



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONS IN INDIA
Minutes of 26th Board of Governors Meeting held on 16.11.2022
at Goa

Participants:

Board of Governors:

- Shri Y.K. Sinha, President, NFICI & Chief Information Commissioner, CIC New Delhi
- Shri R. Rajagopal, Vice President, NFICI & Chief Information Commissioner, SIC Tamil Nadu
- Shri Ajit Prasad Rout, Member BOG & Chief Information Commissioner, SIC Assam
- Shri Amrutbhai Patel, Member BOG & Chief Information Commissioner, SIC Gujarat
- Shri Pramod Kumar Thakur, Member BOG & Information Commissioner, SIC Bihar
- Shri Ashok Kumar Agrawal, Member BOG & Information Commissioner, SIC Chhattisgarh

NFICI's officers:

- Shri Sidh Kumar, Honorary Secretary, NFICI, New Delhi
- Shri Sarvottam Kumar, Executive Secretary, NFICI, New Delhi.

At the outset Shri Y.K. Sinha welcomed all the BOG members who were attending the meeting. The meeting started with the following agenda points:

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes of last Meeting:** The 25th Board of Governors meeting was held on 27.05.2022 at CIC Bhawan, New Delhi. Minutes of the meeting were confirmed by the members of the Board of Governors of NFICI.

2. Approval of Audited Annual Accounts for the FY 2021-22: The NFICI's Annual Accounts prepared by M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, Chartered Accountant comprising the Income & Expenditure Statement, Receipts & Payments Statement, and the Balance Sheet for the year 2021-22 were presented in the meeting. The BOG members approved the same.

All the members of the BOG were also apprised that the Income Tax return for Assessment year 2022-23 (FY 2021-22) had been filed and subsequently a sum of Rs. 1,31,490/- has been refunded and credited to NFICI Account.

3. Approval for continuation of Services of M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, CA for Audit and Accounting work of NFICI: The Members of the BOG were informed that M/s Batra Deepak & Associates was appointed to carry out the Audit and Accounts work pertaining to NFICI. Since their work has been found satisfactory, they were allowed to continue even in F.Y. 2021-22. A Chartered Accountant firm had to be appointed for the FY 2022-23. M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, Chartered Accountant has given their quotation @Rs. 25,000/- +GST per annum, which happens to be the same as in the previous year. Members approved the services of M/s Batra Deepak & Associates, Chartered Accountant for the Audit and Accounting work for FY 2022-23.

4. Status of NFICI case for Tax Exemption under Section 12A & 80G of IT Act: The members of BOG were apprised of NFICI's case for Tax Exemptions under Section 12A & 80G of Income Tax Act pending at Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions) at Hyderabad. The NFICI had filed an application as per Form No. 10A & 10G of the Income Tax Act seeking registration under section 12A and to bring NFICI under section 80G before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions), Hyderabad on 30.11.2015. The Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions) on 31.05.2016 passed an order rejecting our request. Subsequently an appeal was filed before Income Tax Appellant Tribunal, Hyderabad against the order dated 31.05.2016. The Hon'ble ITAT, vide order dated 29-03-2021 had remanded the matter to CIT (Exemptions) for reconsideration. Now, we have received a notice from the CIT (Exemptions) to submit necessary documents to reconsider our case and our Advocate is doing the needful in this regard.

5. Status of NFICI's Current Account and FDs: The members of the Federation were apprised of the status of NFICI's account being maintained in State Bank of India, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. Detailed statement was read out before the members showing balance of Rs. 12,83,613/-, in current account as on 10.11.2022.

The details of Fixed Deposits (FDs) were presented before the members. Federation has 18 Fixed Deposits amounting to Rs. 2,09,96,103/- as on 16.09.2022. Out of these 18 FDs, 03 have been prematurely withdrawn to release the third Grant @Rs. 4.00 Lakh each to 09 member State Information Commissions.

6. **Release of third Grant of NFICI:** A total of 11 members were eligible for third grant. However, willingness to release the grant has not been received from Central Information Commission, New Delhi and State Information Commission, Telangana. Hence the same has not been released to them. The third grant has been released to following member Commissions:

S.No.	State Information Commission	Favoring	Amt. Released (in Lakhs)	Cheque No. & Date	Remarks
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh State Information Commission	4.00	507220 08.09.2022	
2.	Assam	Secretary, Assam State Information Commission	4.00	507221 08.09.2022	
3.	Chhattisgarh	Secretary, Chhattisgarh State Information Commission	4.00	507222 08.09.2022	
4.	Manipur	Secretary, Manipur State Information Commission	4.00	507223 08.09.2022	
5.	Meghalaya	Secretary, Meghalaya State Information Commission	4.00	507224 08.09.2022	
6.	Mizoram	Secretary, Mizoram State Information Commission	4.00	507225 08.09.2022	
7.	Nagaland	Secretary, Nagaland State Information Commission	4.00	507226 08.09.2022	
8.	Punjab	Secretary, Punjab State Information Commission	4.00	507227 08.09.2022	
9.	Tamil Nadu	Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Information Commission	4.00	507227 08.09.2022	

7. Participation of State Information Commissioners in addition to CICs in NFICI's meetings:

The members of the BOG deliberated on the participation of Information Commissioners in addition to Chief Information Commissioners in NFICI's meetings. The Chief Information Commissioners represent their respective Commissions at meetings of NFICI.

It was felt that in case the Chief Information Commissioner is unable to attend the meeting, he/she can nominate one Information Commissioner from his/her Commission to attend the meeting on behalf of the concerned Commission. In case the post of Chief Information Commissioner in any State Information Commission is vacant, then the Information Commissioners can request one of the Information Commissioners to represent that State Information Commission in the NFICI meeting. However this matter needs to be discussed further.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.



(Y.K. Sinha)

President, NFICI