

Minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 03.06.2008

Present: -

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Shri A.N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- C. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- D. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner
- E. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
- G. Secretary, JS (S), JS (TK), DS (PP), DS (P&B), US (DCS), US(GS), US (PSS) & US (MCS) assisted the Commission.

Agenda Item: 1 Letter from DoPT in respect of the Constitution of separate benches for deciding complaints/appeals by the Central Information Commission.

- i). Commission took note of the letter sent by the DoPT and directed that JS (Law) send a reply to the DoPT informing them that decisions on appeals and complaints are invariably decided by the Commission as per the provisions of the Act.
- ii). Commission agreed to a suggestion that Chief Central Information Commissioner/Central Information Commissioner be used in place of Chief Information Commissioner/Information Commissioner in all its record.
(Upon confirming that this goes with the nomenclature as mentioned in the Act).

Agenda Item: 2 Finalization of dates for proposed convention 2008 in view of booking at Vigyan Bhawan.

Commission took note of status in respect of booking in Vigyan Bhawan for the proposed National Convention 2008. however, Commission desired that an alternative booking venue viz. Convention Hall in Scope Building, Siri Fort Auditorium and Ashoka, in that order of priority, be booked for 3 days during 1st week of November 2008. In the meantime appointment from VVIP may be sought so that Commission may invite them on proposed dates of the National Convention 2008.

Agenda Item: 3 An e-mail from Shri Syed Tanveeruddin in respect of online petition/campaign in the internet/online edition.

Noted.

Agenda Item: 4 Policy for responding to e-mails and copies being provided to ICs and officers in the Commission.

Commission discussed the issue and decided that the responsibility of responding to e-mail will that be of the first addressee. If the first addressee is the CIC/IC, the Designated Officers will take orders from the CIC/IC as the case may be and it will be responded accordingly. If received by the CIC/IC they will forward the mail to the IC concerned with copy to Secretary at secy-cic@nic.in for necessary action.

Agenda Item : 5 Status report in respect of the proposed institute WATS/IATS.

Commission took note that this issue has been put up before the Commission in its meeting dated 21.02.2006, 28.02.2006, 07.03.2006, 12.12.2006, 20.02.2007, and 24.04.2007. In its meeting dated 21.02.2006 Commission requested IC (T) to take steps for setting up of this centre on behalf of the Commission. In today's meeting IC (T) briefed the Commission about the progress made so far in this regard. IC (T) recalled that Smt. Rita Sinha, the then Secretary of the Commission did an outstanding work in getting the approval of Planning Commission. It was also mentioned that expenditure on this head during last Financial year could not be made because of a view taken by the then Financial Advisor. Understandably the Commission has been able to convince the Financial Advisor that all the proposals are separate and therefore they be pressed for early sanction.

IC (T) also informed the Commission that the documents on the basis of which planning Commission approved the project and made notional financial allocation need not be revisited. The office therefore must now take steps for immediate SFC clearance.