

Minutes of the meeting dated 16.9.08

Agenda 1: Non Compliance of the orders of the Commission

Commission discussed the issue of record of non compliance of the orders of the Commission and directed that the information in respect of non compliance will be maintained by the Registrar General and will be placed before the Commission for information regularly. However, Registry of individual Commissioners will process each case of non compliance as directed keeping the Registrar General informed in this regard. Registrar General will nominate an officer of Registry who will maintain the information in respect of such non compliances.

Commission agreed that since it has neither jurisdiction nor mandate to initiate any action on the complaints received against any of the members of the Commission, there is no need to maintain any information in this respect by the commission.

Agenda 2: Progress on the preparation of Annual Convention, 2008

Commission directed that it will pay the travel expenses for speakers from SAARC countries invited for the proposed convention in November. Commission however, may work out for an arrangement with the carrier agency, Air India carry the business class. Their stay will be at IIC, New Delhi. Commission directed further to provide the speakers from SAARC countries with Air conditioned Indigo/Esteem Cars for local transport during the convention.

Commission desired that the chief information commissioner, Hon^{ble} Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and the VVIP be invited to sit on the dais during the inaugural and the valedictory sessions.

Commission was presented with the updated position of the speakers for various sub themes of the convention. It was further informed that the commission has also received some papers/literature on RTI and its various facets. It was proposed that commission may constitute two committees each headed by an Information commissioner one on the matters of protocol and other on the academic matters. The committees will be assisted by JS (TK) and DS (PP) respectively. Commission agreed to this proposal and desired that the committee on protocol may be headed by Sri Satyanand Misra and the other committee may be headed by Sri M L Sharma and Ms. Annapurna Dixit.

Agenda 3:

Commission agreed to the request of Sri Shekhar Singh and desired that the government may also be invited to present the report on assessment of RTI as submitted by the PWC in the same session followed by discussions. Accordingly the last session as proposed may be modified in such a way that there may be a separate session on Assessment of impact of RTI chaired by the Chief Information Commissioner.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj may be requested to provide list of NGOs that are working in RTI especially in rural areas. Mr. T R Raghunandan, Joint Secretary, M/o Panchayati Raj, GOI may be invited as one of the speakers.

Commission desired that a statement on budget management be presented before it every month. Commissions directed further that it must begin working on post-retirement benefits so as to ensure that these are in place in time for members who will be retiring in the coming months.

Commission desired that an orientation programme for fresh staff members may be organised forthwith so that they are familiar with the provisions of the RTI Act and the working of the commission.