



### Jan Lokpal Bill: A MYTH or REALITY

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**Abstract :** *Corruption in its literal term means abuse of public power for private benefit. It has been found that every department of government has become a den of corruption. It is rooted in our acquisitive society where greatness of individuals and nobility of their family is judged by what they possess rather than by what they are.*

*To overcome this a plethora of advice was given by Mr. Shanti Bhushan in 1968 in the form of **Lokpal Bill**, an anti-corruption bill drafted to control corruption. Bill was revived several times but it has not been passed till date. Steps had been taken at the*

*state level for the establishment of **Lokayuktas** for combating corruption.*

*The Lokpal Bill drafted by the government was riddled with loopholes, so the civil society proposed an alternative bill called **Jan Lokpal Bill** drafted by Santosh Hegde, Prashant Bhushan and Arvind Kejriwal. Jan Lokpal Bill is referred to as the Citizen's Ombudsman Bill. It is an independent body that would investigate corruption cases. It aims to effectively deter corruption, compensate citizen's grievances and protect whistle blowers.*

*It appears that corruption is rampant and requires adequate handling. The 50 respondents and even the media have also stressed this point. The work makes an attempt to probe into the crux of problems and find the actual status of the bill. Surprisingly it appears to be a myth or an electoral gimmick.*

**Key Words :** *Ombudsman, Myth, Electoral Gimmick, N-50.*

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