

Minutes of the Meeting dated 06.01.2009

Present: -

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- C. Smt. Annapurna Dixit, Information Commissioner
- D. Shri Satyananda Mishra, Information Commissioner
- E. Shri M.L. Sharma, Information Commissioner
- F. Shri Shailesh Gandhi, Information Commissioner
- G. Secretary Shri Mohammad Haleem Khan and other officers assisted the Commission.

Agenda 1:- Reference made by IC (SM).

Commission observed that an appellant/complainant is within his right to request for change of a bench for hearing in the commission. Commission does not encourage such endeavors. An appellant/complainant however has no right to choose the Information Commissioner(s), for hearing his/her case. That authority rests with the Chief Information Commissioner

Agenda 2:- Staffing norms for the CIC/IC and creation of additional Posts in the CIC: order of DoPT for discussion.

Commission observed that staffing norms for Chief Information Commissioner and for each of the Information Commissioners issued by DoPT on 30.12.2008 are not workable as the same are short even of the present strength. Commission desired that the Government be requested to hold in abeyance the order in question. The Commission also decided that the Government be approached to revisit their decision in the light of the recommendations sent by the Commission.

Agenda 3:- Disposal figures (Commissioner Wise) for December, 2008.

Commission noted the disposal during December, 2008. Commission further directed that if the new software is not fully functional, the old software be continued in parallel. Commission also expressed concern on the time taken to switch over.

Agenda 4:- Follow up on the decision of the Commission in its meeting dated 16.12.2008.

1. Commission noted compliance.
2. Commission was apprised that with regard to payment to outsourced employees detailed comment has been sought from M/s Sybex. They have submitted part reply.

3. Chief Information Commissioner specifically asked for progress with regard to selection of service provider for the period post March, 2009 when the contract of M/s Sybex expires. He took adverse note of no concrete progress on an issue for which fifteen days were given. It was explained by JS (A & P) that the RFP is under formulation and shall be published immediately.
4. i) Commission was apprised that personal file of 90 personnel of the Commission have been collected and the update of the Service Book will begin now.
 - ii) Commission directed that list of defaulter Public Authorities who do not submit the return for Annual Report, be the part of the Report. Commission further directed that arrangements be made so that the Annual Return date is uploaded every 3 months by the Public Authorities instead of waiting till the end of the year.