

**PROCEEDS OF THE MEETING ON 12-1-2012 @ 4.00 PM IN THE CHAMBERS
OF THE SCIC.**

Members Present:

1. Sri A K M Nayak, SCIC
2. Sri J S Virupakshaiah, SIC
3. Sri D Tangaraj, SIC
4. Sri M R Pujar, SIC
5. Sri T Rama Naik, SIC
6. Sri Shekar D Sajjannar, SIC
7. Sri N Jayadeva, Secretary
8. Sri B Sreerama Reddy, Legal Officer
9. Sri T Ashoka, Under Secretary
10. Sri R S Shiva Kumar, SO
11. Sri Shivashankar, Accounts Superintendent
12. Sri K Srinivas, P S to Secretary.
13. Kum. Prathiba Desai., Programmer

1. Disposal of Cases:

The Secretary placed before the Commission a statement showing the Bench-wise details of cases disposed during the year 2011 (from 1-1-2011 to 31-12-2011). Taking note of the figures furnished, SIC-JSV said that cases disposed are more than 50% of the total pending in the Commission (i.e. 12,913 of the total of 25,053).

SIC-DTR added that the opening balance of previous years was 11,578 and, as such, the overall pendency is still 12,140.

The Secretary explained to the Commission that the status of 742 Cases is yet to be traced and sought some more time for completing the exercise.

Deliberating upon the measures that could be evolved to reduce the pendency, Commission directed the Under Secretary to draw a clear distinction between fresh and part heard cases.

The SCIC instructed that a comprehensive comparative statement about the total number of Cases disposed during the year 2009 and 2011 be prepared and placed before the Commission at the earliest.

Action: Under Secretary & Programmer

2. Despatch of Interim Orders.

The SCIC pointed out that the words "Interim Orders" should not be used if the intension is to treat it as a final disposal.

SIC-DTR enquired about progress achieved in adding "*Issue of Summons and rejection*" into the PLO module and stated that the files issued to the SICs, pertaining to *Notices-cum-Directions*, are lying unattended. The need for approval for modifying and restructuring the PLO Module, to suit this requirement, by NIC has not only defeated the very concept but also all efforts, made to take up this work as a special drive, will go waste.

The SCIC informed that the Dy. Dir Gen & SIO of NIC was in touch with him and had sought a date to meet and discuss the issues. It was resolved to hold a meeting with **NIC** and a representative from DPAR, e-Gov (for technical assistance) on Monday at 4.00 p.m.

Action: Secretary

3. Holding hearings in two sessions:

Morning – Fresh Cases; Afternoon – Part heard Cases

SCIC explained to the Commissioners about the difficulties expressed by some of the petitioners, who had approached him, requesting for two distinct sessions in the *forenoon & afternoon*, in the Commission. He felt that since the request is reasonable, the Commission could hear fresh cases in the forenoon, take a break of 15 minutes and restart hearing part heard cases in the Afternoon.

The Commission resolved to adopt the same and here afterwards, all the orders, in part heard cases will indicate the time of hearing.

Action: Secretary & Under Secretary

4. Continuation of the present service provider for another three months:

- a. Up to March 2012.
- b. To go for e-Tendering

The Commission agreed, in principle, that the services of the present provider could be continued till the end of March, 2012.

SIC-JSV suggested that it be placed on record that the Service Provider shall submit *the receipt* of the E.P.F amount paid to that department during the previous month along with the salary bill of the month.

The Commission, while accepting the proposal, resolved that if proof of remittance for the previous month was not enclosed, the payment for the month claimed could be withheld till it is duly produced.

SIC-DTR suggested that some scientific method could be evolved to revise the salary paid to the out-sourced staff of the Commission and supported the Secretary's proposal of the Commission directly contributing to *employers* share of the EPF, which is presently being recovered from the *employee's* salary.

The Commission requested the Secretary to submit proposals after duly examining all the related implications.

Action: Secretary

5. Establishment of LAN for KIC at Mythic Society.

The Secretary explained about his meeting with the CEO, CEG, (DPAR, e-Gov) and apprised the Commission about the options, namely, to place orders directly to the CEC, e-Gov or call for quotations from service providers shortlisted by that department.

The Commission, after discussions, authorised the Secretary, to place orders with the specified vendor, selected by e-Gov and get the Networking, at Mythic Society, done urgently.

Action: Secretary

6. Action taken on the decisions of the previous meeting (since 1-1-2011)

The SCIC directed the Secretary to draw a comprehensive list of the various decisions taken by the Commission, at all its meetings held so far, marking against each decision the action taken in the following format:

Sl. No.	Date of meeting	Decision in brief	Action taken
1			
2			
3			
4			

In all cases in which action has to be continuously taken, for the finalization of the issue, the same shall be carried forward and the latest status indicated.

Action: Administration Section

7. Miscellaneous:

- (i) The Commission may hear out-station cases through Video-Conferences or by holding sittings at District Head quarters.

SIC-JSV mentioned about the lack of facility to view the document-exhibits provided by the respondents as a main draw-back in Video-Conferences.

It was resolved that the CEO, e-Gov, could be reminded about providing "*Document Readers*" to the centres where Video-Conferences are being conducted as this could solve the document viewing issue. In addition to it, the **VIDYO** option, floated by NIC in an earlier meeting, could also be discussed since the Video-Conference facilities was promised to be extended up to the Taluk-level.

- The Commission also resolved to hold both Video-Conferences and Out Station Sittings since the latter was more often being utilised to educate the PIOs through training schedules.
- (ii) SIC-JSV wanted the spare car to be made available for transporting the supporting staff of the Commission for sittings in the immediate neighbouring districts.
SIC-JSV suggested to the Secretary that the option of drawing on AC bills, as an alternative, should be considered since the reimbursement, for the entire expenditure incurred during outstation sittings, initially borne by the concerned Commissioner, is taking a very long time.
- (iii) The Commission noted that in-spite of writing in strong terms, regarding timely recovery of penalties levied on erring respondents-PIOs, the higher-ups of the penalized officers have done very little to promptly recover penalties.
The Commission resolved that such orders are to be despatched by RPAD for ensuring acknowledgment from the recipients.
- (iv) To reduce the burden on the despatch section and ensure timely despatch of notices to the parties it was suggested that, as is being done by some State Commissions and Courts of Law. KIC should serve only the 1st Notice, the show-cause notice and the final order to the concerned. The Commission resolved to do this from March 2012.
- (v) With reference to Annexure "C" of the present budget (2011-12), it was brought to the notice of the Commission that the Government had decided not to fund New Buildings and had provided budgetary support only for old buildings. It was suggested that Secy., KIC, may write to the Principal Secy., DPAR(JS) and the FD inviting them for a discussion. Mr. Govindaraj, FSA, could also be contacted regarding the possibility of making a budget provision for at least Rs. 6 Crores.
The Commission resolved to discuss the issue with the Principal Secretaries of DPAR(JS) and Finance Department.
- (vi) The need to reallocate the cases posted for hearing, when the Presiding Officer has to go on leave suddenly for unforeseen reasons, was also discussed. It was suggested that the Personal Section of the concerned Commissioner should bring the matter to the notice of the Court Officer who may send the days' cases of that Commissioner equally to the other two Commissioners who are in the same building.
- (vii) The Secretary was directed to follow up the *Imprest amount file* with the concerned officers in the Finance Department.
- (viii) **Issuing Certified Copies:**
The Commission resolved that its officers need not certify any copies that do not pertain to KIC. Certified copies of only orders, issued by the Commission, may be issued.
- Letters returned as undelivered:**
- (ix) The SCIC directed the Under Secretary that all the summons/order copies issued by the Commission and received as **undelivered** should be placed in the connected files and brought to the notice of the concerned presiding Officer.

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State Chief Information Commissioner