

S. Rajasekar v. Department of Labour

RTIC Appeal (In-Person Hearing/)/1388/19 -Minute adopted as part of the formal meeting of the Commission on 15.10.2019

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 : Dr. Selvy Thiruchandran
Commission Member : Justice Rohini Walgama
Commission Member : Mr. S.G.Punchchihewa

Director-General : Mr. D G M V Hapuarachchi

Appellants : S. Rajasekar

Notice issued to : Designated Officer (DO), Department of Labour.

Appearance/ Represented by:

Appellants - S. Rajasekar

PA - Absent

RTI Request filed on	12.10.2018
IO responded on	12.12.2018
First Appeal to DO filed on	07.01.2019
DO responded on	20.02.2019
Appeal to RTIC filed on	27.03.2019

Brief Factual Background:

The following information was requested on 12.10.2018 in relation to the following unions;

- *Ceylon Worker's Congress*
- *Lanka Jathika Easte Workers Union*
- *National Trade Union Federation*
- *National Trade Union*
- *Upcountry People's Font*
- *Ceylon Workers' Red Flag Union*

1. What is the Total number of members in the above Labour unions? How many men and women are there? [According to the available documents in last]

2. *How much Subscription money received by above Union from per Labourer?
[According to available documents in last]*
3. *What is the Total Subscription amount received by the above Union from the Labourers in 2017?*
4. *What is the Total Subscription amount received by the above Union from the Labourers in September 2018?*
5. *What is the amount received by the above Union from the Labourers in 2017?*
6. *How much of the money spent by the Union above in 2017?*
7. *How much of the money spent by the Union for the Subscribers?
[Awareness Programmes, Welfare expenses, Health, Education and Infrastructure]*

Both the Information Officer and Designated Officer responding on 12.12.2018 and 20.02.2019 respectively provided information for Questions No. 1, 2, 3 & 5 and failed to provide the information for Question No. 4. Further, the PA submitted that it could not provide the information in relation to Question 6 and 7, based on the fact that, it does not have possession of the relevant information. Thus, the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission on 27/03/2019.

Matters Arising During the Course of the Hearing:

The PA was absent.

The Appellant had requested information regarding total subscription amount received by the Labour Unions only for the month of September, 2017, whereas the Designated Officer had responded with the amount for the entire year 2017.

During the course of hearing, the Appellant made the argument that, the Annual Statement of the account for the periodic years of 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 will be consisting with the information for Question No. 4.

As the PA was absent, the matter was re-fixed for hearing for 03 December 2019.

Appeal adjourned.

Next Date of Hearing: 03.12.2019

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