“Some people believe it is often necessary, even desirable, for political leaders to withhold information from the public. Others believe that the public has a right to be fully informed.”

Write a response in which you discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should address both of the views presented.

Regarding the transparency of information between political leaders and the public, people do not see eye to eye. There are some who believe that information should be kept secret from the public, while some others do not think so and believe that the public has a right to be fully informed. I, personally, subscribe to the latter idea because of two reasons which are explored in the following.

The first reason is that keeping information transparent may keep political leaders away from indulging in malpractices like corruption. As a matter of fact, keeping information secret from the public may provide politicians more freedom, which directs them to indulge in a large amount of undesirable activities, and leads them in a wrong path. Subsequently, they may more likely tend to evil practices like indulging in corruption, looting the public money, and cheating the public, which, ultimately, makes the public lose their trust, and feel disappointed towards their government, resulting in a huge amount of demerits for society. For instance, if people are aware of the prevalent financial corruptions under their politicians, they would be more likely to invest their money in a safe place like other countries.

Secondly, the majority of political leaders are elected by the public, and they are supposed to carry out their responsibilities in accordance with the public requests. Then, if information is withheld from the public, the politicians may not know whether what they implement is going to fulfill the public needs, or not. Moreover, there is no opportunity for the people to voice out their opinions and concerns, due to lacking enough information. Therefore, lacking enough transparency of the information between the public and politicians can cause some mismatches between the public requirements and the politicians' achievements, causing a huge negative impact on the progress of society. Therefore, to obtain better understanding of the public needs, and to have better measurements of the politicians' tasks, the information should be divulged to the public in order to know their feedback.

Although information transparency to the public is required, some may argue that in exigent cases where no other alternatives exist, political leaders may have to keep certain kinds of information secret from the public in order to keep the public safe from the consequences of awareness. Obviously, there are some cases where divulging information to the public can be disastrous, such as armed forces secrets and cyber security systems. In fact, public access to this information may be detrimental, and adversaries are going to be more able to take advantage of this information and the flaws in the security systems. But it does not mean that all national security information should necessarily become confidential. A broad range of information and policies should be available to the public to have more knowledge about their circumstances.

In conclusion, information should not be kept confidential from the public in order to prevent some undesirable activities like financial corruptions, and take advantage of the public responses to the question whether the politicians' implements serve their needs, or not, which makes them more accountable.  However, there are some special cases that requires the political leaders to be more cautious in giving information. On the whole, letting the information be known to the public will create mutual understanding between the leaders and the people, and will lead them in the path of success.