

Minutes of the meeting dated 5.12.2006

The Commission felt that instead of the land allocated at Sangam Vihar, R.K. Puram, for constructing the Central Information Commission's own building, land near INA Market is given preference. All efforts, therefore, be made to expedite this proposal.

The members were apprised about the proposed organizational set up for the Commission. As per the proposed organizational set up, each Commissioner will have his own staff strength which will include designated officers, court masters, consultants and other personal staff. The Commissioners emphasized that there should be a separate FA for the Commission and also that the Commission need to work out their plans themselves. In the proposed structure, there will be a separate Legal Wing to assist and advise the Commission on the legal matters.

For the proposed Public Relation and Publication Wing, the persons may be outsourced who will be responsible for interacting with the media persons, preparing press releases etc. The Commission desired that the orders once passed may be indexed, catalogued and be published.

Regarding the 'e-governance' in the Commission, members felt that assistance from the Ministry of Information & Technology may be sought.

For the Research & Development Wing, US (P) proposed that an officer of Indian Statistical Service of appropriate level may be considered to which the Commissioners opined that it is for the Secretary, CIC to take a decision. The officers will be attached with the Commissioners and will assist the Registrar of the Commission.

Regarding the Camp Office at the residence of the Commissioners, members stated that the Camp Office will have a separate ceiling of expenditure and it will not be part of regular expenditure for the office (whose ceiling is Rs.2.00 lacs per Commissioner).

IC (T) suggested that the members of the Commission may write a Chapter on RTI for inducting it as a curriculum for the school text.

The Commission felt that the Interns from various organizations and institutes visiting the commission may be attached with the Secretary, CIC who may train them and then they may be attached with the Commissioners for assisting him/her. These Interns may be asked to visit different Public Authorities and observe their arrangements on RTI and may submit a report on the texture of the problems prevailing in the offices of the Public Authorities. These observations may then be sent to the DoPT for taking appropriate action.

The Commission also agreed to pay some honorarium to the Interns assisting in the working of the Commission.