

News

Delhi High Court: The Central Information Commission Can Control Its Own Hearing Schedule



A petition was submitted asking the court to order the CIC to decide his second appeal as soon as possible.

The Delhi High Court ruled that it lacked the power to order the **Central Information Commission (CIC)** to change the time or conduct of its sessions.

The issue started when a petition was filed asking the court to order the CIC to decide his second appeal as soon as possible. The petitioner had complained to the Court about the length of time his appeal had been pending before the Commission.

First, it is noted that the Central Information Commission (CIC) should control its own calendar and hearing schedule, according to a bench led by **Justice Sachin Datta**. This Court has no authority to give instructions in this regard.

Chetan Sharma, an additional solicitor general, represented the respondents.

The Court considered the particular facts of the case even though it decided not to interfere with the CIC's internal scheduling procedures. In doing so, it issued the following directive: "Given the unique facts and circumstances of the case, the petitioner is permitted to bring up the matter before the relevant Bench and request an expedited hearing on the aforementioned second appeal." It should be the goal to make a decision on this as soon as possible, ideally within eight weeks of today.

The Court dismissed the petition after making these observations.

Cause Title: Sunil Bagai v. Central Information Commission & Ors.

Appearance:

Respondents: Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma, Advocates Laavanya Kaushik and Kyaati Bansal.