms Act, jailed for five months](#)

The Wire

The 14-year-old son of a right to information activist has allegedly been arrested as an adult under the Arms Act and kept in jail for five months in Buxar....

Afghanistan

[Access to information more urgent than ever during COVID-19](#)

UNAMA

During broadcasts in the provinces of Badakhshan, Ghazni, Khost, Paktika and Paktya, panellists argued that the citizen's right to accurate and timely information can literally be a matter of life and death.....

Mexico

[Access to information is a human right](#)

IFEX

Based on the right to petition, the document asked for investigations on possible abusive use of power and irregularities in the management of public funds....

Sri Lanka

[Media freedom, right to information will be ensured](#)

Daily News

The Minister addressing the media after assuming duties as Mass Media Minister at the Ministry premises said he will move forward with a deliberate effort to improve competitiveness in State media institutions....

Ghana

[RTI law does not fully support fighting illicit financial flows](#)

News Ghana

Dr Stephen Manteaw, the Co-chair of the Ghana Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative has noted that Ghana's Right to Information (RTI) Law in its current form will not fully support efforts at countering illicit financial flows.....

USA

[Where does the right to know end and privacy begin](#)

Seacoastonline

Resolved: In democratic elections, the public's right to know ought to be valued above a candidate's right to privacy.

India

[Provide video link facility to hear RTI appeals](#)

Outlook

The Bombay High Court on Friday directed the BMC to ensure that all its offices hearing first appeals filed under the RTI are provided with video conferencing facilities....

USA

[Introduction to the Freedom of Information Act](#)

Mining Gazette

The idea is relatively new in history, and many freedom of information laws were only passed in the 20th century....

Canada

[New book explores limits of the Freedom of Information Act](#)

IOWA Public Radio

Coming from the perspective of a historian, Baker offers a look at the successes and failures of FOIA while exploring some of the mysteries and secrets this more than 50-year-old law has the power to unearth....