

Proceedings of 14th Meeting of Full Commission of State Information Commissioner Punjab, Chandigarh held on 17.9.2012 at 03.30 P.M. under the Chairmanship of Chief Information Commissioner.

The following were present:

1. Shri R.I.Singh, Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab;
2. Shri Bidhi Chand Thakur, State Information Commissioner, Punjab;
3. Shri S.P. Singh, State Information Commissioner, Punjab
4. Shri Chander Parkash, State Information Commissioner, Punjab;
5. Shri Narinderjit Singh, State Information Commissioner, Punjab;
6. Shri Surinder Awasthi, State Information Commissioner, Punjab;
7. Shri Harinder Pal Singh Maan, State Information Commissioner, Punjab;
8. Dr. Arvinder Singh, IAS, Secretary, State Information Commission, Punjab.

Special Invitee: Mrs. Puneet Kaur Sekhon, Legal Adviser.

The agenda items were discussed and the following decisions were taken.

Item No. 1: Regarding implementation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court decision in Writ Petition No.210 (Civil) of 2012, decided on 13.09.2012 in Namit Sharma vs. Union of India.

On consideration of the matter at length, it was decided that opinion of the Advocate General, Punjab, Chandigarh be obtained specifically on the issue whether in view of the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Namit Sharma vs. Union of India, it would be legally permissible to continue hearing of cases by Commissioners,, in view of the fact that at present there is no judicial member on the strength of the State Information Commission, Punjab. The present strength of the Commission is one Chief Information Commissioner and nine Information Commissioners and there is only one vacancy at present.

The Commission resolved that till legal opinion of the Advocate General is received, it is advisable to defer hearing of the cases by "expert members"/Commissioners, to avoid any contempt of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

It was further resolved that the Hon'ble Governor of Punjab may be kept apprised.

Item No. 2: Payment of Rent and arrear thereof in respect of SCO No. 32, 33, 34, Sector 17-C, Chandigarh.

On consideration of the recommendations of Infrastructure Committee, the Commission approved the proposal regarding payment of rent in respect of SCO No.32-33-34, Sector 17-C, Chandigarh.

Item No. 3: Annual Report of the State Information Commission for the year 2010.

This item was deferred.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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