

in:sent

SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE

Mail   Contacts   Calendar   Tasks   Briefcase   Preferences   Video Tutorials   S

Close   Reply   Reply to All   Forward   Archive   Delete   Spam   ☐   ☐   Actions   V

### Search Committee meeting



From: SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE

To: justiceshah office

Cc: ANUSHRI ARVIND PARAB

letter regarding date & time.pdf (303.3 KB) [Download](#) | [Briefcase](#)

Respected Sir,

Please find herewith attached letter.

With Regards  
S.P. Khade  
Under Secretary, GAD

Reply - Reply to All - Forward - More Actions

24/8/20

## Government of Maharashtra

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 13 August, 2020

To,  
Hon'ble Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.),  
Former Chief Justice,  
High court of Calcutta and Bombay.

**Subject:- Regarding Search Committee Meeting to be held**  
**Reference:-** Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court  
Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

Sir,

Kindly refer to the minutes of the Search Committee meeting held on 5.8.2020 through video conference. It was decided to ascertain the willingness of the remaining applicants within a week's time and then hold a meeting of the committee later on this month.

Accordingly, the E-mail has been sent to remaining applicants on 7.8.2020. Out of the total 91 applicants, 47 applicants have submitted their willingness till date.

I request you to kindly provide three suitable dates and time for Search Committee meeting through video conference.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Anshu Sinha)

Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. Hon'ble Shri. Bimal Julka, Central Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
2. Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
3. Desk Six for collection

889/9

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 13 August, 2020

To,  
Hon'ble Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.),  
Former Chief Justice,  
High court of Calcutta and Bombay.

**Subject:- Regarding Search Committee Meeting to be held**  
**Reference:-** Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court  
Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

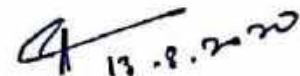
Sir,

Kindly refer to the minutes of the Search Committee meeting held on 5.8.2020 through video conference. It was decided to ascertain the willingness of the remaining applicants within a week's time and then hold a meeting of the committee later on this month.

Accordingly, the E-mail has been sent to remaining applicants on 7.8.2020. Out of the total 91 applicants, 47 applicants have submitted their willingness till date.

I request you to kindly provide three suitable dates and time for Search Committee meeting through video conference.

Yours faithfully,



(Anshu Sinha)

Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. Hon'ble Shri. Bimal Julka, Central Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
2. Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
3. Desk Six for collection



**From :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 02:58 PM

**Subject :** Fwd: Fwd: Appointment to post of State Chief  
Information Commissioner / State Information  
Commissioners in Maharashtra State  
Information Commission.

**To :** sec ar <sec.ar@maharashtra.gov.in>

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: YK Sinha <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>  
To: SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE <shwetambari.khade@nic.in>  
Sent: Wed, 19 Aug 2020 11:42:29 +0530 (IST)  
Subject: Fwd: Appointment to post of State Chief Information  
Commissioner / State Information Commissioners in Maharashtra State  
Information Commission.

Dear Ms. Khade,

Please refer to the trailed mail regarding nomination of Shri YK Sinha, Hon'ble Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission for the subject search committee. In this connection may I request you to take up the issue with the appropriate authority in the Govt. of Maharashtra to issue necessary amendment in the letter No. Court Case2018/C.R.165/Desk-6 dated 23 April 2019 for change of name for Shri Bimal Julka to read Shri YK Sinha as member of the search committee.

Meanwhile it is confirmed that September 4, 2020 (11.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.) is convenient to Shri Sinha for holding the next meeting.

Regards,

Sarvottam Rana  
PS to Hon'ble Information Commission,  
Central Information Commission,  
Bagba Gangnath Marg, Munirka,  
New Delhi - 110067  
Tele - 011- 26162662, Mob - +91- 9136007158

From: "Bimal Julka" <bjulka.ic@gov.in>  
To: cs@maharashtra.gov.in  
Cc: "justiceshah office" <justiceshah.office@gmail.com>, "YK Sinha" <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>

४९१/१

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 3:41:04 PM

Subject: Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner /  
State Information Commissioners in Maharashtra State Information  
Commission.

Dear Chief Secretary,

I am in receipt of the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 th August, 2020. Understandably, the process is likely to take time. Kindly appreciate that I shall be superannuating as Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission on 26 th August, 2020 and I do have several personal obligations to fulfil in the intervening period. Besides this, I also consider it as ethically and morally incorrect for me to participate in these meetings at this juncture. I, therefore, nominate Shri Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Senior most IC in the Central Information Commission to represent our Commission in all the future meetings. I have already spoken to him in this regard and transferred all the papers to his office for further necessary action.

It is requested that all future correspondence in this matter may be made to his office.

I would very much like to thank all the Hon'ble Committee Members and the Maharashtra Government Secretariat for extending their full support in the matter.

My best wishes and regards.

(Bimal Julka)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Central Information Commission,  
Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka,  
New Delhi 110067

E-mail: [ <mailto:bjulka.ic@gov.in> | [bjulka.ic@gov.in](mailto:bjulka.ic@gov.in) ] / [

Email

shwetambari.khade@gov.in

**From :** JANA JIVA <jana.valvi@nic.in>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 01:34 PM

**Subject :** Fwd: FW: Search Committee meeting**To :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>, ANUSHRI  
ARVIND PARAB <anushri.parab@nic.in>

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** sec ar <sec.ar@maharashtra.gov.in>**To:** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE <shwetambari.khade@gov.in>, JANA JIVA  
<jana.valvi@nic.in>**Sent:** Wed, 19 Aug 2020 12:55:16 +0530 (IST)**Subject:** FW: Search Committee meetingRespected Sir,  
FWD FNAWith regards,  
PA to Secretary (AR, O&M)  
General Administration Department  
Mantralaya, Mumbai  
022-22843711**From:** Anshu Sinha [anshus72@yahoo.com]**Sent:** 18 August 2020 4:15 PM**To:** Anshu Sinha**Subject:** Fwd: Search Committee meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Justice Mohit S. Shah" <justiceshah.office@gmail.com>**Date:** 16 August 2020 at 4:41:05 PM IST**To:** anshus72@yahoo.com**Cc:** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE <shwetambari.khade@gov.in>, Bimal Julka  
<bjulka.ic@gov.in>**Subject:** Re: Search Committee meeting

Dear Ms. Sinha,

The following dates are convenient to me for holding the next meeting  
of the Search Committee:September 3, 4 and 7, 2020 (11.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.)



Regards,  
Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.)

On Thu, 13 Aug 2020 at 14:40, SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in<mailto:shwetambari.khade@gov.in>> wrote:

Respected Sir,

Please find herewith attached letter.

With Regards  
S.P. Khade  
Under Secretary, GAD

[[https://mail.gov.in/iwc\\_static/c11n/allDomain/layout/images/log-4.png](https://mail.gov.in/iwc_static/c11n/allDomain/layout/images/log-4.png)]  
<<http://gandhi.gov.in>>

--

Chambers of Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.)  
Former Chief Justice  
High Courts of Bombay & Calcutta  
218-219, Commerce House,  
140, Nagindas Master Road,  
Kala Ghoda, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001  
Tel: 022-22693954  
[justiceshah.office@gmail.com](mailto:justiceshah.office@gmail.com)<mailto:justiceshah.office@gmail.com>

409/H

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date August, 2020

To,

1. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
2. Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

**Subject:- Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner/State Information commissioners in Maharashtra State Information Commission**

**Reference:-**1. Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

2. E-mail received from Shri. Bimal Julka, Chief Information commissioner, Central Information Commission, dated 10 th August , 2020
3. E-mail received from Hon.Mohit Shah,Former Chief Justice,High courts of Calcutta and Bombay dated 16 th August , 2020, 2020

Sir,

The Government of Maharashtra has established a Search Committee for appointment of State Chief Information Commissioner/State Information Commissioner in Maharashtra State Information Commission vide Government Resolution dated 22 February, 2019 under the Chairmanship of Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High Courts of Calcutta and Bombay.

With reference to letter no.2, the Hon'ble Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commissioner has nominated Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, as one of the members of the said committee. As proposed by the Hon'ble Chairman, Search Committee, Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High courts of Calcutta and Bombay vide reference no.3, the meeting of the said committee will be held on 4th September, 2020, 11.00 through video conferencing. The details for the meeting and link for the Video Conference will be sent separately.

It is requested to kindly attend the said meeting.

Yours sincerely,

(Anshu Sinha)  
Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. Hon.Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High court of Calcutta and Bombay.  
Khatau Apartments, Flat No.72, Opp. S.B.I., Teen Batti to Raj Bhavan Road, 243,  
Walkeshwar Road, Near Raj Bhavan, Malbar Hill, Mumbai 400 006
2. Secretary, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg,  
Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
3. NIC, Mumbai to make necessary arrangements.
4. PA to Secretary (O&M), Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
5. Desk Six for collection



माहिती अधिकार अधिनियम, २००५ मधील कलम ८(१)(ज) नुसार माहिती प्रकट करण्याबाबत अपवाद आहे. पृष्ठ क्र. ४७३-५०९/प.वि. वर अर्जदारांचा वैयक्तिक तपशील असल्यामुळे सदर पृष्ठे वगळली आहेत, तथापी अर्जदारांच्या नावांची यादी देण्यात येत आहे.

- कलम ८(१)(ज) : जी माहिती प्रकट करणे हे व्यापक लोकहिताच्या दृष्टीने आवश्यक आहे अशी, यथास्थिती, केंद्रीय जन माहिती अधिकाऱ्याची, राज्य जन माहिती अधिकाऱ्याची किंवा अपील प्राधिकाऱ्याची खात्री पटली असेल, ती खेरीज करून, जी प्रकट करण्याचा कोणत्याही सार्वजनिक कामकाजाशी किंवा हितसंबंधाशी काहीही संबंध नाही किंवा जी व्यक्तीच्या खाजगी बाबीत आगंतुक हितसंबंधाशी काहीही संबंध नाही किंवा जी व्यक्तीच्या खाजगी बाबीत आगंतुक हस्तक्षेप करील, अशी वैयक्तिक तपशीलासंबंधातील माहिती प्रकट करण्याबाबत अपवाद आहे

राज्य माहिती आयुक्त पदावरील नियुक्तीसंदर्भात प्राप्त झालेल्या अर्जदारांची यादी.

अ.क्र.	अर्जदाराचे नाव
१	श्री.ब्रिजेश शर्मा
२	श्री.राजेंद्र बळवंतराव देशमुख
३	श्री.श्रीकांत ज्ञानदेव रेडकर
४	श्रीमती रुपाली विजयकुमार पोळ
५	श्री.सुरेश चंद्रा गैरोला
६	श्री.नागेंद्र वसंतराव शिंदे
७	श्रीमती ऋचा मल्लापा बाघमारे
८	श्री.संजीव नरहरी खडके
९	श्री.अभय भाऊसाहेब साळुंके
१०	श्री.राजीव दत्त शर्मा(IRTS)
११	श्रीमती शारदा पांडुरंग बोरकर
१२	श्री.एम.रमेश एमव्ही जोगाराव
१३	श्री.अवीनाश विनायक प्रभुणे

१४	श्री.शामराव रामचंद्र दिघावकर
१५	श्री.अजय प्रभाकरराव भोसरेकर
१६	श्री.सुधाकर रामचंद्र चव्हाण
१७	श्री.प्रसाद नरसिंह जोशी
१८	श्रीमती गौरी दिलीप चांद्रायण
१९	श्री.दादाराव रामकृष्णाजी भेदरे
२०	श्री.राजेंद्र शंकरराव कदम
२१	श्री.दिपक त्र्यंबक खैरनार
२२	श्री.सतिश बळीराम सोनोने
२३	श्री.दिपेशकुमार चंद्रकांत(चंदुलाल) जोशी
२४	श्री.भारत आसाराम फुलारे
२५	श्री.विजय कृष्णा कुंभार
२६	श्री.प्रल्हाद चिंधु बावसकर
२७	श्री.रामचंद्र गोविंद कुलकर्णी(IAS)
२८	श्री.समीर सहाय(IAS)
२९	श्री.अभय नारायण त्रिपाठी(IFS)
३०	श्री.राजेंद्र रामचंद्र पांडे
३१	श्री.तुषार देविदास झेंडे
३२	श्री.बी.पी.सिंग
३३	श्रीमती सुहास मिलिंद उंटवाले
३४	श्री.विठ्ठल नारायण मोरे(IAS)
३५	श्री.जानकीराम बंडुजी डाखोरे
३६	श्री.शेषराव हिमंतराव पाटील(IFS)
३७	श्री.प्रशांत वसंतराव देशमुख
३८	श्री.कृष्णकुमार गुप्ता
३९	श्री.दिलीप कुमार गुप्ता
४०	श्री.दिगंबर भिमराव वाघ

४१	श्रीमती मालिनी शंकर (IAS)
४२	श्री.घनश्याम मंगळे(IAS)
४३	श्रीमती मंगला ठोंबरे
४४	श्री.हरिभाऊ आनंदराव ढंगारे
४५	श्री.हणमंत मेघाजी शिंदे
४६	श्री.रविंद्र रघुनाथ केडगे
४७	श्री.राहुल भालचंद्र पांडे
४८	श्री.शकिल अहमद
४९	श्री.राजेंद्र भिमराव सनेर-पाटील
५०	श्री.रामजी सिंग यादव (IFS)
५१	श्री.श्रीनिवास प्रभाकर कर्वे
५२	श्री.स्वानंद अनिल कौलगुड
५३	श्री.सोमनाथ महादेव भरमगुंडे
५४	श्री.विवेक कृष्णाजी वेलणकर
५५	श्री.हमीद बापूमिया पटेल
५६	श्री.लक्ष्मण रामभाऊ डामसे
५७	श्री.उमेश कुमार अग्रवाल(IFS)
५८	श्रीमती अंनुल चांद अत्तार
५९	श्रीमती सरीता गोपाल कौशिक
६०	श्री.कैलास आत्माराम कणसे(IFS)
६१	श्री.प्रभाकर उत्तमराव घुगे
६२	श्री.निलकंठ विनायकराव देशमुख
६३	श्रीमती सरजू पिं. रामगोपाल बलदवा
६४	श्री.सचिन गणेशराव पाठक
६५	श्री.अमितकुमार सुभाष गजे
६६	श्रीमती बबीता सिध्दलिंग गजरे
६७	श्रीमती रेखा रामराव जाधव



६८	श्रीमती निशा समतानी
६९	श्री.महेश गंगाधर थोरात
७०	श्री.मनोहर वि लोखंडे
७१	श्री.अशोक राजेंद्र मंडे (IFS)
७२	श्री.सुभाष देशमुख जाधव
७३	श्री.विनय कुमार सिन्हा (IFS)
७४	श्री.मिरदे खालेद इसाकमिया
७५	श्री.पार्थ सारथी बर्मन
७६	श्री.रामदास ज्ञानदेव घावटे
७७	श्री.अरविंद शरण
७८	श्री.प्रविण पद्माकर देशमुख
७९	श्री.सुनिल ताराचंद सोनावणे
८०	श्री.सतीश माथुर
८१	श्री.अमोद जयंत ठोसर
८२	श्री.राजेशकुमार चिमणराव पाटील
८३	श्री.धनंजय शामसुंदर सिंहासने
८४	श्री.कृष्णकुमार सी.मोरे
८५	श्री.जालिंदर केरनाथराव तांबे
८६	श्री.धनंजय दत्तात्रय कमलाकर
८७	श्री.बाळासाहेब जगन्नाथ बोटे-पाटील
८८	श्री.अब्दुल नझीर शेख
८९	श्री.विलास सूर्यभान बर्डेकर
९०	श्री.संदेश सिंघलकर
९१	श्री.भूषण रमेशचंद्र देशमुख
९२	श्री.विष्णू बापूराव गायकवाड

499

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk.  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 27 August, 2020

To,

1. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
2. Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

28/8/20  
Subject:- Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner/State Information commissioners in Maharashtra State Information Commission

Reference:-1. Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

2. E-mail received from Shri. Bimal Julka, Chief Information commissioner, Central Information Commission, dated 10 th August , 2020
3. E-mail received from Hon.Mohit Shah,Former Chief Justice,High courts of Calcutta and Bombay dated 16 th August , 2020, 2020

Sir,

The Government of Maharashtra has established a Search Committee for appointment of State Chief Information Commissioner/State Information Commissioner in Maharashtra State Information Commission vide Government Resolution dated 22 February, 2019 under the Chairmanship of Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High Courts of Calcutta and Bombay.

With reference to letter no.2, the Hon'ble Chief Information Commissioner, Central Information Commissioner has nominated Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, as one of the members of the said committee. As proposed by the Hon'ble Chairman, Search Committee, Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High courts of Calcutta and Bombay vide reference no.3,the meeting of the said committee will be held on **4th September, 2020, 11.00 a.m. through video conferencing**. The details for the meeting and link for the Video Conference will be sent separately.

It is requested to kindly attend the said meeting.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Valsa Nair Singh)

Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. Hon.Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High court of Calcutta and Bombay. Khatau Apartments, Flat No.72, Opp. S.B.I., Teen Batti to Raj Bhavan Road, 243, Walkeshwar Road, Near Raj Bhavan, Malbar Hill, Mumbai 400 006
2. Secretary, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110 067
3. NIC, Mumbai to make necessary arrangements.
4. PA to Secretary (O&M), Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
5. Desk Six for collection



**Note for Search Committee meeting to be held on 04.09.2020**

**1. RTI Act 2005 (Attached as Annexure I ) Section 15 Constitution of State Information Commission provisions :-**

- (1) Every State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a body to be known as the ..... (name of the State) Information Commission to exercise the powers conferred on, and to perform the functions assigned to, it under this Act.
- (2) The State Information Commission shall consist of--
  - (a) the State Chief Information Commissioner, and
  - (b) such number of State Information Commissioners, not exceeding ten, as may be deemed necessary.
- (3) The State Chief Information Commissioner and the State Information Commissioners shall be appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of a committee consisting of--
  - (i) the Chief Minister, who shall be the Chairperson of the committee;
  - (ii) the Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly; and
  - (iii) a Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Chief Minister
- (4) The general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs of the State Information Commission shall vest in the State Chief Information Commissioner who shall be assisted by the State Information Commissioners and may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things which may be exercised or done by the State Information Commission autonomously without being subjected to directions by any other authority under this Act.
- (5) The State Chief Information Commissioner and the State Information Commissioners shall be **persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.**
- (6) The State Chief Information Commissioner or a State Information Commissioner shall not be a Member of Parliament or Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, as the case may be, or hold any other office of profit or connected with any political party or carrying on any business or pursuing any profession.

**2. A total of 8 posts have been created for the Maharashtra State Information Commission, one post of State Chief Information Commissioner and 7 posts of State Information Commissioner. Out of these, the posts of State Information Commissioners in Pune, Nashik and Nagpur are vacant.**

**The detailed statement is as follows.**

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Date of assumption of office
1.	Shri. Sumit Mallick	State Chief Information Commissioner	03.05.2018
2.	Shri. Sunil Porwal	State Information Commissioner, Greater Mumbai	21.2.2019



3.	Shri. K. L. Bishnoi	State Information Commissioner, Konkan	21.2.2019
4.	Shri. Sunil Porwal (Additional Charge)	State Information Commissioner, Pune	Vacant from 3.11.2018
5.	Shri. K. L. Bishnoi (Additional Charge)	State Information Commissioner, Nashik	Vacant from 21.2.2019
6.	Shri. Sambhaji Sarkunde	State Information Commissioner, Amravati	9.1.2017
7.	Shri. Dilip Dharurkar	State Information Commissioner, Aurangabad	1.6.2018
8.	Shri. Sambhaji Sarkunde (Additional Charge)	State Information Commissioner, Nagpur	Vacant from 1.6.2018

3. Pursuant to the RTI (Amendment) Act 2019 ( Attached as Annexure 2 ) notified on 1.8.2019, The Right to Information Rules, 2019 ( Attached as Annexure 3 ) were notified on October 24, 2019. These rules set out the tenure, terms of service and salaries of the CIC and ICs at the State and Central levels. Table 1 compares the provisions related to the tenure and salary of the CIC and ICs under the Right to Information Act, 2005 and the Right to Information Rules, 2019.

**Comparison of the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005 and the Right to Information Rules, 2019; The major changes are as under :**

Provision	RTI Act, 2005	RTI Rules, 2019
Term	The CIC and ICs (at the Central and State level) will hold office for a term of five years.	The CIC and ICs (at the Central and State level) will hold office for a term of three years.
Salary	The salary of the CIC and ICs (at the Central level) will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners (Rs 2,50,000 per month)	The CIC and ICs (at the Central level) shall receive a pay of Rs. 2,50,000 and Rs. 2,25,000 per month, respectively.
	Similarly, the salary of the CIC and ICs (at the State level) will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Election Commissioners (Rs 2,50,000 per month) and the Chief Secretary to the state government (Rs 2,25,000 per month), respectively.	CICs and ICs (at the State level) shall receive a pay of Rs. 2,25,000 per month.

4. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their interim order dated 13.12.2018 (Attached as Annexure 4)

490

in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436/2018, directed the State Government to establish a Search Committee that can prepare a short list of candidates applying for the posts of State Chief Information Commissioner / State Information Commissioner in Maharashtra at the time of every recruitment.

4.1 The Government of Maharashtra has established a Search Committee to assist the Appointment Committee in Maharashtra State for the purpose of appointment to the posts of State Chief Information Commissioner/ State Information Commissioner in Maharashtra State Information Commission vide Government Resolution dated 22 February, 2019. (Attached as Annexure 5)

4.2 As per above Government Resolution the Scope of functions of the Search Committee is as follows.

- a) The Search Committee shall meet after its constitution and decide on specific terms of advertisement to be published in connection with vacancies;
- b) The Search Committee may decide its own procedure that is consistent with the provisions of the Act/Rules/Court Orders.

4.3 The first meeting of this search committee was held on April 30, 2019 at 5.30 pm at Sahyadri Guest house. The meeting was attended by the Chairman and members of the research committee as follows.

Justice Mohit Shah, Retired Chief Justice, High Court, Mumbai/Kolkata	Chairman
Shri. Bimal Julka, Central Information Commissioner	Member,
Shri. UPS Madan, Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra	Member,

The minutes of the said meeting are attached as Annexure 6

5. Accordingly, Government of Maharashtra invited applications for the three vacant posts of State Information Commissioners vide its advertisement dated 7.6.2019. The last date of receipt of application was within 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement i.e., 6.7.2019.

5.1 Since new Right to Information Rules, 2019 were notified on October 24, 2019, Government of Maharashtra invited willingness of the applicants vide its advertisement dated 20.2.2020 in view of the changed provisions within 15 days from the date of publication of advertisement i.e., 5.3.2020.

6. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide interim order dated 13.12.2018 (pg no.3 & 4 of the order) and final order dated 15.2.2019 (pg no.25 & 26 of the order) in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436/2018, directed the State Government to put on the website the names of the Search Committee members, the names of the candidates who have been shortlisted as well as the criteria which is followed for their selection.



498

7. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its final order dated 15.2.2019 (Attached as Annexure 7)

in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436/2018 has made following observations:-

Para 39 :-

As can be seen, any person of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance is qualified to become Chief Information Commissioner or Information Commissioner. The Legislature in its wisdom widened the area of consideration by not limiting it to the serving or retired government employees alone. Persons of eminence in public life are made eligible. Field of knowledge and Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2019 Page 32 of 52 experience is also very much broadened as it can be either in law or science and technology or social service or management or journalism or mass media or administration and governance. The Parliament, thus, intended that persons of eminence in public life should be taken as Chief Information Commissioner as well Information Commissioners. Many persons who fit in the aforesaid criteria have been applying for these posts. However, a strange phenomenon which we observe is that all those persons who have been selected belong to only one category, namely, public service, i.e., they are the government employees. It is difficult to fathom that persons belonging to one category only are always be found to be more competent and more suitable than persons belonging to other categories. In fact, even the Search Committee which short-lists the persons consist of bureaucrats only. For these reasons, official bias in favour of its own class is writ large in the selection process.

Para 40:-

It is by no means suggested that the persons who have ultimately been selected are not deserving for the post of Information Commissioners. It is, however, emphasized that there can be equally suitable persons from other walks of life as well who may be the aspirants for such posts. This Court, therefore, impresses Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2019 Page 33 of 52 upon the Search Committee, in future, to pick up suitable candidates from other categories as well. After all, the very purpose of providing wide range of suitability was to have members in CIC by giving representation to other classes as well. This would ensure wider representative character in the composition of CIC.

**7.1 GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR SELECTION OF CIC & SCICs (Page No.49 to 50 of the Court Order dated 15.2.2019)**

Para 67) (i) Insofar as transparency in appointment of Information Commissioners is concerned, pursuant to the directions given by this Court, the Central Government is now placing all necessary information including issuance of the advertisement, receipt and applications, particulars of the applicants, composition of Selection Committee etc. on the website. All States shall also follow this system.

(ii) Insofar as terms and conditions of appointment are concerned, no doubt, Section 13(5) of RTI Act states that the CIC and Information Commissioners shall be appointed on the same terms and conditions as applicable to the Chief Election Commissioner/Election



Commissioner. At the same time, it would also be appropriate if the said terms and conditions on which such appointments are to be made are specifically stipulated in the advertisement and put on website as well. Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2019 Page 49 of 52 (iii) Likewise, it would also be appropriate for the Search Committee to make the criteria for shortlisting the candidates, public, so that it is ensured that shortlisting is done on the basis of objective and rational criteria.

(iv) We also expect that Information Commissioners are appointed from other streams, as mentioned in the Act and the selection is not limited only to the Government employee/exgovernment employee. In this behalf, the respondents shall also take into consideration and follow the below directions given by this Court in Union of India vs. Namit Sharma

"32. ... (iii) We direct that only persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in the fields mentioned in Section 12(5) and 15(5) of the Act be considered for appointment as Information Commissioner and Chief Information Commissioner.

(iv) We further direct that persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in all the fields mentioned in Ss. 12(5) and 15(5) of the Act, namely, law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance, be considered by the Committees under Ss. 12(3) and 15(3) of the Act for appointment as Chief Information Commissioner or Information Commissioners.

(v) We further direct that the Committees under Ss. 12(3) and 15(3) of the Act while making recommendations to the President or to the Governor, as the case may be, for appointment of Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners must mention against the name of each candidate recommended, the facts to indicate his eminence in public life, his knowledge in the 6 (2013) 10 SCC 359 Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2019 Page 50 of 52 particular field and his experience in the particular field and these facts must be accessible to the citizens as part of their right to information under the Act after the appointment is made."

(v) We would also like to impress upon the respondents to fill up vacancies, in future, without any delay. For this purpose, it would be apposite that the process for filling up of a particular vacancy is initiated 1 to 2 months before the date on which the vacancy is likely to occur so that there is not much time lag between the occurrence of vacancy and filling up of the said vacancy.

8. As per the advertisement dated 7.6.2019, 91 applications were received for the post of three new State Information Commissioners. Thereafter in view of the changed provisions in the RTI Act and Rules, 2019 willingness was invited from the applicants vide advertisement dated 20.2.2020 and 25 applicants have submitted their willingness.

8.1 Thereafter in the search Committee meeting held on 5.08.2020, a decision was taken to ascertain the willingness of the applicants who have not submitted their willingness in a week's time i.e. 14.8.2020. Till 24.8.2020, total 52 applicants have

submitted their willingness. The list of the applicants with willingness submitted is enclosed in a table (Annexure 8).

\*\*\*\*\*

428/8

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 28 August, 2020

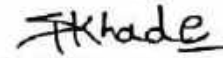
To,  
**Coordinator,  
Video Conference,  
NIC, Mumbai**

**Request you to kindly book the Video Conference (VC) as requested below:-**

Chairperson Name	Department	Source Location	List of Locations in participating in VC	Day and Date	Start and End Time
Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High Court of Calcutta and Bombay.	General Administration Department	Chief Secretary, Mantralaya, Mumbai	1. Justice Mohit Shah, Gujrat, 2. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, New Delhi	Friday 04.09.2020	11.00 am to....

Name and Contact Number of the department:- Shri. J.J.Valvi, Deputy Secretary,  
General Administration Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Contact no. 9137428138, 9967428174

Yours Sincerely,



(S. P. Khade)

Under Secretary  
Government of Maharashtra



420/9

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 8th September, 2020

To,

1. Hon.Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High court of Calcutta and Bombay.  
Khatau Apartments, Flat No.72, Opp. S.B.I., Teen Batti to Raj Bhavan Road, 243,  
Walkeshwar Road, Near Raj Bhavan, Malbar Hill, Mumbai 400 006
2. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central  
Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New  
Delhi 110 067
3. Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

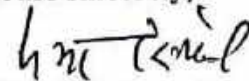
**Subject:- Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner/State  
Information commissioners in Maharashtra State Information Commission**  
**Reference:-**Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court  
Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

Sir,

Search committee meeting will be held on 11th September, 2020, 2.30 p.m. through  
video conferencing, to finalise minutes of Search Committee meeting held on 4th  
September, 2020. The draft minutes are enclosed. The details for the meeting and link for  
the Video Conference will be sent separately.

It is requested to kindly attend the said meeting.

Yours sincerely,



(Shrikant Deshpande)

Encl : as above

Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. NIC, Mumbai to make necessary arrangements.
2. PA to Secretary (O&M), Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
3. Desk Six for collection

## Government of Maharashtra

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 8th September, 2020

To,

1. Hon.Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High court of Calcutta and Bombay,  
Khatau Apartments, Flat No.72, Opp. S.B.I., Teen Batti to Raj Bhavan Road, 245,  
Walkeshwar Road, Near Raj Bhavan, Malbar Hill, Mumbai 400 006
2. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central  
Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New  
Delhi 110 067
3. Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

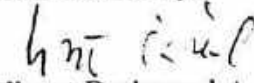
**Subject:-** Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner/State  
Information commissioners in Maharashtra State Information Commission  
**Reference:-** Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court  
Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

Sir,

Search committee meeting will be held on 11th September, 2020, 2.30 p.m. through  
video conferencing, to finalise minutes of Search Committee meeting held on 4th  
September, 2020. The draft minutes are enclosed. The details for the meeting and link for  
the Video Conference will be sent separately.

It is requested to kindly attend the said meeting.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Shrikant Deshpande)

Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Encl : as above

Copy to,

1. NIC, Mumbai to make necessary arrangements.
- ✓ 2. PA to Secretary (O&M), Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
3. Desk Six for collection

428/10

**Government of Maharashtra**

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 8<sup>th</sup> September, August, 2020

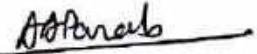
To,  
Coordinator,  
Video Conference,  
NIC, Mumbai

Request you to kindly book the Video Conference (VC) as requested below:-

Chairperson Name	Department	Source Location	List of Locations in participating in VC	Day and Date	Start and End Time
Justice Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High Court of Calcutta and Bombay.	General Administration Department	Chief Secretary, Mantralaya, Mumbai	1. Justice Mohit Shah, Gujrat, 2. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, New Delhi	Friday 11.09.2020	2.30 pm to...

Name and Contact Number of the department:- Shri. J. J. Valvi, Deputy Secretary,  
General Administration Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Contact no. 9137428138, 9967428174

Yours Sincerely,



(A.A.Parab)

Desk Officer

Government of Maharashtra

vc booked  
vc id 303350

8/9/2020



**VC Booking**

**From :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Tue, Sep 08, 2020 03:07 PM

**Subject :** VC Booking

**To :** justiceshah office <justiceshah.office@gmail.com>,  
YK Sinha <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>, cs  
<cs@maharashtra.gov.in>

Respected Sir,,  
Video Conference (VC) has been booked and vc id is 303350.  
Please find Weblink (Webroom MH4) for vc

<https://desktopvc.nic.in/flex.html?roomdirect.html&key=5GewK80qHM>

Password=7231

With regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary, General Administration Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai



**From :** vcsupportmaharashtra <vcsupport-mah@nic.in>

Tue, Sep 08, 2020 02:25 PM

**Subject :** Re: VC Booking

**To :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

**Cc :** Lakshmi Prasanna <lakshmi.pd@nic.in>, SUDHIR PV  
<sudhir.pv@nic.in>

Dear Madam,

As per your request vc has been booked and vc id is 303350.

Please find Weblink (Webroom MH4) for vc

433  
<https://desktopvc.nic.in/flex.html?roomdirect.html&key=5GewK80qHM>

Password=7231

Thanks & Regards,  
Omshree  
NIC Mumbai FMS  
11th Floor, New Administrative Building,  
Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai-400032  
Contact: 022-22837339 / 22046934  
VoIP: 38004/38014  
Mail id: vcsupport-mah@nic.in

---

**From:** "SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE" <shwetambari.khade@gov.in>  
**To:** "vcsupportmaharashtra" <vcsupport-mah@nic.in>  
**Cc:** "Lakshmi Prasanna" <lakshmi.pd@nic.in>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 2:03:59 PM  
**Subject:** VC Booking

Please see the attachment and do the needful accordingly.

With regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary, General Administration Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai



---

**From :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Tue, Sep 08, 2020 02:03 PM

1 attachment

**Subject :** VC Booking

**To :** vcsupportmaharashtra <vcsupport-mah@nic.in>

**Cc :** Lakshmi Prasanna <lakshmi.pd@nic.in>


**Bcc :** ANUSHRI ARVIND PARAB <anushri.parab@nic.in>

Please see the attachment and do the needful accordingly.

With regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary, General Administration Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai

434

---

 **VC letter 11.09.2020.pdf**  
367 KB

---



## सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग/कार्यासन-सहा

शासन निर्णय, सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, दिनांक २२ फेब्रुवारी, २०१९ (पृष्ठ २५-२७/पवि)  
अन्वये, मा. सर्वोच्च न्यायालयाच्या निदेशानुसार, राज्य मुख्य माहिती आयुक्त /राज्य माहिती आयुक्त  
पदावरील नियुक्तीसाठी अस्तित्वात असलेल्या महाराष्ट्र राज्यातील नियुक्ती समितीस सहाय्य  
करण्यासाठी शोध समिती (Search Committee) स्थापन केली आहे. सदर समितीची रचना  
खालीलप्रमाणे आहे.

१	श्री. न्यायमूर्ती (सेवानिवृत्त) मोहित शाह, माजी मुख्य न्यायाधीश, उच्च न्यायालय, मुंबई (मा. राज्यपाल यांच्याव्दारे नामनिर्देशित सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीश)	अध्यक्ष
२	केंद्रीय माहिती आयुक्त (मा. केंद्रीय मुख्य माहिती आयुक्त यांच्याव्दारे नामनिर्देशित)	सदस्य
३	मुख्य सचिव (पदसिद्ध)	सदस्य

२. दिनांक ४ सप्टेंबर, २०२० रोजी, Video Conference द्वारे शोध समिती (Search Committee)ची बैठक आयोजित केली होती. सदर बैठकीच्या इतिवृत्ताचे प्रारूप ई-मेलद्वारे मा. श्री. मोहित शाह, सेवानिवृत्त मुख्य न्यायाधीश, उच्च न्यायालय तथा अध्यक्ष, शोध समिती यांना आणि श्री. यशवर्धन कुमार सिन्हा, केंद्रीय माहिती आयुक्त, नवी दिल्ली तथा सदस्य, शोध समिती यांना पाठविले आहे. सदर बैठकीच्या इतिवृत्ताचे प्रारूप बंद पाकीटात सोबत जोडले आहे.

३. दिनांक ४.९.२०२० रोजी झालेल्या बैठकीच्या इतिवृत्तास अंतिमतः मंजूरी देण्यासाठी शोध समितीची पुढील बैठक व्हिडिओ कॉन्फरन्स द्वारे, दिनांक ११.९.२०२० रोजी दुपारी २.३० वाजता आयोजित केली आहे.

मा. ज. ज. वळवी  
९-९-२०२०  
(ज.ज. वळवी)  
उपसचिव

प्रधान सचिव(र.व का.)(श्री. देशपांडे)

Reed: १/११  
मुख्य सचिव (श्री. संजय कुमार)

# Government of Maharashtra

Tel-022-22049543

No. Misc2019/C.R.52/Desk-6  
General Administration Department,  
19 th Floor, New Administration Building,  
Madame Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk.  
Opp. Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.  
Date 8th September, 2020

To,

1. Hon.Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice, High court of Calcutta and Bombay.  
Khatau Apartments, Flat No.72, Opp. S.B.I., Teen Batti to Raj Bhavan Road, 243,  
Walkeshwar Road, Near Raj Bhavan, Malbar Hill, Mumbai 400 006
2. Shri. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Information Commissioner, Central  
Information Commission, CIC Bhavan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New  
Delhi 110 067
3. Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

8/9/20

**Subject:- Appointment to post of State Chief Information Commissioner/State  
Information commissioners in Maharashtra State Information Commission**  
**Reference:-**Government Resolution, General Administration Department, No.Court  
Case2018/ C.R.165/ Desk-6 dated 22 February, 2019

Sir,

Search committee meeting will be held on 11th September, 2020, 2.30 p.m. through video conferencing, to finalise minutes of Search Committee meeting held on 4th September, 2020. The draft minutes are enclosed. The details for the meeting and link for the Video Conference will be sent separately.

It is requested to kindly attend the said meeting.

Yours sincerely,

(Shrikant Deshpande)

Encl : as above

Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

Copy to,

1. NIC, Mumbai to make necessary arrangements.
2. PA to Secretary (O&M), Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032
3. Desk Six for collection

Email

shwetambari.khade@gov.in

## VC Booking

**From :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Tue, Sep 08, 2020 03:07 PM

**Subject :** VC Booking

**To :** justiceshah office <justiceshah.office@gmail.com>,  
YK Sinha <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>, cs  
<cs@maharashtra.gov.in>

Respected Sir,,  
Video Conference (VC) has been booked and vc id is 303350.  
Please find Weblink (Webroom MH4) for vc

<https://desktopvc.nic.in/flex.html?roomdirect.html&key=5GewK80qHM>

Password=7231

With regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary, General Administration Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai



**From :** vcsupportmaharashtra <vcsupport-mah@nic.in>

Tue, Sep 08, 2020 02:25 PM

**Subject :** Re: VC Booking

**To :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

**Cc :** Lakshmi Prasanna <lakshmi.pd@nic.in>, SUDHIR PV  
<sudhir.pv@nic.in>

Dear Madam,

As per your request vc has been booked and vc id is 303350.

Please find Weblink (Webroom MH4) for vc



**Re: Minutes of Search Committee on 04.09.2020**

**From :** justiceshah office <justiceshah.office@gmail.com> Sun, Sep 13, 2020 10:55 AM  
**Subject :** Re: Minutes of Search Committee on 04.09.2020 2 attachments  
**To :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Dear Madam,

Please find attached the revised draft Minutes both in Word and PDF formats. The revisions are in track mode.

Regards,  
Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.)

On Fri, 11 Sep 2020 at 16:32, SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in> wrote:

Respected Sir,

Please find attached the final draft of the Minutes of the Search Committee meeting held on 04.09.2020 for your kind approval. The revisions are in track mode.

With Regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary,  
General Administration Department

**Chambers of Justice Mohit S. Shah (Retd.)**

Former Chief Justice  
High Courts of Bombay & Calcutta  
218-219, Commerce House,  
140, Nagindas Master Road,  
Kala Ghoda, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001  
Tel: 022-22693954  
[justiceshah.office@gmail.com](mailto:justiceshah.office@gmail.com)

**Draft Minutes Search Committee 04.09.2020.docx**


51 KB

 **Draft Minutes Search Committee 04.09.2020.docx.pdf**  
530 KB

---

**From :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE  
<shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Fri, Sep 11, 2020 04:23 PM

 1 attachment

**Subject :** Minutes of Search Committee on 04.09.2020

**To :** justiceshah office <justiceshah.office@gmail.com>

Respected Sir,

Please find attached the final draft of the Minutes of the Search Committee meeting held on 04.09.2020 for your kind approval. The revisions are in track mode.

With Regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary,  
General Administration Department

---

 **Draft Minutes Search Committee 04.09.2020.docx**  
64 KB

---

yru

**Minutes of the Meeting of Search Committee held on 04.09.2020**  
**for filling up the three vacant posts of Information Commissioner in Maharashtra**

A meeting of Search Committee for filling up the three vacant posts of State Information Commissioner was held on 04.09.2020 at 11.00 am through video conferencing. The meeting was attended by the Chairman and members of the Search Committee as follows:

1	Justice Mohit S. Shah Retired Chief Justice, High Courts of Bombay & Calcutta	Chairman
2	Shri Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, New Delhi.	Member
3	Shri Sanjay Kumar Chief Secretary, Maharashtra	Member

In response to the Government advertisement dated 07-06-2019, total 91 applications were received for the three vacant posts of State Information Commissioner in the State of Maharashtra. In view of the Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 and Right to Information Rules, 2019 notified on 24.10.2019, changing the conditions of service, inter alia, of State Information Commissioners, the State Government sought willingness of the applicants to be considered for the advertised posts vide its advertisement dated 02.02.2020, within 15 days from the date of publication of the advertisement, i.e. by 05.03.2020. Within the said time limit 25 applicants conveyed their willingness.

As per the decision taken by the Search Committee at its meeting held on 05.08.2020, it was decided to ascertain willingness to be considered for the posts with the revised service conditions from the remaining applicants, who had earlier not submitted their response, within a week's time. Accordingly, emails were sent to the remaining applicants on 07.08.2020. Out of the total applicants, in all 52 applicants submitted their willingness within the timeline, including the 25 applicants who had submitted their willingness earlier.

The Search Committee, therefore, considered these 52 applicants, who submitted their willingness to be considered for the three vacant posts of the State Information Commissioner with the revised service conditions in its meeting on 04.09.2020. Before Minutes of the Meeting could be finalized, consent letters from 4 more applicants were received after due date was over. Out of these 4, 2 were received by email on 05.09.2020 and 11.9.2020 respectively and 2 were received by post on 09.09.2020. These were also considered by the Committee in its meeting on 11.09.2020. The Search Committee thus considered total 56 applicants in the Meetings held 04.09.2020 and 11.09.2020.

The Search Committee commenced its deliberations on 04.09.2020 on basis of the following provisions of Section 15 of the Right to Information Act, 2005:



yrc

15(5) *The State Chief Information Commissioner and the State Information Commissioners shall be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.*

15(6) *The State Chief Information Commissioner or a State Information Commissioner shall not be a Member of Parliament or Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, as the case may be, or hold any other office of profit or connected with any political party or carrying on any business or pursuing any profession.*

The Search Committee gave due consideration to the provisions of the RTI Act and the RTI Rules, including the above provisions of Section 15 and the provisions in Chapter V of the Act laying down the powers and functions of the Information Commissions, Appeal and Penalties and also considered judgments rendered by Hon'ble Supreme Court on the subject, including the judgment dated 15.02.2019 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2018 (Anjali Bhardwaj & Ors. Versus Union of India & Ors.) .

For short listing of the candidates, in light of the above statutory provisions and case law and the nature of powers and functions of State Information Commissioners, the Search Committee went through each and every application thoroughly and considered their area of eminence, educational qualifications, work experience, their achievements etc. and short listed the following 10 candidates for the vacant three posts:

1. Shri Suresh Chandra Gairola
2. Shri Rajeev Datta Sharma
3. Shri Ajay Prbhakar Rao Bhosrekar
4. Shri Ramchandra Govind Kulkarni
5. Shri Samir Sahai
6. Shri Abhay Narayan Tripathi
7. Smt. Suhas Milind Untawale
8. Shri Rahul Bhalchandra Pande
9. Shri Umesh Kumar Agrawal
10. Shri Vinay Kumar Sinha

Brief details of above candidates are as below:

**1. Shri Suresh Chandra Gairola**

- **Educational Qualifications-** Ph. D., PGPPM, PGDEL, AIFC-Diploma Equivalent to M.Sc. (Forestry)
- **Area of Eminence -** Forest Conservation and Management, Forest and Environmental Laws, Forestry Research, Public Policy, General Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation -** Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Government of India, New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- **Work Experience -**
  - Dr. Gairola is member of Indian Forest Service with 37 years of extensive experience and expertise in forest conservation and management, wildlife management, public policy, environmental law, forestry research and

general administration. He belongs to 1982 batch of Indian Forest Service (Maharashtra Cadre). He has served with distinction in various capacities in above areas in both government of India and Maharashtra. He has served in Government of Maharashtra as Joint Secretary/Deputy Secretary and as Group Coordinator (Research)/ Director at Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore.

• **Achievements-**

- He was Director General Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Government of India, New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. As the Director General he provides scientific advice and policy support to the Central and State Governments. He supervised, controlled, and guided 9 National Institutes and 5 Centres across India.
- As a Director, Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore, he provided leadership to the institute in research, extension, and administration.
- He is credited with many research publications. He has been awarded Brandis Prize twice by Indian Forester for best research paper in 2005 and 2015. He has been serving on the editorial board of Forest Ecosystems, an open access, peer reviewed international journal of Beijing Forestry University publishing scientific communications.

**2. Shri Rajeev Datta Sharma**

- **Educational Qualification-** B.A., L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence** - IRTS (1981's Exam 1982 batch) 37 years Experience of General Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Member (Technical) Railway Claims Tribunal, Wadi-Bunder, Mumbai.
- **Work Experience**
  - Has extensively served the Indian Railway and Government of India in various positions which included Member (Technical) in Railway Claims Tribunal, Member Commercial in Indian Railway Board, and other administrative and technical posts in Indian Railways.
- **Achievements-**
  - Mr Sharma is currently working as Member Judge (Technical) /Railway Claims Tribunal. In this capacity, all the technical and commercial inputs about Railways is contributed by him before the Tribunal delivers its judgements. He is heading 2<sup>nd</sup> Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal at Wadi-Bunder giving both Technical and Judicial decisions.
  - While working as an Additional Member (Commercial), Railway Board in the grade of Special Secretary to government of India, he was not only the authority for framing commercial policies of Indian Railways but also closely co-ordinated with Inter Ministerial Groups which included Ministry of Commerce, Agriculture, Home Affairs and Cabinet Secretariat.
  - He was the key interface with the Chief Central Information Commission. He was responsible for creating Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring Systems (CPGRAMS) which is an online web-ended system over NICENET developed by NIC in association with Directorate of Public Grievance (DPG) and Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) for Indian Railways. CPGRAMS is the platform



based on the web technology which primarily aims to enable submission of grievances by the aggrieved citizen from anywhere and anytime (24X7) basis to Railway Ministry who scrutinize and take action for speedy and favourable redress of these grievances. Tracking grievances is also facilitated on this portal through the system generated unique registration number.

### 3. Shri Ajay Prbhakarrao Bhosrekar

- **Educational Qualification** - B.com
- **Area of Eminence** - Consumer Movement (Akhil Bhartiya Grahak Panchayat), Right to Information, Human Right, etc. Creating awareness about the rights of consumers.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired Member and Retired I/c President of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, from Latur, Beed and Nanded.
- **Work Experience-**
  - He served as In-charge President during 2012-13 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Latur, Beed and Nanded.
  - He was Member during 2014-19 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Latur, and Beed.
  - He was In-charge President during 2017-18 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Beed.
- **Achievements-**
  - He has extensively worked on creating awareness on the rights of consumers and undertook numerous trainings, provision of legal advice, etc. for which he was honoured by the civil society for his contribution. He was honoured as the best president of the district redressal forum in Osmanabad. He also served in various capacities of the organisation working for consumer protection movement. He participated on invitation of the Lok Sabha Legislative Committee on amendment of Weights Measurement Act.

### 4. Shri Ramchandra Govind Kulkarni

- **Educational Qualification** - M.B.A., L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence** - Administration, Law
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired I.A.S. Officer, Commissioner Nashik, Tribal Development Department
- **Work Experience-**
  - Has extensive work experience in the fields of Administration, Personnel Management, Development Administration, RTI, Appeals, Resettlement, Administrative reforms, Departmental Enquires, etc.
  - He was Commissioner, Tribal Development Department, Nashik during May 2017 to June 2018.
- **Achievements-**
  - In 2015, he was felicitated by State Government with "Best Collector Award" during his tenure as District Collector, Washim.
  - He was nominated in the IAS cadre in 2009 due to outstanding services in the government and retired on 30th June 2018 from services after 34 years of dedicated service.



#### 5. Shri Samir Sahai

- **Educational Qualification** - M.Sc (Physics), M.Phil (Social Sciences), PG Diploma (Remote Sensing)
- **Area of Eminence** – Administration, vigilance.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Addl. Resident Commissioner and Resident Commissioner at General Administration Department, Govt. Of Maharashtra.
- **Work Experience** –
  - Director and Commissioner for Departmental Enquiries, at Central Vigilance Commission, Govt. of India from 2006 to 2010.
  - Chief Vigilance Officer at Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. Of India from 2010 to 2013 where he handed all vigilance related matters in Director General Civil Aviation (DGCA) and Pawan Hans Ltd, and conducted vigilance enquiries against senior officials in those organizations.
  - Addl. Resident Commissioner and Resident Commissioner at General Administration Department, Govt. of Maharashtra from 2014 till retirement where he dealt all matters related to liaison, protocol, investment and administration concerning state of Maharashtra.
- **Achievements-**
  - Government of Maharashtra awarded him the highest award in forestry i.e. Gold Medal in the year 2004 for outstanding Forest Protection work.
  - As Dy. Conservator of Forests large scale corruption matters were detected in Aurangabad Forest Division (1999-2003) and erring officials were charge sheeted.
  - As Vigilance Officer in Ministry of Civil Aviation, major corruption cases were detected and senior officers were charge sheeted with due approval of Chief Vigilance Commissioner.
  - Large number (more than 150) of forest tanks (earthen dams) were constructed under EGS during drought in Marathwada (2000-01).

#### 6. Shri Abhay Narayan Tripathi

- **Educational Qualification-** B.Sc., M.Sc. (Maths), L.L.B., L.L.M., Master in Forestry Science, Master in Human Resource Development Management, Certificate Course in Research Methodology.
- **Area of Eminence** –
- Environmental, Land, Forest and Wild Life related Laws, Protection of Rights of Children and Women, Administration, etc.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Officer of Indian Forest Service, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Maharashtra.
- **Work Experience** –
  - Additional Principal Chief Conservation of Forest, Department of Revenue and Forest, Government of Maharashtra from Aug 2018 to till date. He was Monitoring and implementing the operational plans for forest areas.
  - Secretary from Mar 2011 to Feb 2018 (in the rank of Principal Secretary in the State govt.) at Maharashtra State Commission for Protection of Child Right (A statutory body) created under the Act of Parliament.

- He was monitoring the implementation of provision of Right to Education Act 2009, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection Act) 2015, Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act 2012, Passing Judicial order under the provision of Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005, on various issues of rights of child; review the existing law/rules/regulation, related with the rights of child. Organising training and awareness programmes, conference, workshops etc. on rights of children.
- **Achievements-**
  - He worked as founder I/c Director, at Advance Center for Forest and Environment (Center/Institute for Social Forestry and Eco-rehabilitation) under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt of India. Center/Institute was given mandate in the field of research and lab to land activities on Agro/farm forestry, reclamation of problematic social, propagation and regeneration of Bamboo, Neem, Paulownia Jathropha etc. and rehabilitation of environmentally sensitive Silica mine area in Shankargarh at Allahabad.
  - Under his leadership, number of International projects were run by the Center such as Forestry Support for Asia and Pacific, United Nation Development Programme, WORLD BANK, International Bamboo Research and Neem Foundation Uttar Pradesh usar Sudhar Nigam etc. under the guidance of young and energetic scientist, officers etc. The main thrust of the Center was extension oriented research activities specially in the field of biomass, climate change, change in cropping system, environmental degradation, change in agricultural system, treatment of problematic soil by planting suitable forestry species, development of protocol on some medicinal plants/species such as amla, neem, bel etc. development of protocol on teak, neem, sisoo in order to conduct research for getting high yielding seeds on the basis of marking the crown trees and also to conduct research to reduce the maturity period of these species for exploitation, rejuvenation and development of catchment area of Ganga and Yamuna along with development of concern micro watershed in order to clean the river Ganga. He also developed quality seed plot area in the forest of U.P., M.P. with the help of State Forest Department.

#### 7. Smt. Suhas Milind Untawale

- **Educational Qualification-** B.Sc., LL.B.
- **Area of Eminence -** Law, Science, Government Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation -** President at District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum Buldana, Akola, Washim, Amravati, presently at Akola since 2013.
- **Work Experience -**
  - Presently working as President District. Consumer Redressal Forum since 2013 as per Government Notification under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
  - Organising National Consumers Day programme on awareness creation by delivering lectures on welfare, interest and rights of consumers.
  - Participated in workshop at New Delhi in the Indian Institute of Public Administration on Consumer Studies.
- **Achievements -**
  - Practiced as an Advocate/Legal Advisor in various field from 1991 till 2013 i.e. prior to the Appointment as President District Consumer Forum. During the said tenure practiced before the District and Session Court, Family Court,



Labour and Industrial Court, Distt. Collector, Juvenile, Consumer Court etc. Also used to appear before the Divisional Commissioner Amravati and State Information Commissioner Amravati as government pleader while defending the cases on behalf on government.

- While working as Member of Distt. Legal Services Authority, offered free of cost legal services to needy and poor litigants. Worked as Panel Advocate in Loknyayalaya and tried to settle the matters amicably.
- Functioned as a member in the Committee on Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Central Jail Visiting Committee, Juvenile Justice Board, Zilla Smajik Suraksha Samiti, etc.

#### 8. Shri Rahul Bhalchandra Pande

- **Educational Qualification** - M. A. (Political Science), L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence** - Law, Journalism and Mass Media
- **Present Occupation**- Senior Journalist working as City Editor with premier English daily the Hitavada since 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2009.
- **Work experience** -
  - Has been working as City Editor of a premier daily and leading its prestigious and flagship 'City Line' supplementary. The tasks entailed building readership through engaging content and campaigns, managing reader communication and interactive forums, managing and developing new reader platforms to improve readership numbers and quality, planning, co-ordination, execution and key decision making of the editorial and management. He was regularly invited as keynote speaker on Right to Information Act, Role of Media, Transparency, Complex socio-political-legal issues of contemporary importance by several organisations, academic institutions and electronic media.
- **Achievements** -
  - He is currently working as CITY EDITOR of the THE HITAVADA at its flagship Nagpur edition. He has earned reputation through his present assignment and long stint as a successful journalist working in Central India's largest and oldest English Newspaper.
  - He is handling critical responsibilities expected from a senior journalist and heading the reporting team with great distinction in The Hitavada. He is well-respected individual with good communication and comprehension of complex legal, social, economic, political, developmental issues encompassing common people.
  - He has worked as the Vice-President of Journalists Union and General Secretary of Nagpur Union of Working Journalists. He has represented these organisations before Statutory Wage Board.

#### 9. Shri Umesh Kumar Agrawal

- **Educational Qualification**- M.Sc, M.B.A., PGDBM
- **Area of Eminence** - Financial Management, Forestry, administration
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Member of Indian Forest Service and retired as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State
- **Work experience** -
  - He belongs to Indian Forest Service Officer of 1983 batch. He was Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) from April 2018 to November 2019. He has also worked in other sectors for about 36 years



which include, Social Forestry, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Maharashtra Warehousing Corporation, Maharashtra State Farming Corporation, etc.

- As Joint Director, Anti Corruption Bureau, Maharashtra State, Mumbai from 25.6.2004 to 31.7.2007, he dealt with matters of disproportionate assets of public servants against whom enquiries were set up by ACB.
- **Achievements –**
  - He was responsible for rejuvenating MSFC Ltd- Maharashtra State Farming Corporation Ltd. which was a sick PSU of Government of Maharashtra running in losses since 1985-86, burdened with huge debt and lots of liabilities, and all sources of income almost dried up. Under his leadership, in the year 2014-15 the corporation turned around and came into profit.
  - While working as Joint Managing Director in Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation, he initiated various measures to promote interests of farmers. Signing of MOU with NCDEX for providing online sale of agricultural commodities from the warehouse of MSWC providing great opportunity for the farmers to augment their income.
  - While working in Anti- Corruption Bureau, he successfully dealt with the matters of disproportionate assets of public servants against whom enquiries were set up by ACB.

#### 10. Shri Vinay Kumar Sinha

- **Educational Qualification** - Ph.D.(Forest Resource Policy and Management) in 1999 and Master of Science (Silvics) in 1997 from State Univ. of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, USA and Master of Public Administration in 1997 as concurrent Program from Syracuse Univ. Syracuse.
- **Area of Eminence** - Forestry and Wildlife; Forest Policy and Administration; Natural Resource Management.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Member-Secretary, Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board, Nagpur on superannuation on 31.10.2017; was a member of Indian Forest Service since 1983
- **Work experience –**
  - He was Member-Secretary at Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board from 06.02.2017 to 31.10.2017. The work entailed implementation of Bio-Diversity Act.
  - He was Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Maharashtra State at Maharashtra State Forest Department from 01.03.2015 to 06.02.2017 and the responsibility entailed implementation of Indian Forests Act, Forests Rights Act, Wild-life Protection Act, etc. and policy advice to the state government on issues related to forests.
  - He also served as Professor/Associate Professor at Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal where he taught the subjects on natural resource management and forest policies.
- **Achievements -**
  - He has in his credit various research publications, reports and special projects published in many scientific publications of national and

international repute. He also presented many research papers and reports in workshops organised at the national and international level.

- He was awarded Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship for Ph.D. Program, 1995-1997
- He has in his credits numerous consultancy Reports which include the following:
  - ❖ "Country Report-India: National Forest Policy Review" for the Food and Agriculture Organization through the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.
  - ❖ "Analysis of Responses to the Public Notice Issued by the National Forestry Commission" Team members: V. K. Sinha (Leader), R. K. Singh, C. S. Rathore, Y. Dubey, C. V. R. S. Vijay Kumar, B. R. Phukan and M. Mishra: 2003-2004.
  - ❖ "Draft Documents on Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for Forestation" for the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi; Team members: V. K. Sinha (leader), G. Alam, A. Pandey and M. Yadav; 2005-2006;
- He served as Policy Expert in providing "Technical Services to the National Forest Commission". New Delhi: Team members: R. K. Singh (leader), V. K. Sinha, C. S. Rathore, Y. Dubey, C. V. R. S. Vijay Kumar, B. R. Phukan and M. Mishra; 2004-2006; Rs.27.28 Lakh
- Advised the National Forest Commission sub-committee on TOR-I regarding assessment of forest-related policies and laws 2005.
- Served as Forestry Expert for "Ecological audit of the Himalayan Ski Village Project at Manali in Himachal Pradesh". Team members: Y. Dubey (leader), V. K. Sinha, C. S. Rathore and P. Singh; 2005.
- Served as forestry expert in the project titled "Ecological Impact Assessment of the Himalayan Ski Village Project", Team members: Y. Dubey (leader), V. K. Sinha and P. Singh; since March 2006.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Mohit S. Shah)  
Chairman, Search Committee  
Former Chief Justice,  
High court of Calcutta and  
Bombay.

(Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha)  
Member, Search Committee  
Information Commissioner,  
Central Information  
Commission, New Delhi

(Sanjay Kumar)  
Member, Search Committee  
Chief Secretary,  
Maharashtra State



Email

**Re: Minutes of Search Committee Meeting 04.09.2020**

shwetambari.khade@gov.in

**From :** YK Sinha <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>**Subject :** Re: Minutes of Search Committee Meeting 04.09.2020**To :** SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE <shwetambari.khade@gov.in>

Dear Madam,

Please find attached scanned copy of Minutes duly signed by Shri YK Sinha, Hon'ble Information Commissioner as desired please.

Regards,

Sarvottam Rana  
PS to Hon'ble Information Commissioner  
Central Information Commission

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 07:30 PM

1 attachment

**From:** "SHWETAMBARIPRAVINKHADE" <shwetambari.khade@gov.in>**To:** "YK Sinha" <yk.sinha@cic.nic.in>**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:04:10 PM**Subject:** Minutes of Search Committee Meeting 04.09.2020

Respected Sir,

Please find attached the final Minutes of the Search Committee meeting, held on 04.09.2020 which are approved by Chairman of Search Committee. Kindly sign the Minutes and return.

With Regards,  
S.P.Khade,  
Under Secretary,  
General Administration Department



450

**Minutes of the Meeting of Search Committee held on 04.09.2020  
for filling up the three vacant posts of Information Commissioner in Maharashtra**

A meeting of Search Committee for filling up the three vacant posts of State Information Commissioner was held on 04.09.2020 at 11.00 am through video conferencing. The meeting was attended by the Chairman and members of the Search Committee as follows:

1	Justice Mohit S. Shah Retired Chief Justice, High Courts of Bombay & Calcutta	Chairman
2	Shri Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha Information Commissioner, Central Information Commission, New Delhi.	Member
3	Shri Sanjay Kumar Chief Secretary, Maharashtra	Member

In response to the Government advertisement dated 07-06-2019, total 91 applications were received for the three vacant posts of State Information Commissioner in the State of Maharashtra. In view of the Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 and Right to Information Rules, 2019 notified on 24.10.2019, changing the conditions of service, inter alia, of State Information Commissioners, the State Government sought willingness of the applicants to be considered for the advertised posts vide its advertisement dated 02.02.2020, within 15 days from the date of publication of the advertisement, i.e. by 05.03.2020. Within the said time limit 25 applicants conveyed their willingness.

As per the decision taken by the Search Committee at its meeting held on 05.08.2020, it was decided to ascertain willingness to be considered for the posts with the revised service conditions from the remaining applicants, who had earlier not submitted their response, within a week's time. Accordingly, emails were sent to the remaining applicants on 07.08.2020. Out of the total applicants, in all 52 applicants submitted their willingness within the timeline, including the 25 applicants who had submitted their willingness earlier.

The Search Committee, therefore, considered these 52 applicants, who submitted their willingness to be considered for the three vacant posts of the State Information Commissioner with the revised service conditions in its meeting on 04.09.2020. Before Minutes of the Meeting could be finalized, consent letters from 4 more applicants were received after due date was over. Out of these 4, 2 were received by email on 05.09.2020 and 11.9.2020 respectively and 2 were received by post on 09.09.2020. These were also considered by the Committee in its meeting on 11.09.2020. The Search Committee thus considered total 56 applicants in the Meetings held 04.09.2020 and 11.09.2020.

The Search Committee commenced its deliberations on 04.09.2020 on basis of the following provisions of Section 15 of the Right to Information Act, 2005:

15 (5) *The State Chief Information Commissioner and the State Information Commissioners shall be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.*

15 (6) *The State Chief Information Commissioner or a State Information Commissioner shall not be a Member of Parliament or Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, as the case may be, or hold any other office of profit or connected with any political party or carrying on any business or pursuing any profession.*

The Search Committee gave due consideration to the provisions of the RTI Act and the RTI Rules, including the above provisions of Section 15 and the provisions in Chapter V of the Act laying down the powers and functions of the Information Commissions, Appeal and Penalties and also considered judgments rendered by Hon'ble Supreme Court on the subject, including the judgment dated 15.02.2019 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 436 of 2018 (Anjali Bhardwaj & Ors. Versus Union of India & Ors.).

For short listing of the candidates, in light of the above statutory provisions and case law and the nature of powers and functions of State Information Commissioners, the Search Committee went through each and every application thoroughly and considered their area of eminence, educational qualifications, work experience, their achievements etc. and short listed the following 10 candidates for the vacant three posts:

1. Shri Suresh Chandra Gairola
2. Shri Rajeev Datta Sharma
3. Shri Ajay Prbhakar Rao Bhosrekar
4. Shri Ramchandra Govind Kulkarni
5. Shri Samir Sahai
6. Shri Abhay Narayan Tripathi
7. Smt. Suhass Milind Untawale
8. Shri Rahul Bhalchandra Pande
9. Shri Umesh Kumar Agrawal
10. Shri Vinay Kumar Sinha

Brief details of above candidates are as below:

**1. Shri Suresh Chandra Gairola**

- **Educational Qualifications-** Ph. D., PGPPM, PGDEL, AIFC Diploma Equivalent to M.Sc. (Forestry)
- **Area of Eminence -** Forest Conservation and Management, Forest and Environmental Laws, Forestry Research, Public Policy, General Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation -** Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Government of India, New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- **Work Experience -**
  - Dr. Gairola is member of Indian Forest Service with 37 years of extensive experience and expertise in forest conservation and management, wildlife management, public policy, environmental law, forestry research and general administration. He belongs to 1982 batch of Indian Forest Service



469

(Maharashtra Cadre). He has served with distinction in various capacities in above areas in both government of India and Maharashtra. He has served in Government of Maharashtra as Joint Secretary/Deputy Secretary and as Group Coordinator (Research)/ Director at Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore.

- **Achievements-**

- He was Director General Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Government of India, New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. As the Director General he provides scientific advice and policy support to the Central and State Governments. He supervised, controlled, and guided 9 National Institutes and 5 Centres across India.
- As a Director, Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore, he provided leadership to the institute in research, extension, and administration.
- He is credited with many research publications. He has been awarded Brandis Prize twice by Indian Forester for best research paper in 2005 and 2015. He has been serving on the editorial board of Forest Ecosystems, an open access, peer reviewed international journal of Beijing Forestry University publishing scientific communications.

## 2. Shri Rajeev Datta Sharma

- **Educational Qualification-** B.A., L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence -IRTS** (1981's Exam 1982 batch) 37 years Experience of General Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation -Member(Technical) Railway Claims Tribunal, Wadi-Bunder, Mumbai.**

- **Work Experience**

- Has extensively served the Indian Railway and Government of India in various positions which included Member (Technical) in Railway Claims Tribunal, Member Commercial in Indian Railway Board, and other administrative and technical posts in Indian Railways.

- **Achievements-**

- Mr Sharma is currently working as Member Judge (Technical)/Railway Claims Tribunal. In this capacity, all the technical and commercial inputs about Railways is contributed by him before the Tribunal delivers its judgements. He is heading 2<sup>nd</sup> Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal at Wadi-Bunder giving both Technical and Judicial decisions.
- While working as an Additional Member (Commercial), Railway Board in the grade of Special Secretary to Government of India, he was not only the authority for framing commercial policies of Indian Railways but also closely co-ordinated with Inter Ministerial Groups which included Ministry of Commerce, Agriculture, Home Affairs and Cabinet Secretariat.
- He was the key interface with the Chief Central Information Commission. He was responsible for creating Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring Systems (CPGRAMS) which is an online web-ended system over NICENET developed by NIC in association with Directorate of Public Grievance (DPG) and Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) for Indian Railways. CPGRAMS is the platform based on the web technology which primarily aims to enable submission of grievances by the aggrieved citizen from anywhere and anytime (24X7)



y03

basis to Railway Ministry who scrutinize and take action for speedy and favourable redress of these grievances. Tracking grievances is also facilitated on this portal through the system generated unique registration number.

**3. Shri Ajay Prbhakar Rao Bhosrekar**

- **Educational Qualification**-B.com
- **Area of Eminence** - Consumer Movement (Akhil Bhartiya Grahak Panchayat), Right to Information, Human Right, etc. Creating awareness about the rights of consumers.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired Member and Retired I/c President of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, from Latur, Beed and Nanded.
- **Work Experience**-
  - He served as In-charge President during 2012-13 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Latur, Beed and Nanded.
  - He was Member during 2014-19 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Latur, and Beed.
  - He was In-charge President during 2017-18 of District Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum at Beed.
- **Achievements**-
  - He has extensively worked on creating awareness on the rights of consumers and undertook numerous trainings, provision of legal advice, etc. for which he was honoured by the civil society for his contribution. He was honoured as the best president of the district redressal forum in Osmanabad. He also served in various capacities of the organisation working for consumer protection movement. He participated on invitation of the Lok Sabha Legislative Committee on amendment of Weights Measurement Act.

**4. Shri Ramchandra Govind Kulkarni**

- **Educational Qualification**-M.B.A., L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence** - Administration, Law
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired I.A.S. Officer, Commissioner Nashik, Tribal Development Department
- **Work Experience**-
  - Has extensive work experience in the fields of Administration, Personnel Management, Development Administration, RTI, Appeals, Resettlement, Administrative reforms, Departmental Enquiries, etc.
  - He was Commissioner, Tribal Development Department, Nashik during May 2017 to June 2018.
- **Achievements**-
  - In 2015, he was felicitated by State Government with "Best Collector Award" during his tenure as District Collector, Washim.
  - He was nominated in the IAS cadre in 2009 due to outstanding services in the Government and retired on 30th June 2018 from services after 34 years of dedicated service.

Y.S.

*[Signature]*

403

5. Shri Samir Sahai

- **Educational Qualification-** M.Sc(Physics), M.Phil(Social Sciences), PG Diploma (Remote Sensing)
- **Area of Eminence-** Administration, vigilance.
- **Present/Past Occupation -** Addl. Resident Commissioner and Resident Commissioner at General Administration Department, Govt. Of Maharashtra.
- **Work Experience -**
  - Director and Commissioner for Departmental Enquiries, at Central Vigilance Commission, Govt. of India from 2006 to 2010.
  - Chief Vigilance Officer at Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. Of India from 2010 to 2013 where he handled all vigilance related matters in Director General Civil Aviation(DGCA) and Pawan Hans Ltd, and conducted vigilance enquiries against senior officials in those organizations.
  - Addl. Resident Commissioner and Resident Commissioner at General Administration Department, Govt. of Maharashtra from 2014 till retirement where he dealt all matters related to liaison, protocol, investment and administration concerning state of Maharashtra.
- **Achievements-**
  - Government of Maharashtra awarded him the highest award in forestry i.e. Gold Medal in the year 2004 for outstanding Forest Protection work.
  - As Dy. Conservator of Forests large scale corruption matters were detected in Aurangabad Forest Division (1999-2003) and erring officials were charge sheeted.
  - As Vigilance Officer in Ministry of Civil Aviation, major corruption cases were detected and senior officers were charge sheeted with due approval of Chief Vigilance Commissioner.
  - Large number (more than 150) of forest tanks (earthen dams) were constructed under EGS during drought in Marathwada(2000-01).

6. Shri Abhay Narayan Tripathi

- **Educational Qualification-**B.Sc.,M.Sc.(Maths), L.L.B., L.L.M., Master in Forestry Science, Master in Human Resource Development Management, Certificate Course in Research Methodology.
- **Area of Eminence -**
- Environmental, Land, Forest and Wild Life related Laws, Protection of Rights of Children and Women, Administration, etc.
- **Present/Past Occupation -** Officer of Indian Forest Service, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Maharashtra.
- **Work Experience -**
  - Additional Principal Chief Conservation of Forest, Department of Revenue and Forest, Government of Maharashtra from Aug 2018 to till date. He was Monitoring and implementing the operational plans for forest areas.
  - Secretary from Mar 2011 to Feb 2018 (in the rank of Principal Secretary in the State govt.) at Maharashtra State Commission for Protection of Child Right (A statutory body) created under the Act of Parliament.
  - He was monitoring the implementation of provision of Right to Education Act 2009, Juvenile Justice(Care and Protection Act) 2015, Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act 2012, Passing Judicial order under the provision of Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005, on



500

various issues of rights of child; review the existing law/rules/regulation, related with the rights of child. Organising training and awareness programmes, conference, workshops etc. on rights of children.

- **Achievements-**

- He worked as founder I/c Director, at Advance Center for Forest and Environment (Center/Institute for Social Forestry and Eco-rehabilitation) under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt of India. Center/Institute was given mandate in the field of research and lab to land activities on Agro/farm forestry, reclamation of problematic social, propagation and regeneration of Bamboo, Neem, Paulownia Jathropha etc. and rehabilitation of environmentally sensitive Silica mine area in Shankargarh at Allahabad.
- Under his leadership, number of International projects were run by the Center such as Forestry Support for Asia and Pacific, United Nation Development Programme, WORLD BANK, International Bamboo Research and Neem Foundation Uttar Pradesh Usar Sudhar Nigam etc. under the guidance of young and energetic scientist, officers etc. The main thrust of the Center was extension oriented research activities specially in the field of biomass, climate change, change in cropping system, environmental degradation, change in agricultural system, treatment of problematic soil by planting suitable forestry species, development of protocol on some medicinal plants/species such as amla, neem, bel etc. development of protocol on teak, neem, sisoo in order to conduct research for getting high yielding seeds on the basis of marking the crown trees and also to conduct research to reduce the maturity period of these species for exploitation, rejuvenation and development of catchment area of Ganga and Yamuna along with development of concern micro watershed in order to clean the river Ganga. He also developed quality seed plot area in the forest of U.P., M.P. with the help of State Forest Department.

**7. Smt. Suhas Milind Untawale**

- **Educational Qualification-** B.Sc., LL.B.
- **Area of Eminence-** Law, Science, Government Administration
- **Present/Past Occupation** - President at District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum Buldana, Akola, Washim, Amravati, presently at Akola since 2013.
- **Work Experience -**
  - Presently working as President District. Consumer Redressal Forum since 2013 as per Government Notification under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
  - Organising National Consumers Day programme on awareness creation by delivering lectures on welfare, interest and rights of consumers.
  - Participated in workshop at New Delhi in the Indian Institute of Public Administration on Consumer Studies.
- **Achievements -**
  - Practiced as an Advocate/Legal Advisor in various field from 1991 till 2013 i.e. prior to the Appointment as President District Consumer Forum. During the said tenure practiced before the District and Session Court, Family Court, Labour and Industrial Court, Distt. Collector, Juvenile, Consumer Court etc. Also used to appear before the Divisional Commissioner Amravati and State Information Commissioner Amravati as government pleader while defending the cases on behalf on government.

Yus

6 | Page

hwa



- ybe
- While working as Member of Distt. Legal Services Authority, offered free of cost legal services to needy and poor litigants. Worked as Panel Advocate in Loknyayalaya and tried to settle the matters amicably.
  - Functioned as a member in the Committee on Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Central Jail Visiting Committee, Juvenile Justice Board, Zilla Smajik Suraksha Samiti, etc.

#### 8. Shri Rahul BhalchandraPande

- **Educational Qualification-** M.A. (Political Science), L.L.B.
- **Area of Eminence** -Law, Journalism and Mass Media
- **Present Occupation-** Senior Journalist working as City Editor with premier English daily the Hitavada since 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2009.
- **Work experience –**
  - Has been working as City Editor of a premier daily and leading its prestigious and flagship 'City Line' supplementary. The tasks entailed building readership through engaging content and campaigns, managing reader communication and interactive forums, managing and developing new reader platforms to improve readership numbers and quality, planning, co-ordination, execution and key decision making of the editorial and management. He was regularly invited as keynote speaker on Right to Information Act, Role of Media, Transparency, Complex socio-political-legal issues of contemporary importance by several organisations, academic institutions and electronic media.
- **Achievements –**
  - He is currently working as CITY EDITOR of the THE HITAVADA at its flagship Nagpur edition. He has earned reputation through his present assignment and long stint as a successful journalist working in Central India's largest and oldest English Newspaper.
  - He is handling critical responsibilities expected from a senior journalist and heading the reporting team with great distinction in The Hitavada. He is well-respected individual with good communication and comprehension of complex legal, social, economic, political, developmental issues encompassing common people.
  - He has worked as the Vice-President of Journalists Union and General Secretary of Nagpur Union of Working Journalists. He has represented these organisations before Statutory Wage Board.

#### 9. Shri Umesh Kumar Agrawal

- **Educational Qualification-** M.Sc, M.B.A., PGDBM
- **Area of Eminence –** Financial Management, Forestry, administration
- **Present/Past Occupation –**Member of Indian Forest Service and retired as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State
- **Work experience –**
  - He belongs to Indian Forest Service Officer of 1983 batch. He was Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) from April 2018 to November 2019. He has also worked in other sectors for about 36 years which include, Social Forestry, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Maharashtra Warehousing Corporation, Maharashtra State Farming Corporation, etc.

- 459
- As Joint Director, Anti Corruption Bureau, Maharashtra State, Mumbai from 25.6.2004 to 31.7.2007, he dealt with matters of disproportionate assets of public servants against whom enquiries were set up by ACB.
  - **Achievements –**
    - He was responsible for rejuvenating MSFC Ltd- Maharashtra State Farming Corporation Ltd. which was a sick PSU of Government of Maharashtra running in losses since 1985-86, burdened with huge debt and lots of liabilities, and all sources of income almost dried up. Under his leadership, in the year 2014-15 the corporation turned around and came into profit.
    - While working as Joint Managing Director in Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation, he initiated various measures to promote interests of farmers. Signing of MOU with NCDEX for providing online sale of agricultural commodities from the warehouse of MSWC providing great opportunity for the farmers to augment their income.
    - While working in Anti- Corruption Bureau, he successfully dealt with the matters of disproportionate assets of public servants against whom enquiries were set up by ACB.

#### 10. Shri Vinay Kumar Sinha


- **Educational Qualification**-Ph.D.(Forest Resource Policy and Management) in 1999 and Master of Science (Silvics) in 1997 from State Univ. of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, USA and Master of Public Administration in 1997 as concurrent Program from Syracuse Univ. Syracuse.
- **Area of Eminence** -Forestry and Wildlife; Forest Policy and Administration; Natural Resource Management.
- **Present/Past Occupation** - Retired as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Member-Secretary, Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board, Nagpur on superannuation on 31.10.2017; was a member of Indian Forest Service since 1983
- **Work experience –**
  - He was Member-Secretary at Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board from 06.02.2017 to 31.10.2017. The work entailed implementation of Bio-Diversity Act.
  - He was Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Maharashtra State at Maharashtra State Forest Department from 01.03.2015 to 06.02.2017 and the responsibility entailed implementation of Indian Forests Act, Forests Rights Act, Wild-life Protection Act, etc. and policy advice to the state government on issues related to forests.
  - He also served as Professor/Associate Professor at Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal where he taught the subjects on natural resource management and forest policies.
- **Achievements -**
  - He has in his credit various research publications, reports and special projects published in many scientific publications of national and international repute. He also presented many research papers and reports in workshops organised at the national and international level.
  - He was awarded Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship for Ph.D. Program, 1995-1997



- 43
- He has in his credits numerous consultancy Reports which include the following:
    - ❖ "Country Report-India: National Forest Policy Review" for the Food and Agriculture Organization through the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.
    - ❖ "Analysis of Responses to the Public Notice Issued by the National Forestry Commission" Team members: V.K.Sinha (Leader), R.K.Singh, C.S.Rathore, Y.Dubey, C.V.R.S. Vijay Kumar, B.R.Phukan and M.Mishra: 2003-2004.
    - ❖ "Draft Documents on Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for Forestation" for the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi; Team members: V.K.Sinha(leader), G.Alam, A.Pandey and M.Yadav;2005-2006;
  - He served as Policy Expert in providing "Technical Services to the National Forest Commission". New Delhi: Team members: R.K.Singh(leader), V.K.Sinha, C.S.Rathore, Y.Dubey, C.V.R.S.Vijay Kumar, B.R.Phukan and M. Mishra; 2004-2006; Rs.27.28 Lakh
  - Advised the National Forest Commission sub-committee on TOR-I regarding assessment of forest-related policies and laws 2005.
  - Served as Forestry Expert for "Ecological audit of the Himalayan Ski Village Project at Manali in Himachal Pradesh". Team members: Y.Dubey(leader), V.K.Sinha, C.S.Rathore and P.Singh; 2005.
  - Served as forestry expert in the project titled "Ecological Impact Assessment of the Himalayan Ski Village Project", Team members: Y.Dubey(leader), V.K.Sinha and P.Singh; since March 2006.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Mohit S. Shah)  
Chairman, Search Committee  
Former Chief Justice,  
High courts of Calcutta and  
Bombay.

  
(Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha)  
Member, Search Committee  
Information Commissioner,  
Central Information  
Commission, New Delhi

  
(Sanjay Kumar)  
Member, Search Committee  
Chief Secretary,  
Maharashtra State