

National Federation of Information Commission in India (NFICI)

R.T.I. Act 2005

Sec.4 (1) (b)

1. Formation:

The Central Chief Information Commissioner through notification F.No.10/12/2009/Admn/ CIC, dated 12-01-2009 constituted a Sub-Committee to undertake an in-depth study and analysis of the problems and issues raised during the Annual Convention 2008, and to explore ways and measures for strengthening the information regime and to suggest an action plan for effective implementation of the RTI Act, 2005.

The Following Terms of Reference (ToR) assigned to the Committee:

- To assess the extent to which the recommendations made by the Commissions, under section 25 of the RTI Act, have been implemented; and, to identify the major reasons, if any, for non-implementation of Commissions' recommendations.
- To prepare a comprehensive status report in respect of the major themes of Annual Convention of 2008, namely RTI and good governance, RTI and democracy, RTI and poverty alleviation, RTI and protection of individual privacy, and RTI revolution in SAARC;
- To assess the adequacy of facilitation process for accessing public held information, mainly in terms of compliance of various provisions of the Act for promotion of maximum disclosure of information;
- To identify the best practices in implementation of RTI Act to promote open government and to outline an action plan for adoption/ adaptation by public authorities;
- To evolve an approach and suggest a methodology for assessing and grading public authorities in terms of greater transparency and accountability and least corruption; and
- To suggest modalities for creation of a permanent broad-based body for the purpose of coordination of various activities of CIC and SICs.

In order to achieve the following Aims & Objectives of the Society. the NFICI is formed. It is Registered as a Society under AP. Societies Registration Act, 2001, vide Regd.No.479 of 2009. at Hyderabad it is now located in A.P. Information Commission Premises, D.No.5-4-399, Samachara Hakku Bhavan, Mozam-jahi Market, Hyderabad –500 001, Ph.Nos.24740107, 24740592(O), 09391045383 (M) **website** : www.nfici.org **e-mail** : info.nfici@gmail.com

2. The aims and objects of the Federation:

- (1) To facilitate coordination and mutual consultation among the Central Information Commission and the State Information Commissions constituted under the Right to Information Act 2005.
- (2) To strengthen the administration of the Act, through education, research and dissemination of knowledge;
- (3) To facilitate the exchange of information on laws and their interpretation, landmark judgments, case law and best practices related to the Act in India and similar statutes abroad;
- (4) To collect, compile and analyze relevant information relating to the implementation of the Act and to take up appropriate issues of importance with the Government of India and State Governments;
- (5) To promote knowledge and encourage initiatives in matters related to transparency and accountability in governance and to engage the stakeholders such as the Central and State Governments, and the citizens and civil society in these matters;
- (6) To promote the use of information technology , modern management techniques and tools for effective implementation of the Act;
- (7) To establish collaboration with research institutions, universities and similar organizations for helping the cause of administration of the Act and furtherance of the objectives of the society;
- (8) To undertake, organize and facilitate tours, studies, research, lectures, seminars and conferences on the administration and practice of the transparency laws including the Right to Information Act and to provide for the publication of journals, research papers and books in the furtherance of the aforesaid objects and to disseminate information for wider use;

- (9) To create a secretariat cum resource center with adequate facilities for research and technical support to the society for its day to day administration and functions;
- (10) To establish procedures for smooth functioning of the Society and carry out Activities in matters relating to personnel, finances, administration, Purchases etc.
- (11) To purchase, accept as a gift or otherwise acquire and own or take on lease Or hire, temporarily or permanently any movable or immovable property necessary for the furtherance of the objectives and activities of the Society;
- (12) To sell, assign, mortgage, lease, exchange and otherwise transfer or dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any property, movable or immovable, of the Society;
- (13) To build, construct, maintain, repair, adapt, alter, improve or develop or furnish any buildings or works necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society;
- (14) To appoint or employ, temporarily or permanently, any person or persons that may be required for purposes of the Society and to pay them or other persons in return for services rendered to the Society salaries, wages, gratuities, provident fund and pensions;
- (15) To institute, offer and grant prizes, awards, scholarships and stipends in furtherance of the objects of the Society;
- (16) To make and enforce Rules and Bye-Laws, and from time to time, to repeal, amend or alter the same;
- (17) To pay all costs, charges and expenses incurred in the promotion, formation,

3. Membership: (enrolling as member to NFICI).

The Membership is open to all Information Commissions in India.

4. Admission fee and Annual Subscription:

Each State Commission has to pay Rs.5.00 Lakhs towards Admission fee and Annual Membership fee of Rs.1.00 Lakh

5. Membership enrolled by:

So far (25) State Commissions enrolled as Members to the Federation which includes the Central Information Commission, The enrolment of membership by the Commissions (financial year wise) is as follows:

2010 -11

1	Sikkim	2	Andhra Pradesh
3	Haryana	4	Bihar
5	Uttarakhand	6	Meghalaya

2011 – 12

7	Odisha	8	Punjab
9	Goa	10	Karnataka
11	Himachal Pradesh	12	Manipur
13	Nagaland	14	CIC, Delhi
15	Tamil Nadu	16	Kerala
17	Rajasthan	18	Chhattisgarh

2012 – 13

19	Mizoram	20	West Bengal
21	Maharashtra	22	Arunachal Pradesh

2013 – 14

23	Assam	24	Jammu & Kashmir
25	Jharkhand		

6. Funds:

The funds received are deposited with State Bank of India at Hyderabad (A Nationalized Bank) in the shape of Long term and short term deposits as a Corpus Fund, to derive income to utilize the same for the activities of the Federation, and also for payment of salaries to staff appointed on contract basis and to meet other misc. expences.

7. Auditors:

M/s Sagar & Associates (A reputed Chartered Accountants Firm) appointed as Auditors for the NFICI.

8. Staff Details:

(i) Executive Secretary:

Sri A.Vijaya Prakash, Judicial Officer APIC is functioning as Executive Secretary for NFICI He is being paid a remuneration of Rs.5000/- (Rs.Five thousand per month) Contacting No. 09391045383.

(ii) Other Staff:

One Data Entry Operator & one Office Sub Ordinate appointed on outsourcing basis.

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From August 2013 to October 2014

Data Entry Operator:

- a) Name: Syed Habeeb Imran
DOB : 13.08.1979.
Qualification: Intermediate.
Date of appointment: 01.08.2013.

Office Sub Ordinate:

- b) Name: G.Sai kumar
DOB : 06.02.1987.
Qualification: Intermediate.
Date of appointment: 01.08.2013.

From November 2014 onwards:

Data Entry Operator:

- a) Name: G.Sai kumar
DOB : 06.02.1987.
Qualification: Intermediate.
Date of appointment: 01.11.2014.

Office Sub Ordinate:

- b) Name: Shaik Azeem Uddin
DOB : 04.08.1985.
Qualification: SSC Failed.
Date of Appointment: 01.11.2014.

The Data entry Operator is being paid Rs. 9500/- P.M. & the office Sub Ordinate is being paid Rs. 6500/- P.M. The Individuals are entitled to the benefits of E.P.F. and E.S.I as per the Out sourcing norms.

9. Meetings held:

(I) General Body meetings:

Sl.No	Meetings	Date	Venue
1.	1 st meeting of General Body of NFICI	20.04.2011	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
2.	2 nd meeting of General Body of NFICI	21-04-2012	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
3.	3 rd meeting of General Body of NFICI	06-04-2013	Circuit House Raipur Chattisgarh.
4.	4 th meeting of General Body of NFICI	19-04-2014	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.

N.B: The copies of the Minutes of the Meeting are displayed on the NFICI Website. (see www.nfici.org).

(II) Board of Governors (Executive Committee) Meetings:

Sl.No	Meetings	Date	Venue
1.	1 st Meeting of the Executive Committee of the NFICI	14.10.2009	Gurajada Hall, Andhra Pradesh Bhawan, New Delhi.
2.	2 nd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the NFICI	20.02.2010	Gurajada Hall, Andhra Pradesh Bhawan, New Delhi.
3.	3 rd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the NFICI	28.06.2010	APIC Office, HACA Bhawan, Hyderabad, A.P.
4.	4 th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI	20.04.2011	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
5.	5 th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI	13-10-2011	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
6.	6 th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI	21.04.2012	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
7.	7 th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI	14.07.2012	Conference Hall, Hotel Capitol, Bangalore. (Karnataka)
8.	8 th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI	24.11.2012	Conference Hall, Yashada, Pune (Maharashtra).
9.	9 th Board of Governors Meeting of NFICI	06.04.2013	Circuit House Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
10.	10th Board of Governors Meeting of NFICI	04.09.2013	DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi.
11.	11th Board of Governors Meeting of NFICI	19.04.2014	Civil services officers' Instt., Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
12.	12 th Board of Governors Meeting of NFICI	13.12.2014	A.P. Bhavan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi.

N.B: The copies of Minutes of the Meeting are displayed on the NFICI Website (see www.nfici.org).

10. Board of Governors:

1st & 2nd Board of Governors (01.09.2010 to 20.04.2012)

1. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, IAS (Retd), CCIC Central Information Commission New Delhi President
2. Shri C.D. Arha, IAS (Retd), SCIC Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission Vice President
3. Shri K.K. Mishra, IAS (Retd), SCIC Karnataka State Information Commission
4. Shri P.S.Rana, IAS (Retd), SCIC Himachal Pradesh Information Commission
5. Shri Nyodek Yongamm, IAS (Retd), SCIC Arunachal Pradesh State Information Commissioner
6. Shri Suresh Vinayakrao Joshi, IAS (Retd), SCIC Maharashtra State Information Commissioner
7. Dr. Mohd. Shakeel Ahmed, IAS (Retd), SCIC Bihar State Information Commissioner
8. Prof. M.M. Ansari, IAS (Retd), SCIC Central Information Commission New Delhi

3rd Board of Governors (21.04.2012 to 05.04.2012)

1. Shri Satyananda Mishra, IAS (Retd), CCIC Central Information Commission President New Delhi
2. Shri Jannat Husain, IAS (Retd), SCIC Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission Vice President
3. Shri A.K. Choudhary, IAS (Retd), SCIC Bihar State Information Commission
4. Thiru K.S. Sripathi, IAS (Retd), SCIC Tamilnadu State Information Commission
5. Shri Bhimsen, IAS (Retd), SCIC Himachal Pradesh State Information Commission
6. Shri Lalhuma, IAS (Retd), SCIC Nagaland State Information Commission
7. Shri T. Srinivasan, IAS (Retd), SCIC Rajasthan State Information Commission
8. Shri Serijus Minj, IAS (Retd), SCIC Chattisgarh State Information Commission

4th Board of Governors (06.04.2013 to 18.04.2014)

1. Shri Satyananda Mishra, IAS (Retd), CCIC Central Information Commission President New Delhi
2. Shri Jannat Husain, IAS (Retd), SCIC Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission Vice President
3. Dr. Sibby Mathews , IAS (Retd), SCIC Kerala State Information Commission
4. Shri Bhimsen, IAS (Retd), SCIC Himachal Pradesh State Information Commission
5. Shri K.T. Chenkapa , IAS (Retd), SCIC Sikkim State Information Commission
6. Smt. Leena Mehendale, IAS (Retd), SCIC Goa State Information Commission
7. Shri R. Jayamohan Pillai, IAS (Retd), SCIC Rajasthan State Information Commission
8. Shri C.D.Kynjing, IAS (Retd), SCIC Meghalaya State Information Commission

5th Board of Governors (19.04.2014 onwards)

1. Shri Rajiv Mathur , IAS (Retd), CCIC Central Information Commission President New Delhi
2. Shri Jannat Husain, IAS (Retd), SCIC Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission Vice President
3. Shri Naresh Gulati , IAS (Retd), SCIC Haryana State Information Commission
4. Shri Y.D. Thongchi, IAS (Retd), SCIC Arunachal Pradesh State Information Commission
5. Shri Ratnakar Yeshwant Gaikwad, IAS (Retd), SCIC Maharastra State Information Commission
6. Shri R. Jayamohan Pillai, IAS (Retd), SCIC Rajasthan State Information Commission
7. Shri R.K. Angousana Singh, IAS (Retd), SCIC Manipur State Information Commission
8. Shri Tarun Kanti Mishra, IAS (Retd), SCIC Odisha State Information Commission

11. ACHIEVEMENTS BY NFICI :

(1) Creation of NFICI website:

A Website for NFICI is got created through YASHADA, Pune, the same was launched by Sri Satyananda Mishra, the then CCIC., Central Information Commission / President NFICI on 04-09-2013 in DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi, the same can be viewed on www.nfici.org.

(2) Creation of e-mail ID for NFICI:

An e-mail ID info.nfici@gmail.com is created for the purpose of correspondence.

(3) Release of News letter (Online Quarterly magazine):

The NFICI constituted an Editorial Board consisting of the following Members:

1. Shri Ratnakar Gaikwad, IAS (Retd), SCIC., Maharashtra
2. Shri K.S. Sripathi, IAS (Retd), SCIC., Tamilnadu
3. Shri R.I. Singh, IAS (Retd), SCIC., Punjab
4. Shri Lalhuma, IAS (Retd), SCIC., Nagaland
5. Shri Napalchyal, IAS (Retd), SCIC., Uttarakhand.

The above members sincerely put their efforts and brought out the News Letter (Online quarterly magazine). The 1st edition (July – August – September, 2013) was released by Sri Satyananda Mishra, the then CIC., Central Information Commission / President, NFICI on 04-09-2013 in DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi.

Subsequently the 2nd edition (October – November – December, 2013), the 3rd Edition (January – February – March, 2014), 4th edition (April – May – June, 2014), 5th edition (July – August – September, 2014) and 6th edition (October, November, December, 2014), were also released successfully.

(4) Printing of RTI Act in Braille:

The RTI Act 2005 has been got printed in Braille which also cover important G.Os and Circulars issued by Govt. of India / Govt. of Andhra Pradesh on RTI Act and rules adopted thereon.

The Hon'ble Member Commissions of rest of the State Commissions were requested to forward the rules being adopted by them under the Act along with important G.Os and Circulars issued by their respective Governments, for printing the same are awaited (except from K.S.I.C.), A decision was taken in recent Board of Governors Meeting held at New Delhi on 13.12.2014 to supply (10) Ten copies of RTI Act in Braille to each State Commission to enable them to supply among needy blind schools, and the work is in progress.

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(5) Defending Government interest in the cases filed before NCDRC, New Delhi (under consumer Protection Act):

In the 4th General Body Meeting of NFICI held at New Delhi on 19-04-2014, the Punjab State Chief Information Commissioner proposed to defend the Government interest in the cases filed before a full bench of NCDRC, New Delhi.

The very issue is that some RTI Activists of different states filed cases before the NCDRC to bring the designated Public Information Officers of RTI Act in to the ambit of Consumer Protection Act who failed to provide information within 30 days with reference to Section 7 (1) of the RTI Act, treating failure of service on the part of the PIO when sought information by paying requisite application fee.

The General Body discussed the matter in length and took a decision to defend the cases pending before the NCDRC on behalf of the Government, by filing impleading petitions by the NFICI. Accordingly NFICI filed impleading petitions in all the following 5 cases pending before the NCDRC by engaging a Supreme Court Lawyer Smt. Subhashini.

Sl. No.	Filed in case (R.P) No.	Impleading Petition No.	Date	Case pertains to The State of
1.	2028/2012	15020/2014	31.07.2014	Uttar Pradesh
2.	3146/2012	15021/2014	31.07.2014	Punjab
3.	275/2012	15023/2014	31.07.2014	Andhra Pradesh
4.	362/2013	15022/2014	31.07.2014	Haryana
5.	66/2014	15024/2014	31.07.2014	Orissa

The final hearings were held in the month of November, 2014 and the cases were disposed in favour of Government by the full bench of NCDRC., New Delhi Vide its judgement Pronounced on 08.01.2015 (the copy of judgement issued may be viewed on NFICI website i.e. info.nfici.org).

- (6)** The following decisions were also taken by the NFICI in the recent Board of Governors meeting held at New Delhi on 13.12.2014,
- (a) To train up newly appointed Commissioners under RTI Act by utilising the services of senior Retired Commissioners to have a grip over the Act in dealing and disposing the cases successfully by them.
 - (b) To take out short films on RTI for display in Cinema Halls & on TV Channels through respective I&PR Departments for bringing awareness among the public.

The Modalities on the above items are being worked out.

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(7). Extending financial assistance to the Committee constituted for developing detailed guidelines and methodology for implementing section 4 of the RTI Act by various Public Authorities:

The Central Information Commission constituted a Committee with the Approval of the DoPT for a period of three months to work in line with DoPT Guidelines No.1/6/2011-IR dated 15.04.2013. The committee will interalia, prepare guidelines for Public Authorities to the frame work for third party audit. The Committee has now started functioning and it is felt some Research Assistants required to be engaged urgently to collect data and interact with other key Public Authorities to help prepare the report. The Secretary, Central Information Commission, New Delhi accordingly requested for financial assistance of Rs.five lakhs for the Project taken up.

As one of the key mandates of the NFICI is to assist and carry out studies on the implementation of the RTI Act. The matter has been discussed in the last Board of Governors meeting held on 13.12.2014 at New Delhi and took a decision to release an amount of Rs.4.00 lakhs for the purpose.

As part of the programme the Committee headed by Sri A.N. Tiwari, IAS (Retd), Former Central Chief Information Commissioner, Prof. M.M. Ansari, Former Central Information Commissioner accompanied by Sri D.C. Singh , Deputy Secretary, Central Information Commission visited Hyderabad recently and had discussions on the issue with the officials of Centre for Good Governance on 16.1.2015 and had discussion with the officials of Dr. MCRHRD Institute, and with the Special Chief Secretary to Government of A.P and other Government Officials on 16.1.2015.

12. Designated Public Information Officer/FAA/2ndAppellate Authority

- 1. Public Information Officer:** Shri. A.V. Prakash, B.A., LL.B.,
Executive Secretary, NFICI, APIC office
Premises, Samachara Hakku Bhavan,
Mozam- jahi-Market Hyderabad –500 001,
Contact No. 09391045383

- 2. First Appellate Authority:** Shri . Jannat Husain, IAS (Rtd).,
SCIC., APIC & Vice President NFICI, APIC
Office Premises, Samachara Hakku Bhavan,
Mozam-jahi-Market Hyderabad –500 001,
Contact Ph.No.040-24740107

- 3. Second Appellate Authority:** CCIC, Central Information Commission,
New Delhi, President NFICI,
Contact Ph.No.011-26717355


Executive Secretary
NFICI

N.B. The particulars of Organisation, functions duties, powers of the Executive Committee (Board of Governors) & General Body and that of Executive Secretary etc. are detailed in the Memorandum of Association (Doct.No.1), Bye Laws. (Doct No.II) & the Rules and Regulations are very well displayed on the NFICI Website (www.nfici.org).