



Cyber Appellate Tribunal


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History

The Information Technology Act, 2000 which came into force on 17th, October 2000 was enacted to provide legal recognition for transactions carried out by means of electronic data inter change and other means of electronic communication, commonly referred to as "electronic commerce" which involve the use of alternatives to paper based methods of communication and storage of information, to facilitate electronic filing of documents with the Government Agencies and to amend the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Bankers Book of Evidence Act, 1891 and the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 and also for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The first and the only Cyber Appellate Tribunal in the country has been established by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions contained under Section 48(1) of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Tribunal initially known as the Cyber Regulations Appellate Tribunal (CRAT). After amendment of the IT Act in the year 2008 (Which came into effect on 27.10.2009) is known as the Cyber Appellate Tribunal (CAT). The Tribunal started functioning from October, 2006 in a portion of the Department of Information Technology building at CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. The Act provided for the Tribunal to be headed by a Presiding Officer who is or who was or who is qualified to be a Judge of a High Court. Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Jain, a retired Judge of Delhi High Court was the first Presiding Officer of the Cyber Appellate Tribunal, who joined as Presiding Officer on 4th October, 2006. The tenure of Mr. Justice R. C. Jain, as Presiding Officer of Cyber Appellate Tribunal expired on 7th December, 2007.

On appointment of Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Jain as Member of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Tandon, a retired Judge of Utrakhand High Court took over the charge as Presiding Officer of Cyber Appellate Tribunal on 25th February, 2009. Tenure of Justice Rajesh Tandon, as Chairperson of this Tribunal expired on 30th June, 2011.

The Government of India appointed Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Krishnan, a retired Judge of Madras High Court as Member (Judicial) and Head of Department, Cyber Appellate Tribunal on 21st Decmeber, 2011. The tenure of Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Krishnan as Member (Judicial) Cyber Appellate Tribunal expired on 8th Novermber, 2012.

The Government of India appointed Shri R.N. Singh officer of Department of Telecommunication as Member (Technical) and HOD CAT on 2nd Novermber, 2012. The appointment of Chairperson and Member (Judicial) is under consideration of the Government.

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