

Minutes of the Meeting 15.07.2008

Present: -

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Shri A. N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- C. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- D. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner
- E. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
- D. AS (AG), JS (TK), JS (PK), DS (PP), DS (P&B), assisted the Commission.

Status on Preparation for Proposed Convention 2008

The Commission was informed that the Auditorium at DRDO Bhawan for the proposed convention has been booked. Confirmation however from DRDO is awaited. In view of the budgetary constraint Commission desired that this year's convention may not be an international event as originally decided. However, it may be restricted to SAARC countries only.

In view of this decision, the Commission decided that the theme of the proposed convention will now be "RTI & its Ramifications for Governance". The Commission further desired that there could be sub themes around the main theme, viz. RTI an instrument of change, RTI & Government, RTI & the Citizen, Impact of RTI in Rural areas and RTI and protection of individual privacy.

The Commission further desired that while planning the sessions emphasis on the sectoral aspects of the ramification on Governance, data protection and privacy of information and such other issues may be addressed. The Commission directed that a message to the effect that we will invite papers on the topics mentioned above may be run on the website.

Commission advised that a professional agency may be engaged for organizing the convention 2008. The invitee list may include all the State CIC/IC, and their representative(s). Experts on the subjects listed for deliberation may include representatives of prominent NGOs and of civil society. Secretaries to the central

Ministries, heads of selected PSUs, and representatives of M/o IT, NIC, D/o ARPG and Ministry of Panchayati Raj may also be invited.

Supplementary Item

Professor Nigam, Legal Advisor to the Commission clarified that unless there is an “Error of law apparent on the face of record or an error of facts” review of the decisions of the commission cannot lie. Review will lie as per section 114 of C.P.C. Commission directed therefore to delete section 23 (2) of the CIC (Management) Regulations, 2007, since this had created some misapprehensions among citizens.