

Minutes of the Meeting of the Commission dated 13. 12.2011

Present:

- A. Shri Satyananda Mishra, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Smt Annapurna Dixit, Information Commissioner
- C. Sri Shailesh Gandhi, Information Commissioner
- D. Smt Deepak Sandhu, Information Commissioner
- E. Smt Sushama Singh, Information Commissioner
- F. Secretary and other officers assisted the Commission.

Agenda 1: Statement on registration/disposal of cases during Sep, Oct, and Nov. 2011

The Commission noted.

Agenda 2: Statement on expenditure statement for Non Plan as on November, 2011

The Commission noted the expenditure statement as on November, 2011. The Commission directed the secretariat to send a proposal regarding exposure visit of the CIC/ICs to selected countries where implementation of the FOI/Transparency laws have been exemplary. The Commission unanimously agreed for having exposure visit to the US, New Zealand and the Scandinavian countries during this financial year. The proposal would be made for four of the ICs/CIC during the current financial year. The Commission directed the secretariat to send this proposal to the government within a week.

Agenda 3: Norms and procedure for according priority to appellants in hearing appeals/complaint filed before the Commission

The Commission resolved that "The appeals/complaint received from Senior Citizens or from differently abled persons in the respective registries will be put up to the Bench of the Commission where such cases are registered. The Information Commissioner under Section 12 (4) of the RTI Act will decide on the priority to be given to such appeals and complaints. The priority accorded will be the part of judicial decision which necessarily will involve recording reasons for giving such priority while adjudicating the case. The same procedure will be followed in cases which, according to the opinion of the Information commissioner, involve larger Public Interest."

Agenda 4: A letter of Dr. V. S. Prasanna Rajan regarding WP No. 11933 (W) of Calcutta High Court Judgement

The Commission discussed.

Agenda 5: A letter of Shri S. Dorai Raj of Mudurai

The Commission noted.

Supplementary Item:

The Commission desired to know from the Secretary about the status of the “draft citizen charter” drafted by Shri Shailesh Gandhi, Information Commissioner. The Joint Secretary (Law), CIC informed the Commission that since the Citizen Charter is now part of the Lokpal Bill currently under consideration in Parliament; it would be advisable to wait for the final outcome in the Parliament, this regard.

The Commission, however, directed the Secretary to place the draft citizen charter of the Commission in its meeting scheduled for 27.12.2011 with necessary inputs; if any.