

STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION, HARYANA
SCO.70-71, SECTOR-8C,
CHANDIGARH (PHONE NO.0172-2726568)

No. 2613 /1-IA/SIC/2006

To

1. All Administrative Secretaries in the State of Haryana.
2. All Heads of Departments/ Managing Directors/Chief Administrators/ Boards/ Corporations/ PSU's in the State of Haryana.
3. All Commissioner of the Divisions in the State of Haryana.
4. All Deputy Commissioners in the District in the State of Haryana.

Dated Chandigarh, the 27 Nov, 2006


Subject: - Presence of officers at the time of hearing in the Commission.

With reference to subject cited above.

It has been noticed by the Commission that at the time of hearing of complaints or appeals in the Commission, Junior officers are being deputed by the State Public Information Officers. They are normally neither conversant with the facts of the case nor are they able to reply to the specific queries of the Commission regarding the subject.

As per provisions of the RTI Act 2005, the State Public Information Officer is completely responsible to present the case of the department before the Commission and his personal presence is essential at the time of hearing. However, as a measure of concession to the SPIO's, the Commission normally allows them the liberty to either be present in person or to depute some Gazetted Officer of the department, who is well conversant with the facts of the case. However, some SPIO's apparently tend to take undue liberty out of this concession by deputing junior non gazetted officials for this purpose.

It may be made clear to all the SPIO's that any official below the rank of a Gazetted Officer or an officer not having a proper letter of authority shall not be allowed to participate in the proceedings of the Commission in future.

cc -

Secretary
State Information Commission,
Haryana. 