

Minutes of 4th Meeting of Board of Governors of NFICI

Time: 03:45 p.m., Date: 20.04.2011

Venue: Civil Services Officers' Institute (CSOI), Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi

List of Participants:

1. Members of NFICI's 2nd Board of Governors:

- **Shri Jannat Husain**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission & Vice President, NFICI
- **Shri A. K. Choudhary**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Bihar State Information Commission, Member, NFICI
- **Shri Tarun Kanti Misra**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Orissa State Information Commission Member, NFICI
- **Shri Surinder Singh**, SIC, Punjab State Information Commission (for SCIC, Punjab - Member, NFICI)

Special Invitees Present:

- **Shri Wajahat Habibullah**, IAS (Retd.) Ex-CIC, Central Information Commission and 1st President of NFICI
- **Shri C. D. Arha**, IAS (Retd.) Ex-SCIC, Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission and 1st Vice President of NFICI
- **Shri Satyananda Mishra**, IAS (Retd.) CIC, Central Information Commission
- **Shri K. S. Sripathi**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Tamil Nadu State information Commission
- **Shri Bhim Sen**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Himachal Pradesh State information Commission
- **Shri Serjius Minj**, IAS (Retd.), SCIC, Chhattisgarh State information Commission
- **Shri K. Tlan Thanga**, SIC, Mizoram Information Commission

Also present:

- **Smt. Anita Gupta**, Additional Secretary, Central Information Commission
- **Shri Vardhaman Vaidya**, Executive Secretary (interim), NFICI

2. Shri Jannat Husain was unanimously elected as the Vice President of NFICI. It was agreed that **Shri Jannat Husain** the (Vice-President elect) would carry out the duties and functions of the President till the election of the latter. **Shri Jannat Husain** then took the participants through the agenda for this meeting. Since no changes had been received regarding the draft minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Board of Governors / Executive Committee of NFICI, they were approved and adopted as such.

3. Shri Satyananda Mishra stated that he would look into CIC becoming member of NFICI at the earliest and requested the same of all the participants – who have not become members yet.

4. It was agreed that once CIC becomes a member, **Shri Satyananda Mishra** would write a D.O. Letter to the Chief Ministers – of all those States from which ICs are yet to become members – with a request that the respective governments cooperate regarding their respective ICs becoming members of NFICI.

5. Regarding the election of the President of the 2nd Board of Governors of NFICI, it was agreed that given the likelihood of the CIC becoming member soon and given the insistence of all the participants that **Shri Satyananda Mishra** should be the President of NFICI by virtue of being the Chief Information Commissioner of the Central Information Commission, election of President was deferred.

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6. It was reiterated that all the 8 ICs who have paid their admission fee would have their SCICs on the Board of Governors. Thus, for now, the Members of the 2nd BoG would be the SCICs of Andhra Pradesh (Vice President), Sikkim, Haryana, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Orissa and Punjab.

7. With regard to discussing the plan of action for the present year, it was brought to the notice of the Board by **Shri C. D. Arha** that a *Programme Committee* and a *Finance Committee* were constituted during the 1st meeting of the Board of Governors of NFICI. However, their reports could not be received. It was agreed, therefore, that these would be re-constituted during the next (5th) meeting of the Board of Governors.

8. Further to this, **Shri Satyananda Mishra** suggested that these Committees could first and foremost take up for deliberation many of the key issues related to the administration and resource augmentation of ICs – say, the authority, entitlements etc. of the Information Commissioners as should be applicable uniformly and universally and various other issues. Budget-related and other decisions for NFICI in this regard could be taken after the re-constitution of the said Committees.. This was agreed by all present.

9. That CGG, Hyderabad would be requested to provide support to NFICI for the time being, as it has done previously, was reiterated.

10. Regarding the agenda item about NFICI having its website, it was suggested that CGG, Hyderabad would prepare a proposal, which could be submitted to the Vice President of NFICI and it could then be discussed by the Board of Governors in its next meeting.

11. It was agreed that the General Body could meet next to coincide with the Annual Convention of the Central Information Commission and thereafter meet accordingly, every year – one day before the Annual Convention. It was agreed that the 2nd Board of NFICI could also meet a day before the impending Annual Convention of CIC. It was discussed, however, that the Vice President, NFICI would consider having one more Board meeting in the interim – if possible – wherein all the members of the new board could be present and the President could be formally elected.

12. The meeting ended with the Vice President of NFICI thanking all the participants for their time and their inputs.

Shri Jannat Husain
Chief Information Commissioner, APIC
& Vice President, NFICI