

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 16th March, 07

Present:

1. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
2. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
3. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner
4. Prof. M.M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
5. Shri A.N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner

Secretary, both the Joint Secretaries and Under Secretary attended the meeting.

1. Proposal for the restructuring of the Commission

The following changes were decided by the Commission:-

- a) In the personal staff of the Commission the OSD should be designated as merely OSD and could be assigned any duties relating to work of the Commission not merely protocol.
- b) In the Finance Wing instead of US level officer we can ask for officer of the rank of DS/Director.
- c) Regarding Annexure VI, the Commission desired that Secretary have a re-look on the number of Peons being recommended for the Commission and see that the number is scaled down. Regarding each IC there may be two Peons instead of three each.

2. Approval of the Annual Report 2005-06 in Hindi

The Hindi translation of Annual Report 2005-06 was approved by the Commission. It was decided that we may go ahead and get the Hindi Translation from the Government Press, to be submitted expeditiously to Government.

3. Discussion on the draft chapterisation and the format for the Annual Report for 06-07

Regarding the proposed chapter for the Annual Report 06-07 the Commission desired that the details to be included in each chapter should be further outlined. It was also suggested that the first chapter should be devoted to the RTI regime and the contemporary status of RTI in India.

4. Suggestion for RTI by Shri Sushil

The Commission appreciated the suggestions and decided that the CIC should make an attempt to install a helpline/call centre but it would be limited to information regarding the Central Information Commission. Sh. Sushil's suggestion should be forwarded to DoPT requesting them to establish an All India helpline in respect of RTI regime.

5. Interpretation of 8(1)(j) when a person is seeking information about himself from the Public Authority.

It was decided that legal opinion should be obtained regarding interpretation of Section 8(1)(j).

Thereafter, the Commission met without officers and the following matters were decided:-

- 1) Regarding selection of JS in place of Sh. P.K. Gera. It was decided that none of the names sent by EO were acceptable to the Commission.
- 2) The proposed decision regarding Examination heard by the full bench was discussed.