

**M.H. Sumith Priyanga v Zonal Education Office Ratnapura/ and
R/Hikgaswaththa Primary School**

RTIC Appeal (In – person)/263/2018 (*Order adopted as part of a formal meeting of the Commission on 10.07.2018*)

Order under Section 32 (1) of the Right to Information Act, No 12 of 2016 and Record of Proceedings under Rule 28 of the Right to Information Rules of 2017 (Fees and Appeal Procedure)

Chairperson: Mr. Mahinda Gammampila

Commission Members: Ms Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena

Mr. S.G. Punchihewa

Dr. Selvy Thiruchandran

Justice Rohini Walgama

Present: Director-General Mr. Piyathissa Ranasinghe

Appellant: M.H. Sumith Priyanga

Notice issued to: E.S. Gamini Rajadasa, Designated Officer (DO), Director General of Zonal Education Office, Hattangama, Ratnapura

Appearance/ Represented by:

Appellant - M.H. Sumith Priyanga

PA - Absent

RTI Request filed on:	11.12.2017
IO responded on:	13.12.2017 (acknowledgement) 21.12.2017 (Extension to respond)
First Appeal to DO filed on:	22.01.2018
DO responded on:	07.02.2018
Appeal to RTIC filed on:	Date is mentioned as 03.2018

Brief Factual Background:

The Appellant had by request dated 11.12.2017 requested true copies of following information concerning the parents of children seeking admission to the School, who received marks in the 49 -54 range on the temporary list for the admission to Grade 01, under the Past Pupils category through the Past Pupils Association in 2018,

1. G.C.E. (O/L) Examination result sheet,
2. G.C.E. (A/L Examination result sheet,
3. Grade five Scholarship Examination Certificate,
4. Degree or Higher Diploma certificates,
5. Student Record Book records,
6. Certificates of Extra-curricular activities related to school time,
7. Entrance forms of the applicants for the Past Pupil Association,
8. Past Pupil Membership numbers and issue dates,
9. The list of attendance of Annual General Meetings and other relevant activities of the Past Pupil Association,
10. Receipts of donations and sponsorships given to the Past Pupil Association and
11. Receipts of the entrance fee of the Past Pupil Association

The IO by a letter dated 21.12.2017 requested an extension to respond from the Appellant and as such the IO failed to respond within the timeframe stipulated under the Act, therefore an appeal was lodged with the DO on 22.01.2018.

The DO by letter dated 07.02.2018 forwarded the information request the Principal, the Secretary of the Past Pupils Association of the School and the Treasurer of the Past Pupils Association for necessary action. The Secretary of the Past Pupils Association by an undated letter provided the DO of the Zonal Education Office, Hattangama, Ratnapura with information related to the list of attendance (item no.10) and denied access to the information requested by items 1 and 2 as the persons concerned have not given written consent to release the said information.

Dissatisfied with the above responses, the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission on03.2018(date illegible)

Matters Arising During the Hearing

The Public Authority (PA) was absent.

Upon being queried by the Commission the Appellant explained the background to the information request. The Appellant submitted that the relevant information requests pertain to the entrance of children to Grade 01 for the year 2018.

As the Public Authority is absent the matter is re-fixed for hearing on 28.08.2018
