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• Article •

## Path Optimization of Government Information Disclosure in Public Events

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**Abstract:** The negative effects caused by emergencies are inevitable. Sudden public events are also a great challenge for international economy and global governance. In the 21st century digital information era, especially after emergencies, people's desire for information exchanges has highlighted the position and role of government information disclosure. Based on this, the disclosure of government information is of great significance for the public, socioeconomic, government functions, and emergencies itself. At present, government information disclosure and digital government construction of countries around the world have made great progress. In 2019, the State Council amended the "Regulations on the Disclosure of Government Information", which made the system arrangement more perfect and became a "behavioral benchmark" for local government information disclosure. But even so, there are still lack of legislative level, procedural level, management level, and content level. To this end, the government needs to start with the legislative level, the incident itself, and the diverse subject.

**Keywords:** Sudden Public Incidents; Government Information; Government Information Disclosure; Governance

### 1. Introduction

With the advancement of the times, the strategic value of information resources has gradually been highlighted. Accompanying this are the "Matthew Effect" of information resource possession and the phenomenon of "information islands." Government information disclosure is not only a digital and informational revolution but also a revolution in behavioral concepts. As digitization and postindustrial continue to develop, they also impact traditional government management models.

In recent years, both national and local levels have increasingly emphasized government information disclosure. At the central level, several laws and regulations have been successively introduced, such as the "Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Open Government Information." In October 2014, the Fourth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China passed the "Decision of the CPC Central Committee on Several Major Issues

Concerning Comprehensively Advancing the Rule of Law,” which proposed to continuously “promote openness in decision-making, execution, management, services, and results.” In 2015, the “Action Outline for Promoting the Development of Big Data” issued by the State Council pointed out the need to “steadily promote the openness of public data resources.” In 2016, the State Council issued the “Outline of the 13th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development of the People’s Republic of China,” which proposed to “promote the openness of data resources.” In May 2019, the newly revised “Regulations of the People’s Republic of China on Open Government Information” by the State Council emphasized “the principle of ‘openness as the norm, non-disclosure as the exception’” and “removed the ‘three needs’ (production, life, and scientific research) threshold for disclosure upon request.” These significant changes have also sparked widespread discussion in the academic community. In October of the same year, the Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China passed the “Decision of the CPC Central Committee on Upholding and Improving the Socialist System with Chinese Characteristics and Advancing the Modernization of the State Governance System and Governance Capacity,” which again emphasized the need to “strengthen the orderly sharing of data.” At the local government level, provinces such as Shanghai, Zhejiang, Anhui, Jiangxi, Guizhou, and Guangdong have also issued corresponding regulatory documents. These regulatory documents provide important practical references and guidance for local government information disclosure work and indirectly demonstrate the determination and perseverance of the Chinese government in information openness. In 2022, Fudan University released the “Report on Data Openness of Local Governments in China,” showing that China already has 208 local government data openness platforms and 187 city data platforms. Thus, it is evident that government information openness platforms have gradually become the “standard configuration” for local government information disclosure.

## **2. Research Review**

### **2.1 Public Emergencies**

Academic research on public emergencies covers many aspects, including concepts, characteristics, issues, impacts, and countermeasures.

Regarding the concept of public emergencies, Keith believes that emergencies are a type of sudden danger caused by human activities. Haffajee R defines public emergencies as events that are unpredictable and can have significant impacts on humans. Guo Xingwang suggests that emergencies are characterized by suddenness, unpredictability, and severe destructiveness, posing or potentially posing a threat to social security, stability, and national sovereignty. Wang Gaoling defines public emergencies as events that affect citizens' physical and mental health and social order.

In terms of countermeasures for public emergencies, Xiao Wentao points out that the government exhibits a lack of responsiveness, inadequate coordination and management, and an inability to meet public needs in specific situations. An Lu suggests using information platforms to collect and analyze

specific risk information to respond effectively. Arthur C highlights that multiple information communication methods and the establishment of specialized information disclosure agencies can help government departments handle public emergencies.

According to the "Emergency Response Law of the People's Republic of China," "emergencies refer to natural disasters, accidents, public health incidents, and social security events that suddenly occur, cause or may cause serious social harm, and require emergency response measures." Emergencies are distinct from crises. To some extent, a crisis is an advanced form of an emergency. In other words, a public emergency may or may not evolve into a crisis, but if neglected or mishandled, it will inevitably become a crisis.

## **2.2 Government Information and Information Disclosure**

In modern society, the government, as the administrator, is the primary controller of information resources and the most important source and channel in the public management information system.

Regarding the concept of government information, Liu Heng defines "government information" as information held and possessed by the government. Zhu Yougang asserts that the essence of government information is that it is related to public functions. Hu Shui considers government information to be the information collected, obtained, and released by government functional departments in the course of performing their specific duties, closely related to functional activities, and characterized by guidance, authenticity, confidentiality, and timeliness. The regulations define government information as the information created or obtained by administrative organs in the course of performing their administrative functions and recorded or preserved in a certain form.

Understanding government information disclosure, Lu Lin considers it broadly as the disclosure of administrative affairs and information, while narrowly, it refers only to administrative affairs disclosure. Hong Wei believes that government information disclosure involves the public release of public information held by the government in public affairs management, according to legal procedures, scope, methods, and time frames. Zhang Mingjie suggests that government information disclosure includes administrative matters, specific information, and specific actions. The new regulations expand the scope and depth of proactive disclosure, improve the procedures for disclosure upon request, and clarify the responsibilities for information disclosure. However, some scholars believe the scope of government information disclosure is still somewhat ambiguous. Kong Fanhua argues that the scope of exemptions for government information disclosure should be continuously reduced and strictly adhere to corresponding review procedures.

Research on government information disclosure reached a "small peak" during the 2003 SARS period. Since the promulgation and implementation of the regulations in 2008 and their revision in 2019, the academic research on government information disclosure has seen a historical turning point. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic at the end of 2019 brought the discussion on government information disclosure to a new height. Currently, academic discussions on government information disclosure can be divided into four aspects:

1. Examining the current state of government information disclosure, including objective analysis of government portal websites and subjective evaluations through public opinion surveys.
2. Investigating the related factors of government information disclosure, mainly through constructing data analysis models for verification and analysis.
3. Exploring the impact of government information disclosure on aspects such as government integrity, corporate investment rates, and residents' environmental management.
4. Providing optimization suggestions for government information disclosure. Despite the development to date, the disclosed government information still lacks significantly in terms of both form and content. Additionally, there is a long way to go in empirical methods and theoretical construction for government information disclosure in China.

Reviewing the relevant literature reveals that scholars have analyzed and discussed government information disclosure from various disciplinary perspectives, including law, political science, management, economics, and communication studies, focusing on both the "sender" (government) and the "receiver" (public). However, there is a lack of exploration on the classification and categorization of government information disclosure. This paper, therefore, also includes the "communicator" (media) as an important analytical role, using "government," "media," and "public" as entry points and proposing reasonable optimization suggestions for reference.

### **3. Research Foundation and Objectives**

#### **3.1 Theoretical Foundation**

##### **3.1.1 Broken Windows Theory**

The "Broken Windows Theory" originated from a psychological experiment conducted by psychologist Philip Zimbardo in 1969. Building on this, the theory was formally proposed by American political scientist James Q. Wilson and criminologist George L. Kelling in 1982. The theory posits that if a building's window is broken and not promptly repaired, it may psychologically suggest and encourage others to break more windows. In the field of criminal behavior, the theory suggests that any visible signs of disorder can increase the likelihood of further crime and antisocial behavior in the area. This phenomenon also exists in government public administration: if the person who "breaks the first window" is not punished and the situation is allowed to escalate, it will increase social disorder and chaos. After the emergence, some bad media and people who are in the heart will attract attention by making rumors and exaggeration, thereby causing secondary damage to the original social order. That is, "when behavior is disordered, it will first shift from individual disorder to collective disorder, and collective disorder will in turn affect individual disorder." The "Broken Windows Theory" describes a process where quantitative changes lead to qualitative changes, and understanding the scope and limits of this change is crucial for guiding public opinion during emergencies. The theory, which analyzes social psychology and social order, is relevant to the public's psychological and social order aspects of

public opinion in emergencies, highlighting their inherent connection. The theory provides two practical insights: on the one hand, promptly repair the "first broken window" to curb the malignant development of the situation from the root; on the other hand, deeply understand the public's psychology to meet their basic needs while adhering to the "red line" to avoid or reduce secondary damage.

### **3.1.2 Information Asymmetry**

"Information Asymmetry" is a theoretical concept in economics representing a form of "incomplete information," and it is the basis for theories like "adverse selection" and "moral hazard." In simple terms, it refers to a situation where one party in a transaction possesses significantly better information in terms of quantity, quality, and channels than other parties, causing the less-informed party to bear greater risks and losses. Due to both subjective and objective reasons, such as blocked information channels and differing management philosophies, participants have varying abilities, risks, and conditions in handling information resources, leading to problems like bad money driving out good. Information asymmetry also exists among government agencies, social media, and the public, a pervasive phenomenon. The subjective preferences, ability differences, and interest distributions of these three participants collectively contribute to asymmetric information exchange. First, within the government, different management levels hold different information, various functional departments hold different information, and grassroots managers possess different information based on their practical work. These "information asymmetries" can be collectively termed "information fragmentation," i.e., the "fragmented control" of management departments and the "territorial division" of local departments. Therefore, different entities processing information based on their interests will inevitably encounter communication issues. Second, in terms of the interaction state and differentiated conditions of social entities, although the development and application of information technology have enhanced government departments' informational capabilities, social entities are dispersed across society. Each entity acts based on its preferences, ability differences, and interest distributions, generating a large amount of complex, dynamic information that the government may not immediately grasp. This also results in "information asymmetry". Specifically, on one hand, the government may not timely understand the public's attitudes, thoughts, conditions, and demands; on the other hand, the public may not promptly learn about the government's statements, actions, measures, and aftermath responses. Moreover, social media, with its partial, focused, and rapid nature, might exaggerate certain facts, potentially misleading both the government and society.

### **3.2 Objectives and Demands**

The management of emergencies is increasingly becoming an integral part of modern state governance, playing a crucial role for the public, social order, governmental functions, and the events themselves. This also propels the progress of government information disclosure in China.

First, for the public, information disclosure helps safeguard the public's right to know, reinforcing and protecting the people's principal position. The right to know is a public right and a governmental

obligation, which is a prerequisite for promoting social stability and development. Practice has demonstrated that only by ensuring the public's right to know can social self-governance and the public's psychological resilience be continuously enhanced. The essence of socialist political civilization is that the people are the masters of the country. Meiklejohn believes that the legitimacy of a democratic government stems from the will of the people, and the public has the right to be informed about government-related information. Government information does not originate from the government itself but from its public administration activities; it belongs to public resources, with the government acting as the "holder." Therefore, government information comes from the people, belongs to the people, is controlled by the people, and is owned by the people, and should not be monopolized by the government. Practically, timely, accurate, and comprehensive disclosure of specific information about emergencies can enable the public to understand the truth of the event effectively, alleviate negative emotions caused by emergencies, and eliminate public panic and anxiety. Additionally, an information disclosure system can regulate public behavior and influence people's diverse choices.

Second, for social order, government information disclosure is conducive to promoting harmonious social development and maintaining a stable and peaceful social order. Whether in normal or emergency states, stable and harmonious social order is a common goal desired by the public. After an emergency outbreak, the government should make every effort to resolve the emergency and restore the public's social life to normal. In achieving this goal, the role and significance of government information disclosure become particularly prominent. On one hand, government information disclosure can mobilize all available social resources to "concentrate efforts on major tasks," aiming to address the emergency itself and its negative impacts, scientifically and reasonably guiding public opinion, stabilizing social order, avoiding social turmoil, promoting positive interaction between the government and the public, and fostering a good social ethos. On the other hand, government information disclosure can reverse economic development trends, reducing the fluctuations and impacts of emergencies on economic development, and quickly bringing social and economic growth back on track, providing a safe environment for economic development. Therefore, the government should promptly disclose information about emergencies, which plays a crucial role in maintaining social order, enhancing governmental credibility, strengthening coordinated governance of public risks, and guiding healthy social and economic development.

Third, for governmental functions, government information disclosure facilitates the transformation of government functions. The iteration and updates of emerging technologies, such as the internet, make it more convenient for the public to access information. The increasing awareness of public participation and supervision of government work "forces" the government to continuously enhance the transparency of information disclosure. On one hand, government information disclosure is a government responsibility, obligation, and inherent duty. It reduces the "information asymmetry" between the government and the public, greatly improving the public's conditions and capacity for supervision, making the public feel the government's reliability, and increasing trust in the government.

On the other hand, government information disclosure is also an important measure to promote governmental integrity and diligence. After an emergency, the government's attitude, actions, and measures in response to the event come under the spotlight, becoming the focus of public attention. Government information disclosure helps eliminate the opacity of power operations, "locking power into a digital cage", establishing a transparent, service-oriented government, indirectly improving the government's emergency response capabilities and administrative levels.

Fourth, for emergencies, government information disclosure helps disseminate positive energy and curb the rampant spread of rumors. Information disclosure during emergencies is a key aspect of the government's handling of such events. Firstly, government information disclosure allows the government to take the initiative during emergencies, promptly releasing authoritative information through various communication channels, ensuring the public has a correct understanding of the event, preventing the emergency from developing in a negative direction, gaining valuable time to grasp the dynamic trends of the event, and facilitating the next steps of judgment and action. Secondly, during public health emergencies, government information releases can promptly respond to the public's concerns. Along with the occurrence of emergencies, various rumors may start circulating, and if left unchecked, they will gradually turn into widespread rumors. Information disclosure can promptly clarify the official stance, explain the official viewpoint, mobilize public enthusiasm, and minimize the negative impacts of the emergency.

#### **4. Analysis of Government Information Disclosure in Public Events**

##### **4.1 Dilemma of Legislative Level**

The predicament of legislative levels is mainly reflected in the insufficient laws and regulations, and lack of clear legal level and status. Although the "Regulations on the Disclosure of the People's Republic of China Government" was revised in 2019, many vague areas still exist in actual operations.

##### **4.2 The Dilemma of Information Disclosure Procedures**

The dilemma of information disclosure procedures is mainly reflected in the grass -roots government when responding to emergencies, and often requires reporting layer by layer, which will determine the right to decide to the higher authorities, leading to the lagging of information disclosure. In modern society, the speed of information dissemination is extremely fast, especially when social media is highly developed, the time for decision makers is getting shorter and shorter. If you cannot publish authoritative information at the first time, it will be easily replaced by various rumors and false information, causing social panic and confusion. In addition, the tedious and complex information of the information disclosure process will also affect the efficiency of information publishing, leading to lagging and unscrupulous information transmission.



### **4.3 Management Dilemma**

The predicament of management is mainly reflected in the complexity and diversified management coordination of public events, involving multiple departments and fields, and it is prone to problems of poor coordination. The disposal of public events requires close cooperation between cross -level, cross -sector, and cross -sectors. However, in practical operations, the information sharing and collaboration mechanisms between departments are often not perfect, resulting in lagging and inconsistency of information transmission. In addition, the demands of government information disclosure of different society are different, and the information of classification is needed, but it is often difficult to achieve in actual operation, resulting in the poor effect of information transmission.

### **4.4 Content and Quality Dilemma**

The predicament of content and quality is mainly reflected in the disclosure of information disclosure in policy interpretation, behavioral orientation, and precautions, and it is difficult to meet the needs of the public. In emergencies, the public's demand for information is very urgent, and it is necessary to understand the truth and development trend of the incident in a timely, accurate, and comprehensive information. However, when the government is published, it often pays too much attention to forms and procedures, ignoring the depth and quality of the content, resulting in poor information transmission. In addition, in the era of digital information, the complicated "fragmented" information is easy to mislead the public's perception of emergencies, making it difficult for the public to form a correct judgment and response strategy.

## **5. Optimization Strategies for Government Information Disclosure in Public Emergencies**

As the economy grows and society develops, humanity has entered a "high-risk society." Public emergencies are thus seen as "time bombs," with each outbreak severely affecting people's sensitive and fragile nerves. How to effectively conduct government information disclosure during public emergencies has become a shared concern for the government, society, and the public.

### **5.1 Legislative Level: Enhancing Legal Hierarchy and Focusing on Management and Operations**

First, enhancing the Legal Hierarchy of Supporting Laws: At the legislative level, it is necessary to elevate the legal status and importance of supporting laws. Legal systems are fundamental, comprehensive, stable, and long-term. Facing rapidly changing and increasingly complex social realities, only by continuously improving and implementing scientific and democratic decision-making systems, and strengthening institutional constraints on decision-making, can we overcome the information asymmetry dilemma in decision-making processes. The academic community has reached a consensus on the need to improve the legal system for government information disclosure. Duan Guohua believes that some problems can only be truly resolved through improved institutional arrangements. Hu



Jingguang, drawing on the U.S. presumption of disclosure principle, argues that China's government information disclosure system needs further methodological improvement.

Second, Consideration of Information Disclosure Procedures: Indeed, lower-level governments report layer by layer and leave decision-making to higher authorities based on overall considerations, especially for major emergencies or infectious disease events. This approach is correct in its intent. However, in today's highly developed social media environment, the time available for decision-makers to deliberate is increasingly compressed. Often, before decision-makers have thoroughly considered the issue, rumors and negative sentiments may already be spreading. Therefore, at the macro level, there should be general principles, requirements, and regulations for government data openness. Legislators should elevate the legal hierarchy of government information disclosure, making mandatory general principles to support the rational operation of government information disclosure mechanisms. Moreover, the timing of disclosure should be determined by local administrative agencies based on specific situations to respond to rapidly changing circumstances.

Third, building collaborative governance Mechanisms and advocating proactive measures in terms of management. The capability, practices, and appropriateness of government information disclosure significantly impact the evolution of emergency situations. Managing and coordinating public emergencies involves a multi-level, multi-departmental, and cross-disciplinary approach, covering aspects such as social order, governance, daily life, economic development, and environmental protection. Hence, different social groups have varying demands for government information. These include mainstream media, concerned citizens, influential bloggers, and victims of the events. Given the complexity, diversity, urgency, and severity of public emergencies, it is necessary to enhance the precision of information disclosure and focus on timeliness. On one hand, the government should obtain a comprehensive understanding of the emergency situation and provide information categorized and tailored for different audience groups, such as students, young and middle-aged adults, the elderly, healthcare workers, and grassroots community members. Additionally, sectors such as transportation, essential services, and students studying abroad should be addressed. On the other hand, it is essential to promote cooperation among various levels and departments, emphasizing coordination, mutual oversight, and a sense of responsibility. This approach aims to facilitate resource sharing and open information, adhering to unified values and implementation standards to address emergencies with a proactive and collaborative attitude.

## **5.2 The Event Itself: Improving Content Quality and Upholding Truthfulness**

In managing emergencies, it is crucial to broaden the scope and depth of government information disclosure. Efforts should be made not only in categorizing and grading information but also in improving the content and quality, such as policy explanations, behavioral guidance, and important notices.

Firstly, start from the public's needs. Government departments should leverage their advantage in accessing information resources to transform this into a "service source." This involves enhancing the

comprehensiveness and timeliness of government information disclosure to reduce “information asymmetry” with the public and alleviate public fears. Additionally, actively collecting and addressing the basic situation and urgent needs of the public should be prioritized. This content should be detailed and addressed promptly to tackle the public’s immediate concerns. Moreover, the government should utilize digital platforms and various media channels to disseminate relevant information, issuing authoritative updates in a multi-dimensional and dense manner to enhance the diversity and richness of information disclosure. This will help bolster public confidence, stabilize public sentiment, and better meet societal needs.

Secondly, emphasize the role and preparation of press conferences. The role and status of spokespersons are crucial, as they represent the government’s public image. The identity, image, competency, and performance of spokespersons largely determine the success and perception of a press conference. Inappropriate behavior from spokespersons can lead to secondary public opinion issues. Therefore, press conferences should aim for accuracy, conciseness, seriousness, simplicity, and truthfulness, ensuring they are “simple but not simplistic.” Press releases should be meticulously structured, with clear and understandable language, avoiding verbose expressions. Particularly when addressing the negative impacts of an event, it is vital to clearly state the government’s position, attitude, and determination.

Lastly, focus on summarizing the situation of the event itself. In the current digital era, while the public can explore the truth of events in depth, the proliferation of “fragmented” information can increase cognitive load and potentially mislead public understanding. This context demands higher standards for government information disclosure. Emphasis should be placed on providing basic information about the emergency, including fundamental attributes, developments, classifications, casualty numbers, and property losses. Additionally, response information, including inter-departmental cooperation, actions taken, and latest developments, should be addressed. The government should “speak less empty talk and more truth,” focusing on event details, promptly responding to public concerns, conducting practical investigations, and clearly stating facts.

### **5.3 Actors: “Co-frequency resonance” of multiple subjects**

Government information disclosure is a large and complex undertaking. Social practice demonstrates that achieving a balance among the government, citizens, and media enhances their positive interaction, collectively working towards addressing public emergencies.

#### **5.3.1 Government**

Benefiting from advancements in technology, digital technologies are increasingly widespread, and their applications continue to expand. The public’s access to relevant information is no longer confined by specific times and spaces. Currently, the capacity to respond to public emergencies is also an essential competency for governments and their officials, necessitating significant attention to their capability and actions in disclosing information during such events. Emergency response to public

health crises is a systemic task where technological advantages can reinforce the defense lines. The ability of official messages to outpace rumors indirectly reflects the wisdom and decisiveness of the government.

First, the government must keep pace with the digital age and continuously enhance its digital literacy. The advent of the internet has greatly facilitated daily life. The widespread application of “digital services” and “digital government” enables the public to access the latest information instantly, significantly lowering the cost of obtaining information. Therefore, it is also necessary to expand the influence and role of new media in information disclosure. By utilizing various forms such as text, audio, video, and feedback, a platform for communication with the public should be established to timely understand and incorporate public feedback and evaluations.

Second, an effective supervision, assessment, and accountability mechanism should be established. On one hand, an effective supervision mechanism needs to be put in place. This involves defining the boundaries of responsibilities for each department, creating a list of powers, and detailing the responsibilities for regulatory content. Furthermore, this supervision mechanism should be operational and transferable to handle various emergencies and be applied to other departments. On the other hand, an assessment and accountability mechanism must be developed and refined. This includes regular performance evaluations as an important measure to improve the effectiveness of government information disclosure. It is essential to set reasonable assessment criteria and weight distributions. Additionally, an effective accountability mechanism should be established. Evaluations of government information disclosure outcomes should involve both material and moral rewards to enhance performance and better serve the public, thus protecting their legitimate rights.

### **5.3.2 Media**

The government and media are integral components of modern society, and their relationship should be one of mutual promotion and supervision rather than opposition. Effective mass media not only serve as disseminators of authoritative government information but also maintain the government’s good image. As early as 2006, the National People’s Congress Standing Committee removed two provisions from the draft of the Emergency Response Law of the People’s Republic of China: prohibiting unauthorized information release and managing news media reports. The expanding digital world has repeatedly shown that the government is both a manager and a supervisor of the media. Reassessing the construction of information disclosure under media supervision remains a pressing issue for the government.

Improving interaction and cooperation with social media is a crucial element for achieving a good reputation in local government information disclosure. In responding to public emergencies, the government must align with the characteristics of new media, maintaining an open mindset and an equal approach. During positive interactions with the media, the government should maintain “regular” communication with a responsible attitude, continuously update factual information provided, and address all media inquiries seriously. This requires local governments to proactively provide specific

details and leads on emergencies to the media at the first instance, meet media information needs, and accept media scrutiny. Additionally, leveraging social media to clarify the government's stance, emergency measures, and event progress is essential. In the face of emergencies, government information disclosure should emphasize timeliness and accuracy, using authoritative information to address public concerns and seize the "public opinion high ground." Social media should also actively assist in guiding public opinion, promptly identifying issues in government information disclosure, and supervising corrections to protect the public's legitimate rights.

### **5.3.3 Public**

After the occurrence of public emergencies, the public is undoubtedly the primary victim and the greatest beneficiary of government information disclosure, as well as the main supervisor of the information disclosure process. He Yanling has pointed out that the relationship model between the government and the public should be a "balanced model," rather than a "control model," emphasizing a balance between "government power and citizen rights," "value goals (efficiency, order vs. democracy, freedom)," and "interest levels (public welfare vs. private interests)." Resolving public emergencies cannot solely rely on the government's efforts; it also requires the powerful support of the people. The role of the public should shift from being mere "listeners" of government information disclosure to becoming "builders" and "participants" in the process. On one hand, obtaining more detailed information through media channels; on the other hand, exploring the truth of events from multiple channels, dimensions, and perspectives to provide references for government analysis. This reflects public oversight of the government. Engaging the public in the supervision of information disclosure aims to protect their rights and prevent the government from falling into the "Tacitus Trap." Additionally, the public should actively enhance their "digital literacy," maintain a calm analytical mind, resist various rumors, and learn to discern harmful information.

## **6. Conclusion**

Since the founding of New China, administrative departments led by the State Council have undergone seven rounds of development and reform to better adapt to economic development and social changes. Historically, these reform plans and choices have been deemed correct, scientific, and wise, receiving widespread recognition and praise, thus highlighting the commitment to serving the people.

Returning to reality, the governance of government information disclosure in China began with promoting village affairs transparency in rural grassroots organizations, followed by the formal promulgation and implementation of the "Regulations on Government Information Disclosure" from a legislative perspective. China has undergone a long period of exploration and practice, with rich experience and progress, providing valuable references for future developments. The achievements in government information disclosure governance are adaptations to economic changes at specific times and are not static. Given the new changes, challenges, and opportunities brought by globalization and

postindustrial, China's government information disclosure governance is moving towards more optimized, effective, and human-centered directions.

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### **Author Contributions**

Zisheng Han: The author confirms sole responsibility for the following: study conception and design, data collection, analysis and interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation.

### **Availability of Data and Materials**

None.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest to report regarding the present study.

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