

J. M. Jesil v Zonal Education Office, Muttur

RTIC Appeal (In – Person Hearing)/ 2180/2020 - **Minute** adopted as part of the formal meeting of the Commission on 03.11.2020

Chairperson: Mr. Mahinda Gammampila
Commission Member: Ms. Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena
Commission Member: Mr. S.G. Punchihewa
Commission Member: Dr. Selvy Thiruchandran
Commission Member: Justice Rohini Walgama

Appellant: J. M. Jesil

Notice issued to: Designated Officer, Zonal Education Office, Muttur

RTI Request filed on	30.07.2019
IO responded on	30.07.2019
Appeal to DO filed on	30.07.2019
DO responded on	No Response
Appeal to RTIC filed on	22.08.2019

Brief Factual Background:

The Appellant filed above dated information request, as below,

With regard to the complaint I filed about T/Muttur Central College Principal on 29.07.2019,

- 1. The reason for not providing any record of receiving my complaint filed at the Zonal Education Office, despite asking for one.*
- 2. If I am to pursue legal action or file a case at the Human Rights Commission, how may I prove the filing of the above complaint?*
- 3. How long will it take to respond to the above complaint?*

The Information Officer responded on stating that there is no necessity to provide the information, as the requested information is already with the Appellant, and has in turn requested the Appellant to provide the letter sent to the Principal of Muttur Central College, the date of submitting the application and by when an answer is expected.

Dissatisfied with the response of the Information Officer, the Appellant appealed to the Designated Officer. As the Designated Officer failed to respond within the time period stipulated within the Act, the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission on 08.02.2020.

Matters Arising During the Course of the Hearing:

In view of the prevailing situation in the Western Province from October 27th – November 23rd 2020 with curfew imposed in certain areas due to the threat posed by COVID 19, and as such in order to minimize interaction between persons, the appeals scheduled for in-person hearings in terms of Rule 20 of the Commission's Rules on Fees and Appeal Procedures of the RTI Commission's Appeal (Gazette No. 2004/66, 03.02.2017) were postponed during the aforementioned period.

Order:

Accordingly, this Appeal will be taken up for an In – Person hearing on 23.02.2021 in regard to which formal notices of the RTI Commission will be sent to both parties in due course.

Order is conveyed to both parties in terms of Rule 27 (3) of the Commission's Rules on Fees and Appeal Procedures (Gazette No. 2004/66, 03.02.2017).

The Appeal is adjourned.

Next date of hearing: - 23.02.2021
