

Minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 17/7/2007

1. Present:-

- A. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Smt. Padma Balasubramanian, Information Commissioner
- C. Shri A. N. Tiwari, Information Commissioner
- D. Prof. M. M. Ansari, Information Commissioner
- E. Dr. O.P. Kejariwal, Information Commissioner

- F. Secretary, JS(S), Deputy Secretary (PP), Under Secretary (DCS), Under Secretary (G Subramanian) assisted the Commission.

2. The Commission expressed grief over the sad demise of noted journalist and RTI Activist Shri Prakash Kardaley. It was decided that a message of condolence on behalf of the Commission may be sent by e.mail to his bereaved family and friends.

3. Compliance of the minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 19/06/2007.

i) *Additional Registrar, CIC has apprised the Commission that the standard format of notices, summons etc. used by the Commission has already been framed.”*

- A) JS(S) has yet to give compliance report.
- B) JS(S) reported that summons had been standardized and was directed to study existing procedures regarding notices within the Commission and then to standardize the formats and put them up in the next meeting.
- C) The Commission noted compliance of other agenda items.

4. E-mail sent by Mr. Prakash Kardaley regarding procedure if an IC/CIC cannot hear a scheduled hearing.

Regarding the suggestions received from Mr. Prakash Kardaley, the following decisions were taken:-

(1) Depending upon the budget, the Commission would set up its own facilities for Video Conferencing. The present system of holding Video Conferencing in the NIC office in CGO Complex is time consuming.

(2) In case due to some exigency the CIC/IC is not able to hear cases scheduled for that day, the Registrar of the Commission will

reschedule the hearing by some other IC on the same day after consulting the IC concerned. The JS(S) will include this provision in the Regulations of the Commission.

5. Effective implementation of the CIC Regulations

- A) The Commission directed JS(S) to collect all the comments received on the Regulations formulated in the CIC and to classify them and put them up at the next meeting of the Commission.
 - B) Regarding the procedures and practices to be put into place for enforcement of the Regulations, these will be discussed in the next meeting of the Commission.
6. The Commission decided that each IC/CIC will identify those decisions which have major impact under the RTI Act and would have them marked with a letter 'P' for purposes of publication.
 7. The Commission revised its earlier decision to hold Bi-weekly meetings and decided to revert to its earlier practice of meeting each Tuesday from 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. There will be a set agenda for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. For the 2nd and 4th Tuesday, there would be no set agenda.
 8. With regard to maintenance of decorum in the Commission, the Commission directed Secretary to explore the possibilities of hiring Security agencies on the pattern of G-4.
 9. Thereafter, the Commission met without officers. With regard to the proposed Interactive Session to be held in October, the Commission decided that it will hold its Conference independently without any co-host. The possibilities of holding this Interactive Session on the 12th October in Vigyan Bhawan should be explored. In the meanwhile, the booking in IIC for 17th October, 07 should be retained till confirmation of the booking of the hall in Vigyan Bhawan. The Commission also directed the Secretary to follow-up with the SIC's to give their confirmation for participation in the Session, to confirm whether they would like to make any presentations and to give their suggestions if any for topics on discussion. This exercise is to be completed within the next 2 weeks.