

MEDIA RELEASE: LSP FULLY SUPPORTS BRINGING POLITICAL PARTIES UNDER RTI

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LOK SATTA PARTY FULLY SUPPORTS BRINGING POLITICAL PARTIES UNDER RTI

Lok Satta Party is fully supportive of implementing RTI for political parties and strongly demands political parties to be under RTI commented Shri Anurag Kejriwal, Delhi State President of the party. Loksatta Party condemns the move of the Government of India in connivance with most of the traditional political parties to exempt them from the purview of the Right to Information Act

Lok Satta Party is the first registered party in the country to have appointed PIO's for all their state units and National as well as the Appellate authority.

RTI Act was piloted jointly by Dr. N. Jayaprakash Narayan and Aruna Roy in 2005 which became a trend setter in citizen empowerment enabling citizens to seek responses from government and their arms. Further with CIC bringing political parties under RTI Lok Satta Party saw this as another opportunity of political disclosures and reforms. Country needs major electoral reforms and this is one step in the right direction.

There is no reason why political parties should be insulated from RTI - they enjoy government patronage and have profound influence. They cannot be allowed to function like private estates or dynastic rulers.

Political parties should be made answerable not merely in respect of funds they receive and spend but also on how they choose leaders and field candidates in elections.

Congress Party has gone about systematically destroying the bodies like CAG, CBI and now is the turn of CIC who have given orders of bringing political parties under the purview of RTI which has all the political parties up in arms to get themselves excluded. National political parties have united to thwart this rule and are bent upon passing an ordinance keeping political parties out of the ambit of RTI during the monsoon session of Parliament. Lok Satta Party strongly feels that political parties will not only keep themselves out of its ambit but go on to further dilute its provisions to escape prying eyes on its actions and instructions which is dangerous for citizen empowerment and independence.

Lok Satta Party and their members from Delhi led by Shri Anurag Kejriwal, State President assembled at Sansad Marg near Park Hotel and joined Save Democracy Front led by Shri K.N. Govindacharya and marched to Jantar Mantar to participate and express solidarity with the RTI – OPEN FORUM organised by Anjali Bharadwaj, Nikhil Dey and Aruna Roy.

For Lok Satta Party