

**Dr. Paba Palihawadana v Ministry of Health, Nutritious & Indigenous Medicine**

RTIC Appeal (In-Person Hearing)/307/2018 - Minute adopted subsequent to the hearing/consideration at a part of the formal meeting of the Commission on 21.08.2018.

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

**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

**Director-General:** Mr. Piyathissa Ranasinghe

**Appellant:** Dr.Paba Palihawadana

**Notice issued to:** Janaka Sugathadasa, Secretary, Designated Officer (DO), Ministry of Health, Nutritious & Indigenous Medicine

**Appearance/ Represented by:**

Appellant - Dr.Paba Palihawadana

PA - Absent

<b>RTI Request filed on</b>	16.02.2018
<b>IO responded on</b>	No response
<b>First Appeal to DO filed on</b>	02.03.2018
<b>DO responded on</b>	No response
<b>Appeal to RTIC filed on</b>	28.03.2018

**Brief Factual Background:**

The Appellant by letter dated 16.02.2018 requested a copy of the notice to fill the Chief Epidemiologist during the period of 2009-2012,

As the IO failed to respond within the time period stipulated under the Act the Appellant on 02.03.2018 lodged an appeal with the DO. As the DO too failed to respond within the time period stipulated under the Act the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission on 28.03.2018

**Minute of the Record**

Upon being queried by the Commission, the Appellant explained the background on which the information request was based. The Appellant submitted that she was appointed as the Chief Epidemiologist of the Epidemiologist Unit at the Ministry of Health on 18.02.2012, and joined the UN services on a temporary basis on 01.01.2017 with the concurrence of the Ministry. Subsequently the Appellant returned to the Country and reported to the Epidemiologist Unit. Further, she submitted that she was appointed to the Post of Chief Epidemiologist through a special Cabinet decision and learned that Dr. S.A.R. Dissanayaka, Medical Administrator had been appointed as the Chief Epidemiologist. Therefore, the information requested concerns the Appointment of the Chief Epidemiologist to the Epidemiology Unit of the Ministry of Health.

**Observation**

It is noted, that on the face of the information requested it appears that under and in terms of the Right to Information Act No.12 of 2012 that there is no bar to the release of the information.

As the Public Authority was absent, the Appeal hearing was postponed to 02.10.2018.

Next Date of the Hearing: 02.10.2018

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RTIC Appeal (In-Person Hearing)/307/2018 - Minute adopted subsequent to the hearing/consideration at a part of the formal meeting of the Commission on 02.10.2018.

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**Chairperson:** Mr. Mahinda Gammampila  
**Commission Member:** Ms. Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena  
**Commission Member:** Mr. S.G. Punchihewa  
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**Appearance/ Represented by:**

Appellant - Absent  
PA - Absent

**Minute of the Record**

The matter is re-fixed for hearing on 30.10.2018.

The Appeal is adjourned.

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