

Proceedings of the staff meeting held on 16/11/2005 at 12.00 Noon in the Chambers of State Chief Information Commissioner.

Members Present:

- 1) Sri K.K.Misra,
State Chief Information Commissioner.
KIC.
- 2) Sri K.A.Thippeswamy,
State Information Commissioner.
KIC.
- 3) Personal Section Staff of SCIC.
- 4) Staff of KIC.

The following decisions were taken.

- 1) The National Informatics Centre could be requested to immediately make arrangements for uploading of information about names/addresses/telephone Nos./e-Mail ids etc of Public Information Officers, Assistant Public Information Officers and Appellate Authorities as also the suo-moto publications of information on website of "The Right to Information" as well as on the website of the concerned departments. Some districts have the district websites. The Public Authorities in the districts should upload their information on the district websites.

(Action: 1) Director, NIC.

2) Principal Secretary, DPAR (AR).)

- 2) A suggestion has been made that the Commission and its officers should shift office to a more accessible place. Action has already been taken to secure a more suitable premises. This may be followed up.

(Action: Under Secretary, KIC.)



3) It was decided that the Commission shall follow the Office Procedure as laid down in Karnataka Government Secretariat – Office Procedure Manual. The following Registers will be opened.

- (a) General Receipt Register.
- (b) Despatch Register

(Action: Mr M.S. Ganesha, Jr. Assistant)

4) Rubber Stamps will be got prepared both in Kannada and English which will have Karnataka Information Commission, Bangalore, Dated and Receipt No. in the following formats.

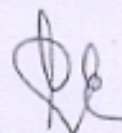
KIC, B'lore
Date:
KIC GRR 200...

5) Tappals will be opened by Under Secretary, KIC and in his absence by Sri Venu and thereafter marked to the concerned for further action. Tappals which are to be seen by SCIC and SIC would be placed in separate tappal pads but only after affixing GRR rubber stamp. Designations of the officers who are to see the tappals will also be mentioned in a separate rubber stamp such as SCIC and SIC, Secretary, DS, US.

6) Progress made by Karnataka Information Commission from inception:

(a) It was decided to document the work done by the Commission since inception. The Commission has been allowed to function from Vidhana Soudha. However efforts are being made to shift the office of the Commission to a place more accessible to the public.

(b) The Commission has received large number of letters, which relate to action under The Karnataka Right to Information Act (KRIA). Some letters are being sent to Karnataka Information Commission for information only. These have been either filed with us or have been sent to the appropriate authorities. In some cases information has been sought from the Public Information Officer under The Right to Information Act



2005 and a copy has been marked to us. Shri Ganesha shall indicate the number of all such letters so that the numbers can be incorporated in the report to be prepared.

(Action: Mr M.S. Ganesha, Jr. Assistant)

(c) Appeals: Commission is 2nd Appellate Authority under the Right to Information Act. Since, under the said Act, Public Information Officers have been given 30 days' time to dispose of an application for information and Appellate Authorities have been given another 30 days time to dispose off the first appeals, the second appeals may be filed with the Commission only after the 1st appeals have been disposed off under the Act.

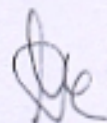
(d) Complaints: The Commission has also been entrusted with the responsibility of dealing with complaints such as non appointment of Public Information Officers, Assistant Public Information Officers and refusal of receipt of application etc. The Commission has so far received the following four complaints in this regards.

(i) Complaint from Sri Anbarasan, Bangalore received through e-Mail regarding non implementation of some of the provisions of the act. The concerned departments have been addressed and responses have been received from three of them. An interim reply has also been sent to Shri Anbarasan based on the information received.

(ii) Complaint from Shri Vinod Malothra, Bangalore regarding non appointment of Public Information Officers, Assistant Public Information Officers under the Right to Information Act in the Transport Department. This complaint was forwarded to the Principal Secretary, Transport Department as well as Transport Commission and they have since informed that they have complied with the requirements of the Act..

(iii) Complaint from Vignesh .G.Hegde, Hiresar, Yellapur Tq. The Complaint has been referred to the Superintendent of Police, North Kanara for enquiry and report

(iv) Complaint from Shri Venkatesh Bhovi, Bangalore stating that his application for information has not been accepted by Principal, ITI, Hosur Road, Bangalore. A notice



has been issued to the Principal, ITI, Bangalore apart from directions to receive the application and also indicate the action taken.

(e) Computerisation: The Commission has been regularly interacting with National Informatics Centre and has been helping them in preparation of software to handle complaints and appeals. The National Informatics Centre has also been requested to develop to a website for Karnataka Information Commission.

(f) The State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioner have addressed the participants of Training Programme conducted by Karnataka Government Secretariat Training Institute, Bangalore on The Right to Information Act.

(g) The State Chief Information Commissioner also participated in the meetings organised by Principal Secretary to Government, DPAR (AR) for interactions with the Non-Governmental Organizations regarding finalization of rules under Right to Information Act. He also coordinated with the Government in finalizing the training programme to be launched for officers in Karnataka with financial support from UNDP, which has since been approved by the Govt. of India.

(h) The State Chief Information Commissioner also participated in Southern Zonal Meeting of Chief Secretaries held at Bangalore on 06/08/2005 regarding progress made in the implementation of the Right to Information Act 2005.

(i) First Secretary, Ms.Ayesha Rekhi, from Canadian High Commission called on State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioner to discuss the provisions of Right to Information Act and their implementation in Karnataka.

(j) The State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioner have also been invited to deliver talks during Training of Trainers on The Right to Information Act, 2005 at Administrative Training Institute, Mysore.



(k) The State Chief Information Commissioner was the Chief Guest in the Workshop organized by National Academy of Customs, Excise and Narcotics, Karnataka, on Right to Information Act.

7) Action to be taken by KIC in compiling Annual Report for 2005.

It is to be decided whether the report should be prepared for calendar year or Financial Year. Since all Government Departments prepare their reports for Financial Year, it was decided that to begin with, the commission may also consider preparing into first report for the year 2005-2006.

All Secretariat Departments may be advised to start compiling information required for the purpose.

(Action: SCIC, SIC)

8) Follow up an action pending with Government.

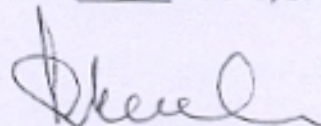
A list of action points may be got prepared and regularly followed up. For example deputation allowance for Government employees deputed to Karnataka Information Commission needs to be followed up.

(Action: Under Secretary, KIC)

9) Introduction of NIC software for monitoring complaints/appeals.

Director, Nation Informatics Centre/Principal Secretary to Government, DPAR (AR) may be requested to ensure that this is got done at the earliest.

(Action: SCIC, SIC)



(K.K.MISRA)

State Chief Information Commissioner