

Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic Committee held on 14.10.2008

Present: -

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- C. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
- D. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner
- E. Shri A.N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- F. Smt. Annapurna Dixit, Information Commissioner
- G. Shri Satyananda Mishra, Information Commissioner
- H. Shri M.L. Sharma, Information Commissioner

Secretary Shri MH Khan and other officers assisted the Commission.

The Commission regretted the delay in payments of remuneration to the outsourced staff of the Commission, who it recognized as the functional backbone of the Commission. The Secretariat was directed to move ahead immediately for their payments.

The Commission directed further that budgetary requirement of the wages for 2008-09 may be computed keeping in view the actual with 15% additionality on the actuals and meeting of Secretary (Personnel) together with FA with Chief Information Commissioner may be arranged for this purpose at the earliest.

The Commission also directed that, it be ensured that **no delay in payments to the outsourced staff recurs in future.**

Agenda 1:-

A statement appearing in a section of the press, attributed to Shri Shailesh Gandhi, Central Information Commissioner, was discussed. Shri Gandhi clarified that the statement was given by him during a press interview prior to his appointment as Central Information Commissioner. These reports were based upon a study conducted by an NGO specifically in regard to the functioning of the Maharashtra, State Information Commission. It was agreed that the reporting therefore attributing the report to a Central Information Commissioner and therefore the Central Information Commission, was unethical, which may be conveyed to the Editor of the newspaper/newspapers in question

Agenda 2:-

Commission was apprised of the progress made for the preparation of the Annual Convention 2008. Commission directed to revise the minute to minute programme for the Inaugural Session in line with the Schedule received from the Prime Minister's Office.

Commission desired that the relevant material received from various agencies may be placed at the reception of the venue for distribution on both days. The message received from the President of India may be distributed to participants and same may be scrolled on the screen at the venue.

Commission further desired that formal Lec-Dem on RTI by a reputed artiste may be organized at the Dinner on 03.11.2008.

It was decided to constitute various committees of officers under the overall supervision of the Secretary for the Convention to oversee every aspect of organisation.