



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONS IN INDIA
Minutes of 24th Board of Governors Meeting held on 04.03.2022 at 1200 hrs
Through Video Conferencing

Participants:

Board of Governors:

- Shri Y.K. Sinha, (President), CCIC, Central Information Commission, New Delhi
- Shri Yash Pal Singal, SCIC Haryana State Information Commission
- Shri Lalnunmawia Chuaungo, SCIC, Mizoram State Information Commission
- Shri M.K. Raut, SCIC Chhattisgarh State Information Commission
- Shri R. Rajagopal, SCIC Tamil Nadu State Information Commission
- Shri Amrutbhai Patel, SCIC Gujarat State Information Commission
- Shri I. Meyionen Jamir, SCIC Nagaland State Information Commission

Also Present:

- Dr. Ajit Prasad Rout, SCIC Assam State Information Commission (Physically present)
- Shri Narinder Chauhan, SCIC Himachal Pradesh State Information Commission
- Shri Vishwas Mehta, SCIC, & SICs Kerala State Information Commission
- Shri Suresh Arora, SCIC Punjab State Information Commission
- Shri Vishwas R. Satarkar, SCIC, & SIC Goa State Information Commission
- Shri P. Ramesh Kumar, SCIC, & SICs Andhra Pradesh State Information Commission
- Shri Rinchen Dorjee, SCIC & SIC Arunachal Pradesh State Information Commission
- Shri Oinam Sunil Singh, SCIC Manipur State Information Commission
- Shri Jalada Kumar Tripathy, SCIC & SICs Odisha State Information Commission
- Shri H. Nongpluh, SCIC Meghalaya State Information Commission
- Shri M.B. Gurung, SCIC Sikkim State Information Commission
- Shri C.S. Napalchyal, SIC Uttarakhand State Information Commission

NFICI's officers:

- Shri Sidh Kumar, Joint Secretary, CIC & Honorary Secretary, NFICI, New Delhi
- Shri Sarvottam Kumar, PS, CIC & Executive Secretary, NFICI, New Delhi.

Y.S.

Shri Sidh Kumar, Honorary Secretary, NFICI welcomed and greeted all the Hon'ble members of NFICI. Shri Sidh Kumar also welcomed and greeted Dr. Ajit Prasad Rout, SCIC Assam for his personal presence in CIC to attend this meeting and requested to Hon'ble President Shri Y.K. Sinha to start the proceedings please.

Thereafter, Shri Y.K. Sinha also thanked and welcomed the members for their presence in the meeting through video conferencing. Shri Sinha also thanked Dr. Ajit Prasad Rout SCIC of Assam for his physical presence at CIC for attending NFICI meeting. Shri Sinha welcomed Shri. H. Nongpluh, State Chief Information Commissioner Meghalaya, Shri. I. Meyionen Jamir, State Chief Information Commissioner, Nagaland, and Shri. Anil Chandra Punetha, State Chief Information Commissioner, Uttarakhand for their participation in the meeting for the first time after their appointments as Chief Information Commissioners of their respective States. The meeting commenced with the following agenda points:

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of last Meeting:** The last 23rd Board of Governors & 13th Special General Body Meeting was held on 03-09-2021 through Video Conferencing. This was confirmed by all the members of NFICI.
2. **Status of Appeal for Tax Exemption under Section 12A & 80G of IT Act:** Members of the Federation were apprised that the hearing of the appeals related to registration under section 12A & approval under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 2016 which was filed against the order dated 31.05.2016 of Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemption) was concluded on 10.02.2021 at ITAT, Hyderabad. The Hon'ble Tribunal vide their order dated 29-03-2021 has remanded the case back to CIT (Exemptions) for re-consideration. The matter is



now with CIT (Exemptions) for re-consideration. We need to engage an Advocate to defend our case before CIT (Exemption) at Hyderabad.

The President further informed that same Advocate, Shri A.V. Raghu Ram who had pleaded the case before ITAT, Hyderabad had been contacted to pursue the same before CIT (E). He has agreed to pursue the case, in turn he has sent a quotation for Rs. 50,000/- as his professional fee (consolidated) for proceedings before the Hon'ble CIT (Exemption) for appearance, filing submissions, and other incidental expenses. The President requested the members to convey their agreement to hire the Advocate. The members unanimously agreed to the proposal.

3. **Approval for continuation of Services of M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, Chartered Accountant for Audit and Accounting work of NFICI:** The members approved the continuation of Services of M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, Chartered Accountant for Audit and Accounting work of NFICI for the financial years 2020-21 & 2021-22 as per their quoted rates i.e. @Rs. 25,000/- +GST per annum.
4. **Consideration for approval of Audited Accounts for the year 2020-21:** Members of the Federation were apprised about the audited annual accounts for the year 2020-21 in the meeting and the same was unanimously approved by all the members of the Federation.

Invoice dated 25.01.2022 for Rs. 29,500/- (25,000+@4500 for 18% GST) towards the Chartered Accountant, M/s Batra Deepak & Associates towards Audit of NFICI Annual Accounts for the year 2020-21 was placed before the



members for their approval. The Members of the Federation approved the payment.

5. **Status of NFICI's Grant and Outstanding UC and Vouchers from SICs:** The members of the Federation were apprised about the status of NFICI's 1st & 2nd Grant and outstanding UC and Vouchers. Respective State Information Commissions were requested to submit their outstanding Utilization Certificate & supporting vouchers against 1st Grant as well as 2nd Grant at the earliest.
6. **Consideration of release of 2nd Grant to pending SICs:** The members of the Federation were also made aware of the status of State Information Commissions on 2nd Grant of Rs. 4.00 lakhs is still pending. Maharashtra and West Bengal State Information Commissions have deposited their pending utilization certificates and supporting vouchers against the 1st Grant, to enable them to avail 2nd Grant of Rs. 4.00 lakhs.
7. **Status of Outstanding Annual membership from SICs:** The members of the Federation were apprised about the outstanding Annual Membership fee up to F.Y. 2021-22 and those who had not yet deposited the same were requested to do so.
8. **Discussion for utilizing the Grant for setting up of teleconferencing and to upgrade video conferencing and Standard operating procedure (SOP) for utilization of Grants to be reviewed:**

The issue of utilization of grant by NFICI for setting up teleconferencing and upgrade video conferencing setup was discussed. Some members stated that as per existing guidelines for utilization of funds/grant, there is an ambiguity



about purchase, set up of Video Conferencing systems and their up-gradation. Owing to the pandemic Covid-19 it has become necessary to install Video Conferencing systems. The members agreed to revise the existing SoP and its Do's and Don'ts. It was decided to finalize the same in the next BOG meeting scheduled in last week of April or first week of May 2022.

9. **Important decisions & initiatives by State Commissions:** The members of the Federation were apprised that the landmark decisions from State Information Commissions for the period Feb-2020 to Feb-2022 have been uploaded. All the State Information Commissions had been given sufficient time to submit their entries, but a few Commissions have done so.

President, NFICI suggested to all the members of the Federation to submit their important/landmark decisions & initiatives for the quarter ending March-2022 by 30.04.2022 so that same can be placed before the Editorial Board and selected decisions by the Editorial Board will then be uploaded on the NFICI website.

10. **Constitution of an Editorial Board of NFICI to review of Important/Landmark decisions:** The members were apprised that the term of the previous Editorial Board of five members which was constituted on 14.06.2019 in the special General Body meeting of the NFICI, has expired. The former Editorial Board had selected 25 important/landmark decisions from various State Information Commissions. The same have been uploaded on the website of the NFICI for the reference of all concerned.



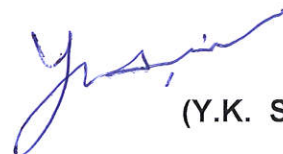
Constitution of a new Editorial Board to review important/landmark decisions and initiatives being sent by CIC and State Information Commissions was discussed and members were requested to volunteer. The following members have agreed to be part of the new Editorial Board:

1. Sh. Suresh Arora, SCIC Punjab : **Chief Editor**
2. Dr. Ajit Prasad Rout, SCIC Assam : **Member**
3. Sh. Jalada Kumar Tripathy, SCIC, Odisha : **Member**
4. Sh. Vishwas Mehta, SCIC Kerala : **Member**
5. Sh. Amrutbhai Patel, SCIC Gujarat : **Member**

11. **Status of NFICI's Current Account and FDs:** The members of the Federation were apprised of the status of NFICI's accounts being maintained by State Bank of India, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. Details of accounts and FD's are placed at Annexure -I.

12. There was a discussion on the venue and timing of the next BOG and General Body meeting.

Since there were no other agenda points the President, NFICI concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks to all participants.



(Y.K. Sinha)

President, NFICI

ACTIVE NFICI FIXED DEPOSITS (As on 02-03-2022)

S.No.	FD A/C No.	Term	Interest @ %	Principal Amount (in Rs.)	Value Date	Maturity Date	Maturity Value (in Rs.)	Remarks
1	33019825075	5Y	6.75%	2,385,860.00	23-May-2018	23-May-2023	3,334,236.00	
2	32778140208	5Y	6.00%	736,908.00	19-Jan-2018	19-Jan-2023	992,508.00	
3	32455616650	5Y	6.25%	1,043,347.00	30-Jul-2017	30-Jul-2022	1,422,645.00	
4	32320302625	5Y	6.25%	1,192,512.00	7-May-2017	7-May-2022	1,626,037.00	
5	32269524090	5Y	6.50%	1,829,292.00	3-Apr-2017	3-Apr-2022	2,525,191.00	
6	35573766201	2Y	5.20%	710,055.00	15-Feb-2022	15-Feb-2024	787,349.00	
7	32069635548	5Y	5.40%	1,225,897.00	5-Dec-2021	5-Dec-2026	1,602,983.00	
8	35335975514	5Y	5.40%	684,770.00	10-Nov-2020	10-Nov-2025	895,406.00	
9	34344000665	3Y	5.30%	751,195.00	28-Oct-2020	28-Oct-2023	879,735.00	
10	35182307105	5Y	5.40%	830,743.00	26-Aug-2020	26-Aug-2025	1,086,280.00	
11	33786623153	3Y	5.70%	2,409,417.00	16-Apr-2020	16-Apr-2023	2,855,303.00	
12	36610701814	3M & 1D	3.90%	504,886.00	25-Dec-2021	26-Mar-2022	509,863.00	
13	38507024561	1Y	5.00%	1,115,448.00	6-Jun-2021	6-Jun-2022	1,172,275.00	
14	38507025065	1Y	5.00%	669,568.00	6-Jun-2021	6-Jun-2022	703,679.00	
15	38507025350	1Y	5.00%	446,379.00	6-Jun-2021	6-Jun-2022	469,120.00	
16	40094675147	3Y	5.30%	1,500,000.00	24-Mar-2021	24-Mar-2024	1,756,672.00	
17	40094674777	3Y	5.30%	1,000,000.00	24-Mar-2021	24-Mar-2024	1,171,114.00	
18	40094669643	3Y	5.30%	500,000.00	24-Mar-2021	24-Mar-2024	585,557.00	
Total:				19,536,277.00			24,375,953.00	

The NFICI's current A/c balance as on 02-03-2022 is Rs. 24,05,342/-

