

**Government of Chhattisgarh**  
**General Administration Department**  
**Mantralaya**  
**Dau Kalyan Singh Bhavan Raipur**

**No. 356/649/2006/1/6**

**Raipur, 12 April, 2006**

To,

All Government Departments

All Heads of Departments

All Collectors

Chhattisgarh

**Subject:** Guidelines for appeal related matters under the Right to Information Act, 2005

1/ The Right to Information Act has been enacted in Chhattisgarh since 15, June 2005. s18 of this Act contains provisions for filing appeals before the Information Commission. The following matters had been under the consideration of the Government - in the context of appeals whether advocates will be appointed or not; whether power of attorney will be given or not and whether advocates will be appointed at the cost of the Administration in cases where appeals are filed against government officers. The following decisions are being taken in relation to these matters.

2/ The entire proceedings are of quasi-judicial type which are extra-judicial in nature. There is also a provision for penalties. Therefore is necessary to have legal representation and a clear opportunity for defending oneself. Under such circumstances it is not possible to prevent the appointment of any assisting counsel or an advocate.

3/ Therefore it has been decided that appointment of advocates and giving of power of attorney will be allowed in matters relating to appeals under the Right to Information Act. As far as the costs relating to appeals filed against government officers is concerned, the government will pay the costs in contexts where appeals are filed against the orders of the government. But the penalty will have to be paid by the officer concerned.

Sd/-

Nand Kumar

Secretary

General Administration Department

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