

Central Information Commission

Minutes of the meeting held on 27.6.06 at 11.00 A.M. in the Chamber of CIC

Present:

1. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, CIC in Chair
2. Mrs. P.Balasubramanian, IC
3. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, IC
4. Shri A.N. Tiwari, IC
5. Prof. M.M. Ansari, IC

2. Secretary, Joint Secretary, both the Directors and Under Secretary were present.

3. In the case of an appeal filed by Sh. Ramesh of Chennai for the disclosure of the Correspondences between the President and the Prime Minister, the members of the Commission concluded that another hearing by the full Commission shall be scheduled.

4. It has been observed that 33 Ministries had responded by filing the returns for the annual report whereas 40 Ministries have not yet responded to the return. The Secretary, CIC will write to the Secretaries of all 40 Ministries who have not yet filed the returns and the Joint Secretary, CIC, would pursue a follow up action over telephone. The Commission was also informed that there were only one response to the request for proposal for preparing and printing the annual report of CIC. Received from the "Centre for Civil Society New Delhi". The members of the Commission were requested to suggest any further contents of annual report. These would be placed in the weekly meeting of the Commission for discussions.

5. Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M. Ansari, Information Commissioner will be constituted to prepare a detailed plan to commemorate the proposed 1st anniversary celebrations of the enforcement of RTI. In view of President's availability on October 13, 2006, it was agreed that we may invite him to inaugurate the function on the afternoon of 13th and propose valediction by PM on October 15, 2006. Eminent speakers from SAARC countries, European countries and other part of the region may also be invited to participate on subjects of Social Choice and the Right to Information.

6. The endeavor in preparing the "CIC manual and procedures" - dak receipt system was noted. It was suggested that the proposed manual should not only contain the administrative procedures but also the legal procedure that will be practiced in the Commission for which a consultant, if required, would be hired.

7. The utilization of the space in August Kranti Bhawan New Delhi for shifting the office of Central Information Commission was agreed to. A presentation was made before the members of the Commission about the electrification and air-conditioning of the office at August Kranti Bhawan by Shri Uppal Electrical Engineer. It was felt that a backup DG system should be put in place. Since the President's office is having a similar kind of electrical and conditioning arrangements a visit by JS/Secretary should be made to observe their system. Mr. Uppal will make available the entry passes to Rashtrapati Bhawan.

8. The CIC website was examined and discussed to ease homogeneity in interpretation through Internet references to preview decisions taken in the CIC on various issues.