

Minutes of the CIC meeting dated 12 Feb 2008

Present:-

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Shri A. N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- C. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- D. Secretary, JS (S), JS (TK), Deputy Secretary (PP), Under Secretary (DCS), Under Secretary (G Subramanian), assisted the Commission.

1. Tax liabilities in relation to the service conditions of the Information Commissioners/Chief Information Commissioners were discussed.

(Follow up action: JS (TK))

2. The Commission was apprised of the minutes of the Standing Finance Committee in respect of construction of the Headquarters Building of the Central Information Commission. The Commission endorsed the view of SFC regarding the construction of the Building either by the NBCC or by the CPWD. An initial level interaction with the representatives of the NBCC and the CPWD may be made. The Commission directed that the office Building *inter alia* must have power back up, uninterrupted water supply, provision for water harvesting and earthquake intelligence. Commission further desired that we may consider appointing a Quality Auditor for the construction.

(Follow up action: Secretary, JS (TK))

3. The Commission directed that the meetings with various public authorities of GNCT, Delhi with a view to assess the systemic changes brought about by them while implementing the RTI Act may be arranged. A series of similar meetings with various PSUs may also be organised.

(Follow up action: Designated officers in consultation with their Commissioner)

4. The Commission directed that a space on the website of the Commission may be created where the citizens may upload their feedback about the RTI Act.

(Follow up action: Sh. Paul in consultation with DS (PP))

5. The Commission desired that the series of zonal/regional conferences may begin in May 2008 and close in August 2008.

6. Secretary, CIC will write to all State Information Commissions about CIC's proposal for 4 zonal/regional conferences concluding with a national conference at New Delhi. Secretary, CIC may further invite their "Expression of Interest" in respect of their willingness to host each of the proposed conferences. The EOI may elucidate the venue, facilities offered and a brief outline as to how the conference will be organised.

(Follow up action: Secretary)

7. The Commission directed that the duration of the zonal/regional level conferences may be of one and half days and that the issues for deliberation be decided once the zone/region for organising the conference is decided.

8. National level conference at New Delhi will commence on 10.10.08 and conclude in the afternoon of 12.10.08. The venue for the National Conference will be Vigyan Bhawan. Accordingly booking for the same may be done. At the same time however an alternative venue may also be ready in case of any change at the last moment.

(Follow up action: JS (TK))

9. Commission desired further that for the National Conference, invitation will not be restricted to the countries mentioned in the last minutes.

(Follow up action: Secretary)