

**B.K.G. DHANAPALA .VS. DEPARTMENT OF LAND SETTLEMENT**

RTIC Appeal (In Person Hearing) 976/2019 order adopted as part of the formal meeting of the Commission on 05.08.2019.

Record of Proceedings under Rule 28 of the Right to Information Riles of 2017 (Fees and Appeal Procedure)

Chairperson: Mr. Mahinda Gammampila.

Commission Members: Mr S.G. Punchihewa

Dr. Selvy Thiruchrandran

Justice Rohini Walgama

Appellant: B.K.G. Dhanapala

Notice issued to: Designated Officer- Department of Land Settlement

Appearance/ Represented by:

Appellant: B.K.G. Dhanapala

Public Authority: B.A.D.D. Bamunusinghe

RTI Request filed on:	22.06.2018
IO responded on :	18.07.2018
First Appeal to DO filed on:	30.07.2018
DO responded on:	03.08.2018
Appeal to RTIC filed on:	13.12.2018

**Facts stemmed from the appeal**

At the Right to Information Commission of Sri Lanka

The Appellant by information request on the above date made to the Information Officer of the Public Authority has requested for the following items of information, inter alia;

Matters relating to the letter dated 06.04.2015 and in relation to the land No.320552: 02:48:49: 46 and 50.

1. Copies of the objections filed by the land owner in 320552/02/54
2. Copy containing the oral submission made by the land owner in the field investigation on 22.05.2015
3. Copies of all documents submitted by the land owner after 22.05.2015
4. Permission to peruse the file when necessary
5. Copies of the documents in the file relevant to the above matter.

As the appellant was not successful in obtaining the above information, from the Information Officer and the Designated Officer, has preferred an appeal to the Commission to elicit the afore mentioned information.

Accordingly the Commission on receipt of the instant appeal, noticed both parties to appear before the Commission for the hearing of the appeal on 05.08.2019.

Matters arising during the hearing of the appeal

Both parties were present at the hearing of the appeal on the above date. The Commission observed that the requested information relates to a land dispute regarding a road way between the appellant and a third party.

The Public Authority submitted to the Commission regarding the request item No. 1 and stated that there is only a minute mentioned in the file. But nevertheless agreed to release any information pertaining to the same.

Further the Public Authority agreed to release the information, requested in items Nos. 2 and 3 and in addition agreed to allow the appellant to peruse the relevant file which contained the requested information urged by the appellant.

At the Right to Information Commission of Sri Lanka

**Order:**

As the Public Authority was amenable to release the information to the appellant the Commission moved to conclude the appeal. Further the Public Authority was ordered to release the information within two weeks from the date hereof.

Thus appeal is concluded.

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