

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONS IN INDIA
Minutes of 13th Board of Governors Meeting held on 18th April, 2015.

Venue: Civil Services Officers Institute, Vinay Marg, Chanakyapuri New Delhi.
Time : 3.00 p.m.

Participants:

Members:

- Shri Serjius Minj, IAS (Rtd.), SCIC., Chattisgarh Information Commission
- Shri Bhim Sen, IAS (Rtd.), SCIC., Himachal Pradesh Information Commission.
- Shri P.R. Dash, SCIC., Jharkhand Information Commission
- Shri Lal Dingliana, IFS (Retd.) SCIC., Mizoram Information Commission
- Shri Thiru K.S. Sripathi, IAS (Retd.) SCIC., Tamil Nadu Information Commission
- Shri Dr. G.D. Gautama , SCIC., West Bengal Information Commission
- Shri Dr.A.K. Sinha, IAS (Rtd.),SCIC., Bihar Information Commission.
- Shri P.K. Mohanty, IAS (Rtd.),SCIC., Odisha Information Commission.

Special Invitees:

- Shri Balwant Singh, IAS (Retd.) SCIC., Gujarat Information Commission
- Mrs. T.Y. Das, Secretary, Central Information Commission, New Delhi.

Board of Governors:

- Shri Jannat Husain, IAS (Rtd.) SCIC., Andhra Pradesh Information Commission, President, (I/c)
- Shri G R Sufi, IRS (Retd.) SCIC., Jammu & Kashmir Information Commission
- Shri H.Sekhar Das, IAS (Rtd.), SCIC., Assam Information Commission
- Shri Shankar.R.Pati, SIC., Karnataka Information Commission
- Shri Bukchem Phom SIC., Nagaland Information Commission
- Shri K.T. Chankapa, IAS (Retd.) SCIC., Sikkim Information Commission

Also present:

- Shri S.P. Beck, Joint Secretary, Central Information Commission New Delhi.
- Shri A.Vijaya Prakash, Executive Secretary, NFICI., Hyderabad

The Executive Secretary, warmly welcomed the newly elected Board of Governors, Members, Special Invitees and other participants to the 13th Board of Governors meeting.

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Election of President & Vice President

The Executive Secretary informed the Hon'ble Members present to the meeting that as per the decisions taken in the Board of Governors meeting held at New Delhi, on 19th April, 2014 the Board of Governors took a decision to elect Central Information Commissioner as President to NFICI by virtue of the post and not by virtue of name. As such, after demitting the office by Sri Satyananda Mishra, Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, his successor Smt Sushma Swaraj was elected as President and after demitting of office by her, her successor Sri Rajiv Mathur become deemed President to NFICI.

That after demitting of office by Sri Rajiv Mathur, Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission on 22-8-2014, the post is kept vacant till today. That as per NFICI Rule 16(b) Sri Jannat Husain, Vice President is acting as Incharge President and requested the Hon'ble members to take a decision in electing the President.

The members discussed at length and come to a conclusion that due to non filling of the post of Central Information Commissioner by the GOI the post of CIC, Central Information Commission is kept vacant for the past (8) months, in the above event it is felt appropriate by the Board of Governors to elect Sri Jannat Husain, SCIC, APIC President (I/c) as regular President to NFICI., to enable him to represent to GOI in times of necessity on any important matters arising out of RTI Act while holding the post of Vice President as (I/c) Vice President.

Sri Jannat Husain thanking to the members for electing him as a President informed the Board of Governors and others members present at the meeting that his tenure as SCIC, APIC is going to complete by 18.07.2015 thereby he may call for Board of Governors meeting in July, 2015 at Hyderabad to elect a new President in the event if the post of Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission is not filled by the GOI. That in the event if the GOI appoints a new CIC

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to the Central Information Commission, New Delhi, in which case the newly posted CIC., Central Information Commission will be his successor as President as per the decision taken by the Board.

This has been agreed to by the Board of Governors.

Discussion on Future Action Plan:

The following items came for discussion for future action plan.

1. Autonomy to the Central & State Commissions.
2. Powers of contempt to the Commissioners.
3. Voluntary disclosure of information by Public Authorities U/Sec. 4.
4. Guidelines for effective functioning of 1st Appellate Authorities.
5. Restrictions on seeking unlimited & huge information U/Sec. 6(1).
6. Sanction of service pension to SICs.
7. Protection of RTI Activists who are sincerely working in the public interest.

The Secretary, Central Information Commissioner present in the meeting appraised the members that, the Central Information Commission already taken up the issue (item No.3) and submitted its report to the GOI, DoPT as already discussed in the General Body Meeting, and said we await for the decision of the DoPT in the matter.

The members agreed to the proposal.

The President requested the Board of Governors and other members present in the meeting to focus on the other issues and to furnish their views and suggestions for discussion in the next Board of Governors meeting that the date for the next Board of Governors meeting will be intimated separately.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by the Executive Secretary.

Sd/-
Jannat Husain,
SCIC, A.P. Information Commission &
President NFICI.

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Executive Secretary