

The Right to Information Commission

Dr. Indi Ruwangi Akurugoda
“Indunila”, Halpathota,
Baddegama

-Appellant-

RTIC App/No:- 978/2021

Vs.

University of Ruhuna,
Wellamadama,
Matara.

-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 is absent

Written Submission: Appellant – Not Submitted
Public Authority - 22.06.2022

Date of Hearing : 01.08.2022

Decided on : 01.08.2022

Decision of the Commission

Factual Background

By Information Request dated 02.08.2021, the Appellant requested the below information;

“1.Appointemet letter of Mr Aruna Jayathilaka as a visiting lecturer (POS 21543/POS 21643) at the Department of Public Policy

2. A description of payments made to Mr Aruna Jayathilaka for his visiting lecturers (POS 21543/POS 21643) at the Department of Public Policy

Period – July – August 2020”

The Information Officer on 01/10/2021 responded as mentioned below;

“ඔබ විසින් ඉල්ලා ඇති තොරතුරු (ලියාපදිංචි අංක 92 දරන තොරතුරු අයදුම්පත්‍රය මගින්) තොරතුරු දැනගැනීමේ අයිතිවාසිකම පිළිබඳ පනතේ පහත සඳහන් කර ඇති හේතුව මත ප්‍රතික්ෂේප කරන ලද බව දන්වමි.

2016 අංක 12 දරන තොරතුරු දැනගැනීමේ අයිතිවාසිකම පිළිබඳ පනතේ 5(1) (අ) වගන්තිය අනුව ඔබ විසින් ඉල්ලා ඇති කරුණු ලබා දීමට නොහැකි බව දන්වා සිටිමි.”

Dissatisfied with the above response, the Appellant lodged an appeal to the Designated Officer on 13/10/2021.

Dissatisfied with the above response, the Appellant preferred the above Appeal to the Commission on 08.02.2022. As the Designated Officer failed to respond with the time period stipulated under the Act the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission on 12/11/2021.

Consideration

The Commission observed that the RTIC Appeal No.978/2021 is duplicated with the RTIC Appeal No 126/2022 which has been already decided by the Commission on 27.06.2022. In the RTIC Appeal No. 126/2022, the Commission observed that the Public Authority should release the said information to the Appellant, with copies to the Commission and accordingly concluded the Appeal.

Therefore, the Commission decides to apply the same order to this appeal as well.

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

Appeal Concluded.