

At the Right to Information Commission of Sri Lanka

T. H. EDIRITHILAKA .VS. MINISTRY OF HEALTH

RTIC Appeal (In person) 418/ 2018 (Order adopted as part of a formal meeting of the Commission on 29.10.2018)

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: Dr. Selvy Thiruchandran

Justice Rohini Walgama

Present: Director- General- Mr. Piyatissa Ranasinghe

Appellant: T.H. Edirithlake

Notice issued on: Secretary, Ministry of Health, Nutrition “& Indigenous Medicine.

Appearance / Represented by:

Appellant: T.H. Edirithilaka - present

Public Authority Absent and unrepresented

RTI Request filed on	02.03. 2018
IO responded on	no response
First appeal to DO filed on	04.04.2018
DO responded on	11.04.2018
Appeal to RTIC filed on	17.05.2018

Brief Factual Background:

The Appellant by his letter dated 02.03.2018, addressed to the IO of the Public Authority has requested the release of the following information inter alia;

That as per agreement WHO FCTC with the Government of UK to provide an amount of U\$ 1.3 Million on the Tobacco Control Programme ,in Sri Lanka as

published in the Daily Island paper on 29th September 2017 the below mentioned queries were raised which surfaced from the said publication.

Whether the Ministry receive the all or part of the said funds from the Government of U.K. and if so,

- i. How much did the Ministry received?
- ii. What had happened thereafter to the funds?
- iii. Did the Ministry distribute the funds among the institutes, authorities and or organisations which are related to tobacco control?
- iv. If distributed what were the institutes, authorities and/or organisations?
- v. If distributed, how much did each of such institutes, authorities and/or organisations received? (details of the funds allocations).

It is apparent from the details available regarding the appeal preferred to the Commission that there had not been a favourable response from the IO and DO of the Public Authority. In the attendant circumstances the Commission fixed the appeal for the hearing on 29.10.2018.

When the appeal was taken up for hearing, only the appellant was present and the Public Authority was not represented. Nevertheless the Appellant submitted to the Commission that he has received the information as requested and he is satisfied with the same. Hence the Commission concluded the appeal accordingly.

Order is directed to be conveyed to both parties in terms of Rule 27(3) of the Commission's Rules on Fees and Appeal Procedures (Gazette No. 2004/66, 03.02.2017)

The Appeal is concluded.
