

**Record of the Meeting of the Commission held on 30.3.2006
in the chamber of CIC**

Present:

- 1. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, CIC in chair**
- 2. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, IC**
- 3. Dr.O.P. Kejariwal, IC**
- 4. Shri A.N. Tiwari, IC**
- 5. Prof. M.M. Ansari, IC**

2. Joint Secretary & Registrar and Under Secretary assisted the Commission.

3. Chief Information Commissioner briefed his companion Commissioners about his visit to U.K. He explained about the functioning of the Freedom of Information Act in U.K. After making a brief presentation he mentioned that he would be circulating a detailed note for the information of the Commissioners.

4. The Commission discussed a notice received from Kerala High Court in a decision in Appeal No. IC(PB)/A-2/CIC-2006 where appellant was Ms. Treesa Irish who presented an appeal against CPIO Kerala Postal Circle, Trivandrum. Chief Postmaster General is a party in the case. This Commission is not required to defend its decision in the High Court unless so called upon. CPMG is to defend the decision. Necessary clarifications may be provided to him on any issues that may be raised in the Kerala High Court.

5. The Commission decided that the Right to Information Act stipulated that the hearing would be open to public but for smoother functioning of the hearing the Commission could place reasonable restrictions. If anyone was found disturbing proceedings, Asstt/Deputy/Joint Registrar assisting the Commission may be directed to remove the impediment to the hearings felt during the proceedings.

6. A presentation was made before the Commission by Oracle who has been requested to prepare a software enabling the Commission to

collect the data that needs to be prepared for preparing Annual Report of the Commission. The proforma for Annual Return will be modified so the Ministries were not required to fill the details of cases “filed before the Central Information Commission” which was available with the Commission. This need not be sought from the Ministries. This detail can be prepared within the Commission. With this change Oracle was requested to prepare the software with a provision that each Ministry should have its own Administrator for getting the data filled from the Public Authorities working with them. The overall incharge for implementing the software should remain with the Commission who can seek support of the Ministries for getting this exercise completed within the time limit. All the Ministries should be requested and appellate authorities should be directed to keep information about the requests received and appeals heard in shape of Form I and Form II and submit quarterly progress in Form IA and Form IIA to the Ministry/Public Authority. The Ministry/Public Authority should compile them for every financial year and submit the Annual Return to the Central Information Commission within fortnight. Support of NIC may be obtained for computerizing all these forms so that they could be filed on internet.