

Annual Report - 2024

Right to Information Commission of Sri Lanka

Office

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1. Introduction

The regulatory framework of the Right to Information Commission 2024 is summarized as follows:

1.1 Fundamental Rights of Citizens to Access Information

The 19th Amendment to the Constitution of 1978 introduced the Right to access information as a fundamental right by inserting a new Article 14(a).

1.2 Right to Information Act

The Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016, was passed by Parliament of Sri Lanka, attested by the Hon. Speaker on 4th August 2016, and came into effect on 3rd February 2017. Its objectives are to establish the Right to Information Commission to ensure citizens' right to access information, foster a culture of transparency and accountability in public authorities by enforcing information rights, and promote a society where the public can actively participate in the country's public life with greater engagement in good governance.

As per Section 3(1) of the Act, legal provisions ensure that every citizen shall have a right of access to information which is in the possession, Custody or control of a public authority, subject to the provisions of Section 5.

According to Section 43 of the Act, a public authority is broadly defined as follows:

A public authority means -

- ❖ (a) A Ministry of the government.
- ❖ (b) Any body or office created or established by or under the Constitution, any written law, other than the companies Act No.7 of 2007, except to the extent specified in paragraph, or a statute of a Provincial Council;
- ❖ (c) A Government Department;
- ❖ (d) A Public corporation;
- ❖ (e) A company incorporated under the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007, in which the State, or a public corporation or the State and a public corporation together hold twenty-five per centum or more of the shares or otherwise has a controlling interest;
- ❖ (f) A local authority;

- ❖ (g) A private entity or organization which is carrying out a statutory or public function or service, under a contract, a partnership, an agreement or a license from the government or its agencies or from a local body, but only to the extent of activities covered by that statutory or public function or service;
- ❖ (h) Any department or other authority or institution established or created by a Provincial Council.
- ❖ (i) Non-governmental organizations that are substantially funded by the government or any department or other authority established or created by a Provincial Council or by a foreign government or international organization, rendering a service to the public in so far as the information sought relates to the service that is rendered to the public;
- ❖ (j) Higher educational institutions including private universities and professional institutions which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the State or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council;
- ❖ (k) Private educational institutions including institutions offering vocational or technical education which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the state or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council;
- ❖ (l) all Courts, tribunals and institutions created and established for the administration of justice;

1.3 Right to Information Commission

The Right to Information Commission was established under Section 11 of the Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016. It is a corporate body with perpetual existence and a common seal.

The Commissioners were formally appointed for the first time on 1st October 2016, with the mandate to oversee and ensure the proper performance of functions entrusted to public authorities. Under Section 38 of the Act, the Commission has the authority to take disciplinary action against those who violate its provisions. Additionally, as per Section 39(1)(e), the Commission is empowered to initiate criminal proceedings against individuals who fail or refuse to comply with its decisions.

The Commission is also vested with the power to establish rules concerning the form and manner of submitting appeals, procedures for conducting investigations, and the fees for providing information. In line with this, rules regarding fees and appeal procedures were introduced

through the Extraordinary Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 2004/66, effective February 3, 2017.

1.4 Vision of the Commission

Ensure that the citizens of Sri Lanka are able to effectively exercise their Right to Information.

1.5 Mission of the Commission

Developing and protecting the Right to Information of all Sri Lankan citizens adhering to a culture of transparency and good governance, through effective adjudication and monitoring of the practices of all Public Authorities, and promoting proactive disclosure which leads to citizens being more 'aware' of all information that relates to them.

1.6 Objectives of the Commission

- ❖ Provide Effective Adjudication and Enforcement: Effectively adjudicate disputes between Public Authorities and Information Seekers.
- ❖ Support the Training of Public Officials: Collaborate in training Public Officials and support specialized training on the Right to Information for stakeholders.
- ❖ Increase Public Awareness: Increase public understanding of the RTI Act through the Commission's website and through media interaction.
- ❖ Improve Records Management: Provide precise directions on information management by way of Guidelines.
- ❖ Increase Proactive Disclosure: Foster proactive disclosure of information by issuing guidelines, setting minimum standards, initiating revisions to existing law, and periodical assessments.
- ❖ Establish Effective Monitoring and Evaluation: Effective monitoring and evaluation of RTI implementation by Public Authorities through utilization of appropriate online solutions and assessment tools.

2. Functions, Duties and Powers of the Commission

2.1 Functions and Duties of the Commission as per Section 14 of the Right to Information Act

- ❖ Monitor the proper performance and ensure the due compliance by public authorities, of the duties cast on them under this act;
- ❖ make recommendations for reform both of a general nature and those in regard to any specific public authority;
- ❖ Issue guidelines based on reasonableness, for determining fees to be levied by public authorities for the release of any information under this Act;
- ❖ Prescribe the circumstances in which information may be provided by an information officer, without the payment of a fee;
- ❖ Prescribe the fee schedule based on the principle of proactive disclosure, in regard to providing information;
- ❖ Co-operate with or undertake training activities for public officials on the effective implementation of the provisions of this act;
- ❖ Publicize the requirements of this act and the rights of individuals under the act;
- ❖ Issue guidelines for the proper record management for public authorities.

2.2 Powers of the Commission under Section 15 of the Right to Information Act

- ❖ to hold inquiries and require any person to appear before it;
- ❖ to examine such person under oath or affirmation and require such person where necessary to produce any information which is in that person's possession, provided that the information which is exempted from disclosure under section 5 shall be examined in confidence;
- ❖ to inspect any information held by a public authority, including any information denied by a public authority under the provisions of this Act;
- ❖ to direct a public authority to provide information, in a particular form;
- ❖ to direct a public authority to publish any information withheld by a public authority from the public, subject to the provisions of section 5;
- ❖ to hear and determine any appeals made to it by any aggrieved person under section 32; and to direct a public authority or any relevant information officer of the authority to reimburse fees charged from a citizen due to any information requested for not been provided in time.

2.3 Current Right to Information Commission

Under Section 12(1) of the Act, The Commission shall consist of five persons appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Constitutional Council. In making such recommendations, the Constitutional Council shall recommend one person nominated by each of the following organizations or categories of organizations: -

- a) Bar Association of Sri Lanka which shall nominate an Attorney-at-Law of eminence or a Legal Academic in consultation with Attorneys -at-Law and Legal Academia;
- b) Organizations of publishers, editors and media persons;
- c) Other civil society organizations.

The first five-year term of the Commissioners, including the Chairman, who were initially appointed on 01.10.2016 after the Act is passed, ended on 21.09.2021.

The current Commission, operational since 09.12.2021, is chaired by retired Judge Upaly Abeyrathne. The Commissioners include Retired Judge Rohini Walgama, Attorney-at-Law Kishali Pinto Jayawardena, Attorney-at-Law Jagath Liyanarachchi, Attorney-at-Law and Mr. Mohamed Nahiya (appointed on 20.09.2022). Mr. D. C. Dissanayake has served as the Director General of the Commission since 06.04.2023.

3. Performance of the Commission

3.1 Receiving Appeals

Under Section 32 of the Act, any person aggrieved by a decision made in respect of an appeal under Section 31(1), or any person aggrieved by the failure to obtain a decision within the time frame specified in Section 31(3), may appeal to the Commission within two months from the expiry of the specified period.

In 2024, the Commission has received 1,852 appeals marking an increase of 164 appeals compared to the previous year. The distribution of appeals received by the Commission from 2018 to 2024, categorized by province and district, is shown below. Of the total number of appeals in 2024, 1848 were filed by citizens with addresses in Sri Lanka, while the remaining 4 appeals were filed by Sri Lankan citizens from foreign addresses without addresses in Sri Lanka. Therefore, those 4 appeals were not included in the classification made according to provinces and districts.

Table 1 - Classification of Appeals by Province

No.	Province Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1.	Northern Province	48	69	71	82	116	181	197
2.	Northwestern Province	26	77	34	21	73	99	122
3.	Western Province	338	443	226	239	446	646	646
4.	North Central Province	43	30	16	21	60	74	58
5.	Central Province	77	74	83	80	215	175	214
6.	Sabaragamuwa Province	35	64	30	63	67	95	85
7.	Eastern Province	75	113	112	30	168	150	197
8.	Southern Province	143	188	145	268	352	225	296
9.	Uva Province	15	31	12	21	28	43	33
10.	Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	04
	Total	800	1089	729	825	1525	1688	1852

(Source: RTI database)

Table 2 - Classification of Appeals by District

No.	District Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1.	Colombo	212	323	161	197	342	454	447
2.	Gampaha	91	73	52	30	71	136	109
3.	Kalutara	35	47	13	12	33	56	91
4.	Galle	90	113	58	47	96	134	110
5.	Matara	21	44	29	14	59	48	102
6.	Hambantota	32	31	58	207	197	43	74
7.	Kandy	63	49	54	67	104	117	141
8.	Matale	13	12	3	6	13	22	42
9.	Nuwara Eliya	2	13	26	9	98	36	38
10.	Trincomalee	6	12	5	17	16	27	58
11.	Batticaloa	7	25	12	12	12	24	29
12.	Ampara	61	76	95	51	140	99	113
13.	Jaffna	26	49	44	41	62	77	120
14.	Vavuniya	15	10	6	4	19	38	18
15.	Mannar	5	2	3	5	9	16	34
16.	Kilinochchi	1	5	1	3	10	18	15
17.	Mullaitivu	1	3	17	10	16	32	9
18.	Kurunegala	19	54	18	10	41	40	50
19.	Puttalam	7	23	16	11	32	59	68
20.	Anuradhapura	35	14	11	14	32	30	36
21.	Polonnaruwa	7	16	5	7	28	44	27
22.	Kegalle	6	20	9	3	17	20	24
23.	Ratnapura	29	44	21	27	50	75	61
24.	Badulla	6	19	9	3	15	26	17
25.	Monaragala	10	12	3	18	13	17	15
26.	Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	04
	Total	800	1089	729	825	1525	1688	1852

(Source: RTI database)

Considering the appeals received by the Commission from 2018 to 2024, the highest number of appeals has consistently come from the Western Province each year. Within the Western Province, the Colombo District consistently receives the highest number of appeals each year.

Furthermore, the overall growth in appeals in 2024, compared to 2023, is 9.42%

Table 3 - Classification of Appeals by Information Source in 2024

No.	Source of Information	Number of Appeals
1.	Human Resource Management	379
2.	Land and Properties	242
3.	Administrative Service	174
4.	Financial Management and Accounts	145
5.	Infrastructure Development Projects	71
6.	Educational Services	36
7.	Environmental Impacts	02
8.	Examination and Investigation Committee Reports	165
9.	Health-Related Matters	19
10.	Law and Order	58
11.	Procurement	04
12.	General Information	00
13.	Requests for information on different matters	557
	Total Number	1852

(Source: RTI Database)

Table 4 –Classification of Appeals According to Public Authorities in 2024

Among the appeals received by the Commission in the year 2024, 8 appeals were made without specifying the Public Authority. There were also 11 appeals made by referring to institutions as Public Authorities that do not fall within the interpretation of Public Authority under section 43 of the act. In such cases, the Appellant has the responsibility to verify that the relevant institution is a Public Authority. Accordingly, these 19 appeals were not included in the classification according to Public Authority.

No.	Public Authority	Number of Appeals
(a)	Ministry of the Government	245
(b)	Any body or office created or established by or under the Constitution, any written law, other than the companies Act No.7 of 2007, except to the extent specified in paragraph (e), or a statute of a Provincial Council	636
(c)	Government Department	60
(d)	Public Corporation	04
(e)	A company incorporated under the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007, in which the State, or a public corporation or the State and a public corporation together hold twenty-five per centum or more of the shares or otherwise has a controlling interest	165
(f)	A local authority	66
(g)	A private entity or organization which is carrying out a statutory or public function or service, under a contract,	214

No.	Public Authority	Number of Appeals
	a partnership, an agreement or a license from the government or its agencies or from a local body, but only to the extent of activities covered by that statutory or public function or service	
(h)	Any department or other authority or institution established or created by a Provincial Council	14
(i)	Non-governmental organizations that are substantially funded by the government or any department or other authority established or created by a Provincial Council or by a foreign government or international organization, rendering a service to the public in so far as the information sought relates to the service that is rendered to the public.	57
(j)	Higher educational institutions including private universities and professional institutions which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the State or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council.	08
(k)	Private educational institutions including institutions offering vocational or technical education which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the state or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council.	00
(l)	all Courts, tribunals and institutions created and established for the administration of justice;	19
	Total	1852

(Source:

RTI Database)

Table 5 – Appeals Received by Language in 2024

Language	Numbers of Appeals
Sinhala	1252
Tamil	270
English	331
Total	1852

(Source: RTI Database)

3.2 Hearing of Appeals

From 2024.01.01 to 2024.12.31, 1852 appeals were received by the Commission. Out of the appeals received in the year 2023, 466 appeals could not be investigated and concluded during that year and were therefore included for inquiry in the year 2024. Accordingly, the total number of appeals scheduled to be inquired in the year 2024 was 2382. Out of these, 1504 appeals were concluded and the number of appeals identified by the Commission with deficiencies was 384. Also, 112 appeals were partly heard and fixed for the next year, 01 appeal was filed and could not take up for inquiry and also 381 appeals were set for inquiry in the year 2025 as they could not be taken up for inquiry in the year 2024.

Further, the number of appeals in which the Commission issued final orders in 2024, including appeals pending before 2024, was 1837.

Table 6 –Hearing of Appeals in 2024 (From 2024.01.01 to 2024.12.31)

Appeals Received	Numbers	Appeals Heard	Numbers
Number of appeals received for hearings from the previous year	466	Total number of appeals concluded in 2024	1504
Total number of appeals received by the Commission in 2023	64	No of incomplete appeals/complaints identified (under rule 17 and 18) by the Commission	384
Total number of appeals received by the Commission in 2024	1852	Number of adjourned appeals	112
		Number of lay by appeals	01
		Number of appeals carried forward to 2024	381
Total number of appeals	2382	Total number of appeals	2382
Total number of appeals examined and final orders issued by the Commission in 2024 (including Orders of incomplete appeals)			1837

(Source: RTI Database)

All appeals were heard in person in 2024 in accordance with the procedure outlined in Rule 20 of the Rules published in the Extraordinary Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No.2004/66, dated 03.02.2017, entitled 'Right to Information Commission Rules 2017.' In this process, Appellants and Public Authorities were given the opportunity to appear before the Commission in person, through their duly authorized representatives, or via video conferencing, if available at the time of the appeal, in accordance with Rule 22. Additionally, it was decided to

conduct the appeal hearing process for Public Authorities in the Western Province from the third quarter of 2023, requiring them to appear before the Commission in person. This decision enabled quicker orders, reducing the need for repeated adjournments of appeals.

In both 2022 and 2023,2024 the Commission has issued written orders immediately after the conclusion of appeal hearings, as required. This has significantly contributed to the efficient and effective performance of the Commission's functions and helped reduce postal expenses compared to previous years.

Inquiry into Public Authority's Non-Compliance with the Commission's Decision

The Commission shall initiate criminal proceedings against any person who commits an offence under Section 39(1)(a), (b), (d), and (e) of the Right to Information Act, No.12 of 2016. Accordingly, the details of inquiry into non-compliance with the Commission's decision prior to the commencement of such proceedings are as follows:

Table 07 – Inquiry into the Non-Compliance with the Commission's Decision by the Public Authority in 2024

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
1	197/2023	01/2024	N.Sivasuthan	Colombo Municipal Council	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
2	372/2022	02/2024	Sujith Prasanna	Divisional Secretariat – Ambalangoda	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
3	876/2023	03/2024	U.A.Priyashantha	Divisional Secretariat – Medadumbara	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
4	1086/2022	04/2024	H.D.Duglas	Divisional Secretariat – Tangalle	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
5	114/2022	05/2024	R.B.R.Abeysekara	Colombo Municipal Council	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
6	124/2022	06/2024	D.S.Wijesoriya	Provincial Department of Health Services – Kandy	The Public Authority has been provided information before the commission. After examining the documents, Appellant is satisfied from which it was decided to conclude the appeal.
7	824/2022	07/2024	D.K.D.wije weera	Sri Lanka Customs	Since the Commission does not have the authority to investigate the allegations made by him, therefore, you should choose the appropriate authority. Therefore it was decided to conclude.
8	727/2021	08/2024	N.A.C.Nishshanka	Department of Agrarian Development	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
9	1199/2022	09/2024	B.A.B.S.Jaya wardhana	Ministry of Industrial Development, Vocational Education, Research and Entrepreneurship	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
10	1420/2022	10/2024	S.W.Thilakaratne	Municipal Council – Kandy	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
11	389/2023	11/2024	S.Hadaragama	Ministry of women and child affairs	It was decided to conclude the appeal based on the agreement to provide information.

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
12	1020/2022	12/2024	R.Thenabadu	Ministry of buddasasana, religious and cultural affairs	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
13	1063/2021	13/2024	S.P.S.kumarasiri	Department of Motor Traffic	The inquiry has been concluded with the conclusion that Sufficient information has been provided.
14	424/2023	14/2024	Dr.Muditha Liyanage	National Science and Technology Commission	The information was handed over to the Appellant before the Commission. The Appellant was satisfied, accordingly appeal was concluded.
15	913/2022	15/2024	Nandani Kumari	Janatha Estates Development Board	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
16	52/2021	16/2024	S.E.Leelaratne	Council Secretariat Office - Southern Province	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
17	1178/2022	17/2024	A.A.M.R.Ali	Sri Lanka Airforce	The Appellant has received the information requested and therefore requested to conclude the inquiry.
18	387/2023	18/2024	S.Hadaragama	Ministry of Women and Child affairs	The Public Authority had provided evidence that the information has been provided. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
19	131/2023	19/2024	Asitha Abeygunawardhana	Ministry of Public administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government	It was decided to conclude the inquiry as it was observed that the Public Authority has complied with the Commission's decision.
20	1070/2022	20/2024	R.Thenabadu	Ministry of Buddasasana, religious and cultural affairs	The commission has decided that it is not appropriate to file a case in the Magistrate Court under the section 39 (e) of act no 12 of 2016 as the Public Authority confirmed that the

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
					information has been destroyed. Therefore, inquiry has been concluded.
21	1070/2022	21/2024	M.A.N.Nalin	Department of Agrarian Development	The Appellant has informed that he does not need this inquiry. Accordingly inquiry was concluded.
22	627/2021	22/2024	W.S.Hemakanthi	Municipal Council, Gampaha	Public Authority had adequately disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
23	581/2023	23/2024	S.A.Udaykumara	Department of Agrarian Development	The Public Authority has agreed to provide information to the Appellant. Accordingly inquiry has been concluded.
24	1457/2022	24/2024	G.G.C.Keerthiratne	Department of Post	Appellant informed that the information requested has been received. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
25	59/2023	25/2024	G.G.C.Keerthiratne	Department of Examinations	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
26	747/2023	26/2024	C.L.Rodrigo	Department of Local Government - Sabaragamuwa	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
27	458/2023	27/2024	K.D.Malwanage	Department of Examinations	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
28	774/2023	28/2024	K.S.Siril	Department of Agrarian Development District office- Colombo	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
29	717/2022	29/2024	A.j.Gunathilaka	Department of Agrarian Development	The Public Authority has provided the information to the Appellant before the commission. The Commission has examined the documents and that sufficient information

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
					has been provided and decided to conclude the appeal.
30	266/2023	30/2024	S.N.P.kumara	Pradeshiya Sabha-Kuruwita	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
31	488/2023	31/2024	H.M.P.Bandara	Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
32	688/2022	32/2024	S.W.Thilakaratne	Registrar General's Department	The information requested by the Appellant has been disclosed appropriately. Therefore, appeal has been concluded.
33	465/2023	33/2024	B.L.D.D.Wasantha	Urban Development Authority	The information requested by the Appellant has been disclosed appropriately. Therefore, appeal has been concluded.
34	1280/2022	34/2024	S.D.S.Pinaduwage	Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation	The information requested by the Appellant has been disclosed sufficiently. Therefore, appeal has been concluded.
35	253/2023	35/2024	S.M.M.Prasanna	Ceylon Petroleum Corporation	The inquiry has been concluded with an order to release information to the Appellant before 28.06.2024.
36	592/2023	36/2024	A.M.M.T.Bandara	Minipe Pradeshiya Sabha – Hasalaka	The inquiry has been concluded with an order to release information to the Appellant before 26.06.2024.
37	1397/2022	37/2024	K.Sumathipala	Department of Agrarian Development (Agrarian Service Center - Mihintale)	Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
38	311/2023	38/2024	D.K.D.Wijayaweera	Sri Lanka Customs	Information has been received sufficiently. Therefore, inquiry has been concluded.
39	93/2021	39/2024	M.S.Chaminda	Department of National	The Public Authority had sufficiently disclosed the

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
				Archives	information requested by the Appellant. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
40	173/2023	40/2024	S.L.Gonala goda	Sri Lanka Police	The requested information has provided sufficiently to the Appellant and therefore, appeal concluded.
41	174/2023	41/2024	S.L.Gonala goda	Sri Lanka Police -	The requested information has provided sufficiently to the Appellant and therefore, appeal concluded.
42	552/2023	42/2024	Tharindu jayawardhana	Presidential Secretariat	The inquiry was concluded as the Appellant accepted that the Public Authority did not have the relevant documents in item no.07 of the Appellant's information request.
43	131/2021	43/2024	A.M.Jazeel	Eastern University of Sri Lanka	The Public Authority has disclosed the information. The Commission has examined the information and since the Appellant has not raised any objection, the inquiry has been concluded.
44	1063/2023	44/2024	A.Chandana	Municipal Council Dehiwala - Mount Lavinia	We found that Public Authority has failed to comply with the commission's decision. Accordingly we have decided to initiate legal proceedings against the Public Authority under section 39 of the Right To Information Act.
45	1064/2023	45/2024	Padmini Keerthilatha	Municipal Council Dehiwala - Mount Lavinia	We found that Public Authority has failed to comply with the commission's decision. Accordingly we have decided to initiate legal proceedings against the Public Authority under section 39 of the Right To Information Act.
46	641/2022	46/2024	E.Chandrakumara	State Ministry of Home Affairs	The inquiry has been concluded as sufficient information has been released upon request.
47	1687/2019	47/2024	E.Chandrakumara	Divisional Secretariat- Ampara	The inquiry was concluded as it was not possible to proceed further based on the documents submitted to the Commission

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
					by the Appellant.
48	1688/2019	48/2024	E.Chandrakumara	Divisional Secretariat-Ampara	Since the Appellant did not submit a fresh request for information, the Public Authority cannot be mandated in this regard and therefore the inquiry was concluded.
49	722/2023	49/2024	S.H.Sumathipala	Divisional Secretariat-Badulla	The investigation was concluded as the Public Authority had agreed to provide the information requested by the Appellant had informed in a letter that he did not intend to pursue the appeal further.
50	916/2023	50/2024	H.D.B.Jaya singhe	Divisional Secretariat-Karandeniya	We found that Public Authority has failed to comply with the commission's decision. Accordingly, we have decided to initiate legal proceedings against the Public Authority under section 39 of the Right To Information Act.
51	680/2023	51/2024	T.Emil Niroshan	Department of Local Government (EP)	The Commission observes that the Appellant has not made a sufficient submission that the Public Authority has not complied with the Commission's decision. Accordingly, appeal has concluded.
52	105/2023	52/2024	S.A.A.Samarakodi	Department of Local Government-Sabaragamuwa Province	The Appellant has informed that requested information has been received. Accordingly, the inquiry has been concluded.
53	1323/2022	53/2024	D.H.Mahaliyana	Galle Gangabadapaththuwa Owners' Union of Smallholding Tea Industry, Mahahena, Baddegama	The information provided sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
54	1046/2022	54/2024	R.M.M.P.Rajapakshe	Department of Agriculture - Peradeniya	According to the Appellant's affidavit the information should be obtained from the Public Service Commission and Since there are no grounds to take

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
					actions against the Public Authority under section 39(e) of the act no.12 of 2016, the Appellant's affidavit does not disclose the facts of section 39(e), therefore the inquiry has been concluded.
55	315/2023	55/2024	P.B.Sirisena	Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority	The investigation was concluded as the Appellant informed the Public Authority in a letter that sufficient information has been provided.
56	1295/2023	56/2024	N.P.Ubayasekara	Department of Agrarian Development	The Commission has considered the submissions presented by the Public Authority and has decided that the Public Authority has acted in accordance with its decision. Therefore inquiry has been concluded.
57	662/2023	57/2024	R.A.R.K.Ranasinghe	Provincial Director of Health Services – Western Province (District General Hospital Horana)	Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently therefore, inquiry concluded.
58	1436/2022	58/2024	J.I.Anura Kumara	National Housing Development Authority	The investigation is concluded due to the information requested by the Appellant has not within the custody of the Public Authority.
59	156/2024	59/2024	A.K.C.K.P. De Silva	Divisional Secretariat - Anuradhapura	The Public Authority disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
60	1033/2023	60/2024	K.K.Bulathsinhala	Local Government Department – Western Province	The Public Authority disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
61	398/2024	61/2024	R.S.Hettiarachchi	Sri Lanka Airforce Headquarters	The Appellant has been informed the Commission that the Public Authority has

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
					provided the information sufficiently. Therefore, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
62	448/2023	62/2024	M.M.M.Sah eed	Divisional secretariat - Alayadivemb u	The Public Authority disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
63	719/2021	63/2024	D.G.K.Dilr ukshi	Divisional secretariat - Ratmalana	The Public Authority disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
64	1372/202 3	64/2024	Karthikesu Warthilinga m	Peoples Bank	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
65	836/2023	65/2024	A.D.K.T.U. Senerath	Ministry of Education, Information Technology and Cultural Affairs (Sabragamuwa Province)	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
66	1161/202 3	66/2024	U.M.H.B.H ewawissa	Regional Director of Health Services- Kandy	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
67	1686/201 9	67/2024	Chandraku mar	Divisional Secretariat – Ampara	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
68	923/2023	68/2024	M.Sadardee n	Employees Provident Fund	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
69	1637/202 3	69/2024	P.S.C.K.D. Silva	Ministry of Health	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
70	282/2023	70/2024	S.A.D.P.Wasanthi Jayawardhana	Sri Lanka Police Headquarters	The information has been brought before the commission. The Public Authority undertakes to release the information. Accordingly, the inquiry was concluded with the consent of the Appellant.
71	1633/2023	71/2024	Saman Hadaragama	Sri Lanka Social Security Board	Although the information that the Public Authority had not previously provided to the Appellant, was submitted on the day of the investigation, its credibility had not been verified, Accordingly, it was decided to verify its credibility, obtain it once again, and provide it to the Appellant, upon which the investigation was concluded.
72	1683/2024	72/2024	R.B.J.Surangama	Department of Labour	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently to the Appellant. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
73	1542/2023	73/2024	H.Sujana	Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
74	279/2023	74/2024	C.K.Jayasekara	Colombo Municipal Council	The investigation was concluded by deciding to file a case in the Magistrate Court due to the Public Authority's failure to comply with the Commission's decision.
75	656/2023	75/2024	K.A.P.Rangana Kuruwita	University of Peradeniya	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
76	914/2024	76/2024	N.A.Jayawikrama	Land Reform Commission	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.

No.	Appeal No.	Inquiry No.	Appellant	Public Authority	Current Status
77	253/2024	77/2024	K.M.V.J.Priyanjith	Central Environment Authority	The Public Authority has disclosed the information sufficiently. Accordingly, it has been decided to conclude the inquiry.
78	1681/2023	78/2024	A.Sairam	Department of Ayurveda Sri Lanka	The investigation was concluded as the Public Authority agreed to provide the information requested by the Appellant before 28.11.2024.
79	197/2024	79/2024	I.M.Farshath	Municipal Council – Kalmunai	The Public Authority has been given a date to report on the progress of the ongoing investigation into the missing information. The appeal hearing has been re-scheduled for 31.01.2025
80	235/2024	80/2024	I.M.Farshath	Municipal Council-Kalmunai	The Public Authority has been assigned a date to report on the progress of the ongoing investigation into the missing information. The appeal hearing has been re-fixed for 31.01.2025.
81	1277/2023	81/2024	S.Ketheeswaran	University of Jaffna	The investigation was postponed as the notice has not been issued to the Public Authority's Information Officer and its head of the institution. Appeal hearing re-fixed on 31.01.2025.
82	209/2023	82/2024	S.D.K.T.U. Senarath	Ministry of Education, Information Technology and Cultural Affairs-Sabragamuwa Provincial Council	The investigation was postponed as the notice has not been issued to the Public Authority's Information Officer and its head of the institution. Appeal hearing re-fixed on 31.01.2025.
83	284/2024	83/2024	H.G.Hettiarachchi	New Ukuwela Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Ltd	The investigation was concluded as the Public Authority had provided sufficient information.

(Source: RTI Database)

4. Local and International Initiatives of the Right to Information Commission

4.1 Local Initiatives

4.1.1 Awareness Programs for Government Officials

In order to collaborate with public officials and provide them with training on the effective implementation of the provisions of the Act, as mandated under Section 14(f) of the Right to Information Act No. 12 of 2016, the Commission also launched awareness programs in 2024 with funding support through the AFRIEL Youth Network.

Accordingly, the Commission identified in 2024 a significant need for practical awareness training for Designated Officers, Information Officers, and subject officers across all District Secretariats. Training programs were therefore implemented in six District Secretariats identified by the Commission, as well as in other institutions within the respective districts, for the Information Officers and Designated Officers of those institutions, as follows.

Table 8 – Awareness Programs for Government Officials in 2024

No.	Date	District / Location	Target group / participation	Fund Contribution
1	2024.02.20	District Secretariat – Puttlam	Designated officers and information officers of Public Authorities - 75	Government Funding/AFRIEL Youth Network
2	2024.03.26	District Secretariat – Hambantota	Designated officers and information officers of Public Authorities - 139	Government Funding/AFRIEL Youth Network
3	2024.04.02	District Secretariat – Matale	Designated officers and information officers of Public Authorities - 180	Government Funding/AFRIEL Youth Network
4	2024.05.07	District Secretariat – Nuwara Eliya	Designated officers and information officers of Public Authorities - 71	Government Funding/AFRIEL Youth Network
5	2024.06.18	District Secretariat - Ampara	Designated Officers and Information Officers in	Government Funding/AFRIEL

No.	Date	District / Location	Target group / participation	Fund Contribution
			Public Authorities - 115	Youth Network
6	2024.07.30	District Secretariat - Ampara	Designated Officers and Information Officers in Public Authorities - 200	Government Funding/AFRIEL Youth Network

(Source: RTI Database)

Table 09- As per the request of the Public Authority Awareness in 2024

(Source: RTI Database)

No.	Date	District / Location	Target group / participation	Fund Contribution
1	2024.04.08	Waters Edge Premises	An awareness program was organized for 50 officers of the Parliament of Sri Lanka.	Sri Lanka Parliament/NDI
2	2024.04.30	National Water Supply and Drainage Board,Ratmalana	An awareness program was organized for 120 officers of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board.	National Water Supply and Drainage Board,Ratmalana
3	2024.07.08	Ceylon Electricity Board Training Centre, Piliyandala	An awareness program was organized for 50 officers of the Ceylon Electricity Board.	Ceylon Electricity Board
4	2024.10.07	Employees Provident Fund(EPF)	An awareness program was organized for 50 officers of the Employees Provident Fund.	Employees Provident Fund(EPF)

4.1.2 Resource Contributions of Commission Members to Government institutions

Members of the Commission have donated resources on various occasions to support awareness programs on the Right to Information, organized by various government institutions in 2024.

Table 10 –Resource Contributions by Members of the Commission in 2024

No.	Public Authority / Institution	Workshop	Place	Date
1	Ministry of Education	Half day workshop on the Right to information	Ministry of Education	August 20
2	Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation	Radio Program on the right to information	Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation	December 09
3	ITN Channel	TV program on the right to information	ITN Media	December 09

(Source: RTI Database)

4.2 International Conferences

At the invitation of the International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC), Sri Lanka RTI Commission's Information Commissioner AAL Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena and Information Commissioner AAL Jagath Liyana Arachchi attended the XV (15th) International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC) in Albania.

The conference brought together Commissioners and civil society experts working in the field of Right to Information from around the world, and the first panel discussion was led by the Information Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Right to Information Commission, AAL Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena, on the theme "Empowering Individuals through Information: Ensuring Justice and Diversity in an Interconnected World".

5. Judicial Functions of the Commission

Any citizen or Public Authority, who is aggrieved by the decision of the commission made under section 34, may appeal against such decision to the Court of Appeal within one month of the date on which such decision was communicated to such citizen or Public Authority.

Accordingly, the following citizens and public authorities approached the Court of Appeal in 2024:

Table – Cases Pending in the Court of Appeal under Section 34 (Relating to the year 2024)

No.	Court of Appeal Case Number	RTIC/ Appeal No.	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next Date and Proceedings
1	CA/RTI/01/2024	808/2023	The Open University of Sri Lanka	Right to Information Commission and seven others	17.01.2025 Argument
2	CA/RTI/02/2024	1379/2023	Suwa Seriya Foundation	R.B.J.Suranga Right to Information Commission	22.01.2025 Calling
3	CA/RTI/03/2024	1571/2023	Asia Broadcasting Corporation (pvt) Ltd	M.J.K.Disanayake Right to Information Commission	17.02.2025 Verifying the facts
4	CA/RTI/04/2024	442/2023	Presidential Secretariat Office	Tharindu Jayawardane Right to Information Commission	19.02.2025 Verifying the facts
5	CA/RTI/05/2024	443/2023	Attorney General Department	Tharindu Jayawardane Right to Information	19.02.2025 Verifying the facts

No.	Court of Appeal Case Number	RTIC/ Appeal No.	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next Date and Proceedings
				Commission	
6	CA/RTI/09/2024	1313/2022	Muslim Ladies Arabic College Management Society	1. M.A.Hassan	28.01.2025 Verifying the facts
				2. Right to Information Commission	
7	CA/WRIT/546/2024	1313/2022	Muslim Ladies Arabic College Management Society	1. M.M.Riyas	20.01.2025 Calling
				2. Right to Information Commission	
8	CA/WRIT/566/2024	1638/2023	Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Sri Lanka	1. Right to Information Commission	27.01.2025 Calling
9	CA/RTI/410/2024	1273/2022	AIA Insurance Lanka Ltd	1.Right to Information Commission	29.01.2025 Objections
				2.Ambalangoda Dammalankara stawira	

(Source: RTI Database)

Citizens and Public Authorities dissatisfied with the orders given in the cases heard in the Court of Appeal, in which the Commission was a party resorted to filing cases in the Supreme court.

Table 10 – Cases heard in the Supreme Court – relating to the year 2024

Serial No.	Supreme Court case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	SC/SPL/LA/52/2024	1108/2019 1114/2019	M.F.A.Mansoor	1.CHEC Port City Colombo (Pvt) Ltd	25.03.2025 Verifying the facts

				2.Right to Information Commission	
2	SC/SPL/LA/83/2024	2068/2020	Bank of Ceylon	1. Right to Information Commission 2. S.M.Pasansanee Anuradha	26.08.2025 Verifying the facts
3	SC/SPL/LA/84/2024	704/2021	Litro Gas Lanka LTD and Litro Gas Terminal Lanka (Pvt) LTD	1.W.K.S.Karunaratne 2. Right to Information Commission	The petition was rejected. Accordingly, the order of the Right To Information Commission comes into force.

(Source: RTI Database)

Table 11- Information regarding cases filled in the Court of Appeal under section 34 of the act against decisions given by the Commission from the year 2018- 2023 is given below.

Year of 2018

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	CA/RTI/01/2018 (REV)	58/2018	People's Bank	1. Ceylon Bank Employees' Union 2. Right to Information Commission and others	Appeal dismissed on 13.10.2020
2	CA/RTI/02/2018	117/2018	Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation	1.Right to Information Commission 2.V.Y.Sabaratham	The petitioner withdraw the appeal on 11.08.2019
3	CA/RTI/03/2018	25/2018 26/2018	Monetary Board, Central Bank of Sri Lanka	1.Verite Research (Pvt) Ltd 2. Right to Information Commission	28.02.2025 Argument

(Source: RTI Database)

Year of 2019

Serial No.	Court of Appeal cas	Commission Appeal No. -	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
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	e No.	RTIC/Appeal			
1	CA/RTI/01/2019 (REV)	06/2017	E.M.S.B.Ekanyake	1. Transparency International Sri Lanka 2. Right to Information Commission	06.02.2025 Argument The court has discharged the Right to Information Commission from the legal process.
2	CA/WRIT/52/2019	97/2017	S.M.Manoj Prasanna	Right to Information Commission	Appeal dismissed on 26.03.2023

Year of 2020

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	CA/RTI/01/2020 (REV)	766/2018	Hewa Baddage Gunaratne	Right to Information Commission	22.01.2025 Argument

Year of 2021

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	CA/RTI/01/2021(REV)	869/2019	A.A.L.De Alwis	Right to Information Commission	Proceedings have closed on 01.12.2021
2	CA/RTI/02/2021	1193/2019	People's Bank	1. W.A.Dhamika Fernando 2. Right to Information Commission	28.03.2025 Argument
3	CA/RTI/03/2021	1193/2019	W.A.Dhammika Fernando	1. People's Bank 2. Right to Information Commission	28.03.2025 Argument
4	CA/RTI/04/2021	719/2018	K.A.Rohandeeera Dhammika Dissanayake	Chamara Sampath and others	Order delivered on 28.02.2023. The Court of Appeal ruled

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
			Sri Lanka Parliament		that the Right To Information Commission Act no.12 of 2016 supersedes the declaration of Assets and Liabilities act no.1 of 1975
5	CA/RTI/05/2021	2068/2020	Bank of Ceylon	1.Right To Information Commission 2.S.M.Pasansanee Anuradha	Appeal dismissed on 12.02.2024

Year of 2022

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	CA/RTI/01/2022	416/2021	Bank of Ceylon	1.Right to Information Commission 2.A.Rajapaksha	22.01.2025 Notice report(2 nd Respondent)
2	CA/RTI/02/2022	201/2021	Bank of Ceylon	1. Right to Information Commission 2.Ranjan Senanyake 3.Ceylon Bank Employees' Union	On 06.09.2022 Petitioner has withdrawn the appeal.
3	CA/RTI/03/2022	610/2021	Colombo Municipal Council	1. M.G.Nandana Kumara 2. Right to Information Commission	19.02.2025 Argument
4	CA/RTI/04/2022	600/2021	Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka	1.Layanal Dissanayake 2. Right to Information Commission	Order delivery on 20.01.2025

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
5	CA/RTI/05/2022	72/2021	Sri Lanka Telecom PLC	1.I.P.Ediribandu	On 31.01.2024 Appeal accepted.
6	CA/RTI/06/2022	448/2022	Professor Senaka Rajapakshe	1.Right to Information Commission	11.02.2025 Verifying the facts
				2.Dr.Kumarasiri Manage	
7	CA/RTI/07/2022	647/2022	Sri Lanka Ports Authority	1.A.A.M.Rifthi Ali	The court has discharged the Right to Information Commission from the proceedings on 04.04.2023. The appeal was dismissed on 10.05.2024.
				2.Right To Information Commission	
8	CA/RTI/08/2022(REV)	704/2021	Litro Gas Lanka LTD and Litro Gas Terminal Lanka (Pvt) LTD	1.W.K.S.Karunaratne	The appeal was dismissed on 12.02.2024
				2.Right To Information Commission and others	
9	CA/RTI/09/2022	704/2021	Litro Gas Lanka LTD and Litro Gas Terminal Lanka (Pvt) LTD	1.W.K.S.Karunaratne	22.01.2025 Notice report
				2.Right To Information Commission and others	

Year of 2023

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
1	CA/RTI/01/2023	580/2021	Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation	1.Intercompany Employees' Union	05.05.2025 Argument
				2. Right to Information	

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
				Commission	
2	CA/RTI/02/2023	1283/2019	Sri Lanka Telecom PLC	1. Right to Information Commission 2.C.J.Wijewardhana	20.01.2025 Argument
3	CA/RTI/03/2023	713/2022	Sri Lanka Telecom PLC	1.Right to Information Commission 2.G.Surendran	Argument on 20.01.2025
4	CA/RTI/04/2023	703/2022 707/2022 708/2022	Sri Lanka Telecom PLC	1.Right To Information Commission 2. G.Surendran	20.01.2025 Argument
5	CA/RTI/05/2023	2272/2023	People's Bank	1.Right To Information Commission 2.M.H.S.Wijesekara	27.01.2025 Argument
6	CA/WRTI/63/2023	922/2022	Nagananda Kodithuwakku	1.Right to Information Commission and others	The appeal was dismissed subject to withdrawal on 03.04.2023
7	CA/WRTI/200/2023	448/2022	Dr.Kumarasiri Manage	1.Rukshan Prandupulle,Chairman, Post graduate institute of medicine and 54 others 2.Right To Information Commission(56 th respondent)	11.02.2025 Verifying the facts
8	CA/WRTI/223/2023	1108/2019 and 1114/2019	CHEC Port City Colombo(Pvt) Ltd	1.M.F.A.Mansoor 2.Center for Enviromental Justice(Gurantee) Ltd 3. Right To Information	13.02.2025 Calling

Serial No.	Court of Appeal case No.	Commission Appeal No. - RTIC/Appeal	Appellant (Petitioner)	Respondents	Next date and proceeding
				Commission and 12 others	
9	CA/RTI/06/2023	1108/2019 And 1114/2019	CHEC Port City Colombo(Pvt) Ltd	1.M.F.A.Mansoor 2.Center for Enviromental Justice(Gurantee) Ltd 3. Right To Information Commission and 12 others	13.02.2025 Calling
10	CA/RTI/07/2023	815/2021	Sri Lanka Lawyers Association	1.Kamal Vithanage 2.Right To Information Commission	22.01.2025 Calling
11	CA/RTI/08/2023	17/2023	Sri Lanka Navy(Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera)	1.A.A.M.Rifthi Ali 2.Right To Information Commission	22.01.2025 Calling
12	CA/RTI/09/2023	1200/2022	Peoples' Bank	1.Right To Information Commission 2.D.Sarathchandra	Appeal dismissed on 26.11.2024
13	CA/RTI/10/2023	1111/2022	B.Niroshkumar	1.Sri Lanka Army 2.Right To Information Commission	22.01.2025 Calling
14	CA/RTI/11/2023	444/2023	Tharindu Jayawardana	1.Ministry of Public Security 2.Right To Information Commission	22.01.2025 Calling

No action has been taken to inform the disciplinary authorities to initiate disciplinary action against officers of public authorities in accordance with Section 38(1) of the Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016, for the period from 2018 to 2023. However, in the year 2024, the Commission, while giving reasons shall inform the disciplinary authorities to take disciplinary

actions against officers of Public Authorities in accordance with section 38(1) of the Right To Information Act.

In pursuance of Section 39(1)(e) of the Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016, proceedings have been initiated before the Magistrate's Court against the Designated Officers and Information Officers of public authorities who have failed to comply with the orders issued by the Commission since 2024. The details of these proceedings are provided below.

Tabel 11 – Cases Filed in the Magistrate's Court under Section 39 of the Act, 2024

Serial No.	Case No.	Commission Appeal Number (RTIC/Appeal)	Public Authority	Next Date and Proceedings
1.	20860/01/2024	1084/2019	Kattankudy Muslim Mosque Federation (Information Officer)	15.01.2025 Calling
2.	20861/01/2024	1084/2019	Kattankudy Muslim Mosque Federation (Designated Officer)	15.01.2025 Calling
3.	22576/01/2024	1063/2023	Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Municipal Council (Information Officer)	28.02.2025 Calling
4.	22577/01/2024	1063/2023	Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Municipal Council (Designated Officer)	28.02.2025 Calling
5.	22834/01/2024	1064/2023	Dehiwala-Mount	28.02.2025

Serial No.	Case No.	Commission Appeal Number (RTIC/Appeal)	Public Authority	Next Date and Proceedings
			Lavinia Municipal Council (Information Officer)	Calling
6.	22835/01/2024	1064/2023	Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Municipal Council (Designated Officer)	28.02.2025 Calling
7.	25727/01/2024	333/ 2021	University of Kelaniya (Information Officer)	10.02.2025 Written Submission
8.	25728/01/2024	333/2021	University of Kelaniya (Designated Officer)	10.02.2025 Written Submission
9.	27118/01/2024	855/2021	University of Vocational Technology (Information Officer)	10.02.2025 Written Submission
10.	27119/01/2024	855/2021	University of Vocational Technology (Designated Officer)	10.02.2025 Calling

(Source: RTI Database)

6. The Responsibility of the Public Authority to Submit Reports and Related Documents.

In accordance with Section 10 of the Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016, every public authority is required to prepare an annual report, which should include the total number of requests received during the year, information provided and refused; the amount of fees collected during the year; the number of requests rejected under section 5, the number of times information was provided at the direction of the Commission, any suggestions if any, to promote the existing system of transparency, the number of appeals arising from communication of information, practices relating to the maintenance, management and destruction of records and its functions under section 8 and shall submit such report submitted to the Commission by December 31st of the year immediately following the year to which it pertains.

The annual reports submitted are as follows.

Table 13 – Annual Reports to be Submitted by Public Authorities in 2024

No.	Classification According to Section 43 of the Act	Public Authorities According to the Classification	Numbers
(A)	A Ministry of the government	Ministry of Tourism and Lands	13
		Ministry of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development(Water Supply Division)	
		Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Development	
		Ministry of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development(Estate Infrastructure Division)	
		Ministry of Transport and Highways	
		Ministry of Education	
		Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing	
		Ministry of Environment	
		Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government	
		Ministry of Transport,Highways,ports and Civil Aviation Services	
		Ministry of Power and Energy	

No.	Classification According to Section 43 of the Act	Public Authorities According to the Classification	Numbers
		Ministry of Women and Child Affairs Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs	
B)	Anybody or office created or established by or under the Constitution, any written law, other than the companies Act No.7 of 2007, except to the extent specified in paragraph, or a statute of a Provincial Council;	District Secretariat – Kalutara Divisional Secretariat - Matale Divisional Secretariat - Colombo Divisional Secretariat - Mannar District Secretariat - Kurunegala Divisional Secretariat - Nachchaduwa Divisional Secretariat - Gonapinuwala Divisional Secretariat - Kantale Divisional Secretariat - Galnewa Divisional Secretariat - Yatawaththa Divisional Secretariat - Laggala Divisional Secretariat - Ippalogama Divisional Secretariat - Elapatha Divisional Secretariat - Kuruwita Divisional Secretariat - Dehiwala Divisional Secretariat - Polonaruwa Divisional Secretariat - Mullaitivu Divisional Secretariat - Thambuttegama Divisional Secretariat - Balapitiya Divisional Secretariat - Udubaddawa Divisional Secretariat - Badulla Divisional Secretariat - Balangoda Divisional Secretariat - Polgahawela District Secretariat – Kalawana Divisional Secretariat - Mahargama Divisional Secretariat – Thamankaduwa Polonnaruwa Divisional Secretariat - Vengalcheddikulam Divisional Secretariat – Kamburupitiya Divisional Secretariat – Udunuwara Divisional Secretariat – Kahawatta Divisional Secretariat – Vavuniya Divisional Secretariat – Deltota Divisional Secretariat – Galle	96

No.	Classification According to Section 43 of the Act	Public Authorities According to the Classification	Numbers
		Divisional Secretariat – Hatharaliyadda	
		Divisional Secretariat – Polpithigama	
		Divisional Secretariat – Panwila	
		Divisional Secretariat – Deraniyagala	
		Divisional Secretariat – Poojapitiya	
		District Secretariat – Kuliypitiya	
		Divisional Secretariat – Mulatiyana	
		Divisional Secretariat – Kadawath Sathara, Galle	
		Dambulla Divisional Secretariat – Mallawapitiya – Ridigama	
		Divisional Secretariat – Godakawela	
		Divisional Secretariat – Warakapola	
		Divisional Secretariat – Nuwaragama East Anuradhapura	
		Divisional Secretariat Alawwa	
		Divisional Secretariat - Hatharaliyadda	
		Divisional Secretariat -Dambulla	
		Divisional Secretariat – Kandy	
		Divisional Secretariat – Rattota	
		Divisional Secretariat – Godakawela	
		Divisional Secretariat – Kurunegala	
		Divisional Secretariat – Rambewa	
		Divisional Secretariat – Pannala	
		Divisional Secretariat – Ridigama	
		District Secretariat – Anuradhapura	
		Divisional Secretariat – Maharagama	
		Divisional Secretariat – Kalawana	
		Divisional Secretariat – Polgahawela	
		Divisional Secretariat – Udubaddawa	
		Divisional Secretariat - Baddulla	
		Divisional Secretariat – Tawalama	
		Minipe Divisional Secretariat - Hasalaka	

No.	Classification According to Section 43 of the Act	Public Authorities According to the Classification	Numbers
		Divisional Secretariat – Eheliyagoda Divisional Secretariat – Ududumbara Divisional Secretariat – Naula Divisional Secretariat – Nochchiyagama Divisional Secretariat – Manmunai North Divisional Secretariat – Nivithigala District Secretariat – Kegalle	
		Divisional Secretariat – Ratnapura	
		Divisional Secretariat – Kegalle Divisional Secretariat - Akurana Divisional Secretariat - Ambangahakorala Divisional Secretariat - Kuchchaweli Divisional Secretariat - Mawathagama Divisional Secretariat – Rasnayakapura Divisional Secretariat -Ukuwela Divisional Secretariat – Pathadumbara Divisional Secretariat - -Balangoda Divisional Secretariat – Welikanda Divisional Secretariat -Ganewatte Divisional Secretariat - Kaltota Divisional Secretariat - Opanayake Divisional Secretariat – Kadawathsathara,Galle Divisional Secretariat -Neluwa Divisional Secretariat –Medadumbara Theldeniya Divisional Secretariat – Kundasale Menikhena Divisional Secretariat – Imaduwa Divisional Secretariat – Ayagama District Secretariat – Vavuniya Divisional Secretariat –Weerambagedara Divisional Secretariat – Kiriella	
(C)	Any board or office Established under a written law	Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Telecommunications Regulatory	

No.	Classification According to Section 43 of the Act	Public Authorities According to the Classification	Numbers
		Commission of Sri Lanka Co-Operative Employees Commission Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka Election Commission Law Commission of Sri Lanka Office of the Cabinet of Ministers Central Bank of Sri Lanka Early Childhood Development Authority	17
		Urban Settlement Development Authority Comptroller General's Office Development Lotteries Board Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment Sri Lanka Transport Board National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka Sri Lanka Social Security Board Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration(Ombudsman)	
(D)	A Government Department	Sri Lanka Airforce Sri Lanka Customs Department of National Botanical Garden Department of Sports Development Department of coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department of measurements Units, Standards & Services Department of Government Information Department of Treasury Operations Department of Agriculture Department of Irrigation Department of State Accounts Department of Government Information	
(E)	A Government Corporation	Ceylon Shipping Corporation Ltd	01

(F)	A company incorporated under the companies Act, no. 7 of 2007, in which state, or a public corporation or the state and a Public corporation together hold twenty-five per centum or more of the shares or otherwise has a controlling interest	Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Pvt) Ltd	01
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(G)	A Local Authority	Kalmunai Municipal Council	26
		Hambantota Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Eastern Provincial Council	
		Beruwala Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Kundasale Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Sammathurai Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Kaduwela Municipal council	
		Pradeshiya Sabha - Udubaddawa	
		Pradeshiya Sabha - Warakapola	
		Lunugamwehera Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Kuliyapitiya Urban Council	
		Moratuwa Municipal Council	
		Wattala – Mabile Urban Council	
		Suriyawewa Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Harispattuwa Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Urban Council – Kattankudy	
		Biyagama Pradeshiya Sabha – Delgoda	
		Matugama Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Balangoda Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Poojapitiya Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Pelmadulla Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Urban Council – Kattankudy	
		Udawalpaya Pradeshiya Sabha	
		Kalmunai Municipal Council	
		Ratnapura Municipal Council	
		Eheliyagoda Municipal Council	

(H)	A private entity or organization which is carrying out a statutory or public function or service, under a contract, a partnership, an agreement or a license from the government or its agencies or from a local body, but only to the extent of activities covered by that statutory or public function or service;		00
(I)	Any department or other authority or institution established or created by a Provincial Council.	Provincial Public Service Commission - Sabaragamuwa Province Chief Secretary Office – Uva Province Southern Province Transport Authority – Galle Provincial Department of Education - Southern Provincial Department of Health Services- Southern Department of Ayurveda – Southern Province - Galle Southern Provincial Department of Local Government Department of Industrial Development Southern Province – Galle Department of Animal Production and Health – Southern Province Galle Department of Cooperative Development – Southern -Galle Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation – Southern Province Department of Motor Traffic -Southern Province Ruhunu Tourist Bureau Management Development and Training Institute Southern Province Southern Provincial Development Authority - Galle Southern Provincial Public Service Commission - Galle Department of Agriculture Southern Province – Galle	53

	Department of Irrigation Southern Province – Galle
	Department of Vocational Education Southern Province - Galle
	Engineering Service Office – Galle
	Co-Operative Employees Commission – Southern Province
	Chief Ministry - Ministry of Law and Peace, Health and Indigenous Medicine, Provincial Councils, Transport and Tourism– Southern Province
	Internal Audit Department – Western Province
	Social Service Department – North Central Province
	Public Service Commission Western Province
	Provincial Revenue Department – Sabaragamuwa Province
	Provincial Department of Health -North Central Province
	Department of Cooperative Development – North Central Province
	Provincial Department of Education - Western Province
	Provincial Public Service Commission – North Western Province
	Chief Secretary Office - Western Province
	Department of Probation and Child Care Services – Sabaragamuwa provincial Council
	Provincial Department of Education – Getengama-Ratnapura
	Ministry of Provincial Land, Irrigation, Road Development, Rural Development, Housing and Women’s Affairs – North Central Province
	Provincial Land Commissioner’s Department – Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council

	Ministry of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Social Welfare, Probation and Child Protection, Women’s Affairs, and Council-Related	
	Chief Secretary Office – Central Province	
	Provincial Internal audit Unit – North Provincial Council	
	Provincial Cultural Department – North Central Province	
	Agriculture, Sale of Agricultural products, Animal Production, Animal Health and Husbandry related ministry – North Central Province	
	Cooperative Employee Commission – Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council	
	Probation and Child care Services Department – North Central Province	
	Provincial Department of Education – Sabaragamuwa Province Getengama - Ratnapura	
	Provincial of Ministry Land, Irrigation, Road Development, Rural Development, Housing and Women’s Affairs – North Central Province.	
	Chief Secretary Secretariat – Sabaragamuwa Province	
	Department of Irrigation – North Western Province	
	Department of Cooperative Development – North Central Province	
	Governor’s Office, North Central Province	
	Provincial Department of Health Services – North Western Province	

(J)	Non-governmental organizations that are substantially funded by the government or any department or other authority established or created by a Provincial Council or by a foreign government or international organization, rendering a service to the public in so far as the information sought relates to the service that is rendered to the public;		00
(K)	Higher educational institutions including private universities and professional institutions which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the State or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council	University of Ruhuna	01
(L)	Private educational institutions including institutions offering vocational or technical education which are established, recognized or licensed under any written law or funded, wholly or partly, by the state or a public corporation or any statutory body established or created by a statute of a Provincial Council		00
(M)	All Courts, tribunals and institutions created and established for the administration of justice		00

Total	220
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(Source: RTI Database)

7. Administration and Financial Performance

The Commission carried out its duties and functions under the act with extreme difficulties during this period due to severely limited resources. It had managed the major workload of appeals heard by the commission as well as conducting proceedings in Magistrate court and The Court of Appeal and the Commission conducted a non-compliance inquiry in accordance with the Commission's decision, as required under the Act, notwithstanding the lack of adequate human, financial, and physical resources.

7.1 Staff of the Commission

By the year 2023, the approved cadre was 26 and since the approved cadre was not sufficient, a request was made to approve a new staff and accordingly, approval was given to for a new staff of 35 in the year 2024.

In the year 2024, only 19 staff served in the commission. Although requests have been made to the relevant authorities on several occasions regarding the need to quickly recruit the staff to

carry out the statutory functions of the Commission, no result has been received. The number of vacancies as of December 31, 2024 is as follows.

Position	Approved Cardre	Current Staff	Vacant
Director General	01	01	00
Director(Legal)	01	00	01
Senior Research Officer	01	00	01
Accountant	01	00	01
Legal Officer	01	01	00
Research Officer	01	01	00
Administrative Officer	01	01	00
Finance Officer	01	01	00
Legal Assistant	04	03	01
Development Officer	06	03	03
Translator (Tamil)	02	01	01
Information Technology Assistant	01	00	01
Management Assistant	05	04	01
Personal Assistant	01	01	00
Stenographer	02	00	02
Documents Clerk	01	00	01
Driver	03	01	02
Office Assistant	02	01	01
Total	35	19	16