

Hyderabad  
20<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

To  
The Editor

Sir,

In connection with Hon'able Supreme Court judgment of setting aside the appointment of four Information Commissioner Forum for Good Governance is sending the following press note. The editor is requested to make use of it.

## **PRESS NOTE**

### **Forum for Good Governance request the Government of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to constitute Independent Information Commissions**

Section 15 of RTI Act clearly specifies the methodology for appointment of Information Commissioners. In the year 2013 Government of A.P. have appointed four Information Commissioners i.e. 1. Sri Varre Venkateshwarlu, 2. Sri Imtiaz Ahmed, 3. Smt. Lam Thanthiya Kumari, 4. Smt. M. Vijay Nirmala vide G.O. Ms. No. 75, dated 06-02-2013. As the appointments were not as per the procedure prescribed U/s 15 of R.T.I a PIL was filed by K.Padmanabhaiah, Rao Chelikani & M. Padmanabha Reddy in High court of A.P. the court has set aside the appointment of above Supreme Court (case No. 30756/2013). Today the Hon'able Supreme Court has set aside the appointment of the above four Information Commissioners.

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As on today Information Commission is for the both the states and there are six Commissioners working at present. With the today's Supreme Court judgment four Commissioners will be unseated, added to it the remaining two Commissioners are retiring on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and another on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017. For all practical purposes the A.P. and Telangana Information Commission will be defunct (without any Commissioners) by 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2017.

To promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority and to contain corruption there should be an Information Commission for each state. Forum for Good Governance requests the Hon'able Chief Minister's of Telangana and A.P. to take steps to constitute State Information Commissions for respective states and appoint the Commissioners for effective implementation of R.T.I. Act.

Yours Sincerely

**M. Padmanabha Reddy**  
Secretary  
Forum for Good Governance