

Minutes of the Meeting of the Commission held on 05.10.2010

Present:

- A. Shri A.N. Tiwari, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Prof. M.M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- C. Ms. Annapurna Dixit, Information Commissioner
- C. Shri Satyanand Mishra, Information Commissioner
- D. Shri M.L. Sharma, Information Commissioner
- E. Shri Shailesh Gandhi, Information Commissioner
- F. Mrs. Deepak Sandhu, Information Commissioner
- G. Secretary Shri B.B. Srivastava and other officers assisted the Commission.

Agenda 1: chronological pendency statement of the cases in the commission as on 30.09.2010

Commission reviewed the statement on pendency in four categories. It was noted that of all the pendencies, 55% were pending for less than three months and 91% for less than 6 months. Only 8.7% and 2.1 % pendencies were over 6 months and over one year respectively. It was decided to dispose all the cases pending for over a year on a priority basis. It was noted that a large number of over one year pendencies were due to appeals/stay orders etc. in similar matters, in Superior Courts. Processes of disposal of the cases were held up till the Courts' view in a given subject or interpretation of statute was made known. Registries will put up the list of such cases to the Chief IC for directions.

(Action – Secretary, CIC)

Commission observed that several decisions during a given month were not uploaded on the website <http://cic.gov.in>. Commission directed to put in place a system so as to ensure that the decisions in all disposed of cases were uploaded on the website most expeditiously.

(Action – DS (PP))

Commission directed that statement on the receipt and disposal of the cases during a month would henceforth also include a column indicating the status of the availability of the decisions on <http://cic.gov.in>. A nodal officer shall be nominated for monitoring the cause list and availability of decisions of all disposed of cases on the website.

(Action – Secy(CIC)/ DS (PP))

Agenda 2: proposed CICRDMS (CIC/IC Request Disposal Monitoring System)

A presentation on CICRDMS was made. Commission desired that the software be prepared at the earliest and be hosted for the Information

Commissioners to use it. Shri Paul, NIC, submitted that it will take him a week to prepare and to host after it will be available for information commissioners, secretary and officers.

(Action – Sh. Paul/ DS (PP))

Agenda 3: Progress on the proposed lecture on 12th October, 2010.

Commission reviewed the progress on the proposed lecture by Prof. Ashis Nandy scheduled for 12th October, 2010.

(For information)

Agenda 4: Proposed statement: - Basis of reallocation of Ministries/Departments amongst CIC/ICs.

Chief IC directed to prepare broad parameters based on which re-allocation of the Ministries/Departments/Public Authorities among CIC/IC's would be considered by him.

(Action – Secy. (CIC))

Agenda 5: Flow Chart of the Dak Distribution system in the Commission.

A presentation was made on the dak distribution system in the commission through a flow chart. Chief IC directed that a copy of the presentation and a note prepared by the secretariat be provided to IC (SG) and IC (MLS) for their use in their report on the functioning of the Registry.

(For information)

2. Supplementary Items:

Commission noted that due to the steady build up of decided cases, a considerable area of public authorities' functioning has been opened up and taken beyond the bounds of confidentiality. Yet, as the decisions apply only to specific public authorities who were respondents in the decided cases, other public authorities were generally unaware about the opening-up of the given part of the system. Commission's decisions didn't have the expected *pro bono* impact.

It was therefore, decided that a study be commissioned regarding how best to institutionalize the progressive opening up the specific strands of information in control of the public authorities, so that the information relating to those open-areas of the system, be disclosed voluntarily by the public authorities, alongside the discharge of their disclosure obligation under section 4.

(Action – Secy(CIC))