

## Minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 11/09/2007

### **Present:-**

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
- C. Shri A. N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- D. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- E. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner
  
- F. JS(S), Deputy Secretary (PP), Under Secretary (DCS) and Under Secretary (G Subramanian) assisted the commission. Dr. Ajit Pathak, Media Manager also participated.

### **1. Modalities regarding organizing the Conference of Information Commissioners**

- A) The Chief Information Commissioner will be moderating all the four sessions.
- B) All the State Information Commissions who have given suggestions will be requested to indicate whether they would like to do a Power Point presentation in respect of their suggestions/ views on the concerned issues. Once that is received, it will then be possible to allocate the time duration in which they would be presenting their views.
- C) The Central Chief Information Commissioner has desired that on Section 4 disclosure of the RTI Act, he will make a Power Point presentation.
- D) In respect of the Valedictory Session, Commission decided the modalities
- E) Secretary, DoPT will also be invited for the proposed Conference of Information Commissioners to be held on 17/10/07 at India International Centre. It has also been decided that Secretary, DoPT would be requested to accompany the Information Commissioners when they call on Madam President.

### **2. 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan Proposals**

- A) Feasibility report for the Project on implementation of RTI Act, 2005 for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan was placed before the Commission and the Commission desired that final decision may be taken up on this matter

in the weekly meeting scheduled for 18/9/07 and informal discussion in this regard may however be held even earlier than 18/9/07.

**3. Discussion on the representation submitted by Shri Amitava Chaudhary, Howrah**

- A) The Commission discussed the representation submitted by Shri Amitava Chaudhary, Howrah in detail. The Commission desired to recommend to the DoPT that they issue a clarification in respect of the post offices acting as a CAPIO about where the payment received by them as a fee under the RTI Act should be transferred with reference to the concerned Public Authorities from whom the information has been sought.
- B) The Commission has also directed that a comprehensive list of the Ministries to whom the post offices will be transferring the applications under the RTI Act, 2005 may be maintained. The Commission also desired that these points should be a part of the recommendation to the Government.
- C) During discussions, the Commission discussed the issue of the cost for processing the second appeal in the Commission. This matter will be taken up with DoPT.

**4. Progress in respect of shifting of CIC office to August Kranti Bhawan**

- A) The Commission was informed about the shifting of the Commission to August Kranti Bhawan.
- B) Notification is proposed to be issued through DAVP in the newspapers indicating:
  - (i) that the offices of CIC, IC(T), IC(PB) and IC(MA) have already been shifted to August Kranti Bhawan.
  - (ii) The office of IC(OK) will continue to remain in Club Building, Old JNU Campus, New Delhi.
  - (iii) The Secretariat and Registry will shift and be functional in August Kranti Bhawan w.e.f 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.
  - (iv) The Dak Receipt and Issue Section will shift to August Kranti Bhawan and will start working there from 01.10.2007.

However, the Commission directed that some of the Sections which are not dynamically involved with the day to day functioning of the Commission may be retained at the Club Building itself. Specifically, they had indicated that the Dak and Receipt Section, Store and the Record Room may be retained at the Club Building.

## **5. Financial matters**

- i) In view of the difficulties faced by the Commission in terms of the financial proposals, the Commission desired that a proposal for an FA assigned to it may be sent to Ministry of Finance through DoPT. A proposal for higher delegation of the power to the Commission may also be sent simultaneously, after a study of the pattern of the Central Vigilance Commission and other similar organizations in respect of arrangement of their Financial Advisor.
- ii) The Commission directed that a representative of M/s Sybex Computers Pvt. Ltd. may be called for appearing before the committee of administration and take the approval about the mode of payments to the outsourced employees of the Commission.