**COMMON CAUSE**

**Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on January 17, 2014**

The Executive Committee of Common Cause met on January 17, 2014 at 11.30 A.M. at Common Cause House. Shri Vikram Lal, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) J. P. Gupta, Shri Kamal Jaswal and Shri Surjit Das attended the meeting.

The Director apprised the Committee of the Society’s new initiatives in public interest litigation. A PIL seeking a court-supervised probe into the actionable evidence of corruption against Shri Virbhadra Singh was filed in the Delhi high Court on November 16, 2013. The material incorporated in the petition pertained to his term as the Union Minister of Steel. Fresh evidence of corruption relating to Shri Singh’s current term of office as Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh was filed on January 10, 2014. The matter is expected to come up before the Chief Justice’s bench.

Common Cause has joined Centre for Public Interest Litigation in filing a PIL to challenge the allotment of premium residential plots to influential members of the executive, the judiciary and the legislature in the states of Odisha and Gujarat. It is slated to come up before the Supreme Court shortly.

The Committee took note of the developments in other PILs filed by the Society and expressed satisfaction at their general direction.

The Director indicated that the definition of the objective, scope and methodology of the proposed Annual State of Policing Report was likely to take some more time. Preliminary discussions with experts in the domain were in progress.

The documentation for the PIL proposed to be filed for extending the audit jurisdiction of the Comptroller & Auditor General to NOIDA, Greater Noida and other industrial area development authorities of Uttar Pradesh has been completed and a comprehensive brief on the subject would soon be made available to the lawyer nominated by Shri Prashant Bhushan for drawing up the petition.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

 (Vikram Lal)