

**Minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on
25.03.2008**

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. JS (S), JS (TK), Deputy Secretary (PP), US (DCS), US (G S) assisted the Commission.

2. The Commission was apprised that the Secretary is unable to attend the meeting since he has been requested by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to attend a meeting of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on 25th March '2008.

3. The CIC opened the meeting by asking for the progress made on *"setting up the proposed research wing for the Commission at the earliest"* as mentioned at para 3 of the minutes of the meeting dated 4th March '2008. JS (TK) informed the Commission that the proposal to this effect has been approved by the Secretary, DoPT and very soon an SFC will be convened. Commission desired that the channels of recruitment for the Centre may be included for consideration of the SFC.

4. As mentioned in the minutes of meeting dated 19.03.2008 chaired by the Secretary, CIC, the Commission was informed that Prof. N.P. Singh, MDI Gurgaon has expressed his inability to present the progress on the preparation of Annual Report for 2006-2007 on 25.03.2008. However, MDI, Gurgaon will make a presentation before the Commission next week.

5. The Commission further directed that a similar presentation may also be made by the NBCC and the SPA, New Delhi before the Commission during next two weeks design of the proposed office building of the Commission. The Commission desired that during the first presentation the Chairman, NBCC may also be present. A letter to invitation may therefore be sent to the Chairman, NBCC well in advance

{proposed action: JS (TK)}

6. The Commission was apprised of the compliance of the order of the Commission in file no. CIC/WB/A/2007/00984 in which the

Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India has observed the following:

“A reminder was issued to all Govt. of India Printing Presses to immediately respond to the application of Shri Om Prakash Sood. All Printing Presses have since replied to the applicant. Directions have also been issued for computerization of pension records of all former employees of Govt. of India Printing Presses and uploading of these records on to the website of the Printing Presses with linkages to the MoUD website.”

The Commission directed that a recommendation to replicate this effort may be sent to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to make similar arrangements in respect of the pension of the employees administered by that Department.

{proposed action: Secretary}

7. The Commission was apprised of an e-mail sent by the Secretary, State Information Commission, Uttarakhand to the Secretary, CIC. The Commission desired that a reply to the e-mail referred above may be sent by the Secretary, CIC indicating that the rationale behind a Zonal Conference followed by a National Convention.

{proposed action: Secretary}

8. The Commission discussed the requirement of a curriculum on RTI for the students of Schools/Colleges and decided to formally take up the matter with the CBSE, ICSE, UGC, NCERT and like organisations. Commission desired that Prof. M.M. Ansari, Information Commissioner may initiate the process and may follow it up with a view to standardization of curriculum on RTI. Commission further noted that there is a need of preparing a tool kit on RTI which could be used by citizens.

It was however agreed that such a kit may be prepared in a second phase, priority being given to inclusion of RTI in the curriculum.

{proposed action: IC(A)}