CIC to act against babus refusing reply to RTI pleas

CRACKING THE Whip: Transparency watchdog to consider demand to penalise civil servants who avoid such applications

NEW DELHI: Chief information commissioner (CIC) Kota Kumar Mathur on Tuesday promised to seriously consider a demand that the transparency watchdog impose penalties on civil servants who avoid responding to right to information (RTI) requests.

Mathur’s promise came at a meeting with RTI activists convened by the National Campaign for People’s Right to Information (NCPRI) where several implementation of provisions of the RTI Act was being discussed.

A speaker last week noted that civil servants had become impediments to implementation of the law. The report submitted by Mathur’s panel had already said that civil servants were not justifying and often refusing to disclose information.

Mathur told the grievances of members of the forum that the committee had been formed and the CIC had not been implemented. He said that he was willing to resolve to impose penalties wherever required.

The CIC agreed to come out with a framework that would ensure they are complete.

Bhopal: Prison cells can’t be unlocked from inside: Ex-inmate

A former inmate escaped, he told HT.

KHANDWA: A former inmate of Bhopal jail in whose case eight SIMI activists reported-killed at Chhata village in Bhopal last month, said that he had been able to open the gate by himself and had walked out of the Bhopal jail.

He wasischeeking prosecution, he told HT.

“The cells have nearly twenty thick walls and the lock holden after the door inside the cells is locked but the cells provide an opportunity for people to pass in and out. Reforms are needed in the cells and showers. I was able to escape because the cells and showers provide an opportunity for people to pass in and out. Reforms are needed in the cells and showers,” he told HT.

Another inmate of the jail said that there was a spring in BSY’s step.

About 1,000 mayors to brainstorm on pollution, traffic congestion

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NEW DELHI: A study released last week pointed that information commissions had become impediments to the implementation of the law. The report submitted by Mathur’s panel had already said that civil servants were not justifying and often refusing to disclose information.

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