

The Right to Information Commission

K. Prasanna Kumar,
Thinakkural,
185, Grandpass Road,
Colombo 14

-Appellant-

RTIC App/No : 1050/2021 Vs.

Ministry of Public Services,
Provincial Councils and Local
Government
Independence Square,
Colombo-07

-Public Authority-

Before : 1. Justice Upaly Abeyrathne (Rtd.) - Chairman
2. Ms. Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena (Attorney-at-Law) - Commissioner
3. Mr. Jagath Liyana Arachchi (Attorney-at-Law) - Commissioner

Appearance : The Appellant is absent.

The Public Authority represented by Ms. P.U.T Warshawithana
(Senior Assistant Secretary-Housing and Development)

Written Submission : Appellant - Not submitted
Public Authority - Not submitted

Date of Hearing : 08.08.2022

Decided on : 08.08.2022

Decision:

Factual Background:

The Appellant by request dated 06.01.2021 requested the following information;

1. *“How many residences are there at the Maadhiwela residential block for the members of parliament?”*
2. *What is the monthly rental for parliamentary members to reside at the Maadhiwela residence?*
3. *Annual expenditure for maintenance of the residence?*
4. *How many workers are appointed for the maintenance of the residence?*
5. *What is the monthly electricity bill amount for the Madhiwela residential area?*
6. *What is the monthly water supply bill amount for the Maadhiwela residential area?*
7. *Details of the new residences to be constructed for the parliamentary members at the Thalapathpitiya?*
8. *Allocated amount for the aforementioned constructions?*
9. *What is the company contracted for the aforementioned constructions?*
10. *Infrastructure facilities that to be constructed at the new residential building?*

Information requested period - 2014-2020

As the Information Officer failed to respond within the time period stipulated in the Act, the Appellant lodged an Appeal with the Designated Officer dated 29.03.2021. As the Designated Officer too failed to respond within the time period stipulated in the Act, the Appellant preferred an Appeal to the Commission dated 04.10.2021.

Consideration:

The Public Authority now informs the Commission that matters pertaining to the residence allocated to the Members of Parliament at Madiwela are under the supervision and control of Members Service Office of the Sri Lanka Parliament which is under the control of the Secretary General of the Parliament.

Accordingly, Ms. P.U.T Warshawithana (Senior Assistant Secretary-Housing and Development) who appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Information Officer of the Ministry of Public Administration is directed to forward the said Information request to the Information Officer, Sri Lanka Parliament in terms of Regulation number 04.06 of the Regulations under the Right to Information Act No.12 of 2016 (Gazette Number 2004/66 February 03rd 2017) before 24.08 .2022 with copies to the Appellant and the Commission.

The Director-General is directed to convey the decision to the Appellant, the Information Officer and the Public Authority.

Appeal concluded.