Phone: Fax

K.S. WAHI Member Secretary FOURTH DELHI FINANCE COMMISSION

National Capital Territory of Delhi 4th Floor, 'B' Wing, Vikas Bhawan-II, Upper Bela Road, Near Metcalf House, Delhi -110054

D.O. No. F- No. 1/UTh DFC/2010-11/274

Dated: 8th June 2011

Dear Shri Savastara

The Fourth Delhi Finance Commission was constituted with effect from the 14th October 2010. Its current term is to expire on the 30th September 2011. Very little work could be done during the period beginning of the year 2010 and ending with January 2011 because the government was not in a position to provide office space or staff or funds needed by the commission. Following a meeting held with Chief Minister, Delhi on 12th November 2010 the commission got allotment of office space in Vikas Bhawan - II complex. The allotted space could be occupied in January 2011 only after the PWD had provided the basic facilities. Besides that the commission got some staff and a sum of Rs 50,000 as permanent imprest.

One of the several decisions taken in the meeting held on 12th November 2010 was that the commission could outsource its staff related requirement should the government not be in a position to provide services of in-service officer (s). The other decision was to expedite collection of records and information required by the commission and to issue a government order placing budgetary allocation of the commission at the disposal of the commission and empowering the Chairman and the Member Secretary with the powers of the Pr. Secretary to Government and the Head of Department respectively. A proposal to make short term appoint of Accounts Officer and Deputy Secretary in the commission is yet to be approved by the Urban Development Department. Similarly a financial proposal to award three subject specific studies to outside experts and a proposal to procure computer hardware and software remain unanswered

Soon after you had assumed the charge of the post of Secretary in-charge of the Urban Development Department, the commission took pains to apprise you of persisting difficulties. A meeting in this regard was held with you on 23rd February 2011. The commission had convened a special meeting of the commission on 30th May 2011 to review the progress of the decisions taken on 23th February 2011. You did not attend this meeting reportedly because your presence before the Council of Ministers had become necessary. Since then we are making desperate attempts to establish contact with you and your officers. Our efforts in this regard have not succeeded so far. In your absence, the commission has undertaken a formal review. After going through the records, the commission has noticed that several letters from this commission to officers in the Urban Development Department are yet to be acknowledged what to say of being replied. Your officers neither accept the calls made to them nor do they return the calls. The commission was not allowed to utilize the budgetary allocations during F.Y. 2010-11. The financial claims, including in regard to recoupment of imprest fund are also being delayed for no justifiable reasons. We are now advised that for the current financial year there is no budgetary allocation for the commission. If this is true it could happened only when proposal is either not sponsored or pursued. In view of the above, the commission has directed me to convey its anguish over the prevailing state of affairs in the Urban Development Department.

Given the fact that we share the responsibility of arranging delivery of recommendations of the commission to the Lieutenant Governor of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, I would feel relieved if you would kindly fix a time convenient to you to sort out nagging problems at your earliest and rework the time frame for completion of task assigned to the commission

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Yours sincerely

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