

*The Right to Information Commission*

K. Dileep Amuthan,  
Vanniyasingam Road,  
Thellippalai West,  
Thellippalai,  
Jaffna

**-Appellant-**

**RTIC App/No : 513/2022**

Vs.

Prime Minister's Office,  
58, Ernest De Silva Mawatha,  
Colombo-07

**-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 participated via Zoom Technology.

The Public Authority represented by Mr. Dinesh  
Widanagamarachchi (Information Officer)

**Written Submission :**

The Appellant : - Not submitted  
The Public authority : - Not submitted

**Date of Hearing :** 27.07.2022

**Decided on :** 27.07.2022

## **Decision of the Commission:**

### **Factual Background:**

The Appellant by the request dated 07.10.2021, requested the below information,

*“Hon. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksha travelled to Italy in Last September (11.09.2021).*

- *Details of the members who joined with the Prime Minister in this travel?*
- *Purpose of why they were joined?*
- *What is the expenditure for this travel? (Provide in-details. How much does it cost for flight travel? How much does it cost for lodging house? How much does it cost for food?)”*

The Information Officer responded dated 16.11.2021 as follow;

*“I pleased to inform you that your information request No. PMO/06/RTI/REJ/36 was rejected under the Section 5(1) (b) (i) of Right to Information Act.*

*Therefore, I hereby inform you that you are allowed to appeal under the section 31 of the Right to Information Act within 14 days to the following Designated Officer by RTI 10 form in this regard.”*

Dissatisfied with the response of the Information Officer, the Appellant lodged an appeal with the Designated Officer dated 22.12.2021. As the Designated Officer failed to respond within the time period stipulated in the Act, the Appellant preferred an appeal to the Commission dated 08.02.2022.

At the hearing dated 15.06.2022, the Public Authority was directed to file a comprehensive response indicating the information that could be released and could not be released under provisions contained in Section 5 of the Act on or before the next hearing date.

### **Consideration:**

The Public Authority has sent a response to the said information request dated 25.07.2022 as directed on the previous date by the Commission substantially releasing the information in issue. We perused the said response and are of the view that the Public Authority has made a satisfactory response to the said information request. Accordingly, the Public Authority is directed to send the copy of the said response with a Tamil translation to the Appellant before 25.08.2022.

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

Appeal concluded.