

**CBSL 0218/2025 Appeal RTI 10**

Kavan Ratnatunga &lt;kavanr@gmail.com&gt;

Wed, Jan 28, 2026 at 11:19 AM

To: Governor Central Bank of Sri Lanka &lt;governor@cbsl.lk&gt;, RTI - Central Bank of Sri Lanka &lt;RTI@cbsl.lk&gt;

RTI 10

Appeal to the Designated Officer

**Designated Officer,**  
**Dr Nandalal Weerasinghe**  
**Governor**  
**Central Bank of Sri Lanka,**  
**No. 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1**

Public Authority: **Central Bank of Sri Lanka**

Appeal Form

01. Name of Person Appealing: **Dr Kavan U. Ratnatunga**  
02. Address: 13 Vihara Road Mount Lavinia **13, Vihara Road Mount Lavinia**  
03. Contact Number (if any): **0712537551**  
04. Email Address (if any): [kavanr@gmail.com](mailto:kavanr@gmail.com)  
05. Date request made to Information Officer **2025-12-24**  
and Registration Number: **0218/2025**  
06. Did you receive a reply from the Information Officer? Yes/No: **Yes (Attached)**  
(if Yes and you have a copy, please attach; otherwise, provide details of reply)  
07. Grounds for Appeal:

I respectfully appeal the decision to reject my RTI request for a scanned image of the 1979-01-01 Rs.2 note, citing Section 5(1)(h) of the Right to Information Act.

The item requested is **not a currency note in circulation**, but an **unissued essay**, produced during the design phase and never released to the public. Further, **Rs.2 currency notes have not circulated for approximately 40 years**, and therefore cannot reasonably pose a contemporary risk to crime prevention or detection.

The request is for **numismatic and historical documentation purposes**, consistent with academic research and long-established international practice. Comparable central banks routinely make high-resolution images of obsolete, demonetised, or unissued designs available for scholarly use without compromising currency security.

The blanket application of Section 55 of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act, No. 16 of 2023, and the associated reproduction guidelines—designed to protect **current legal tender**—to an unissued historical essay appears disproportionate and inconsistent with both the intent of the legislation and the RTI Act's presumption in favour of disclosure.

I therefore request that this decision be reviewed, taking into account:

1. The **non-circulating and unissued status** of the 1979 Rs.2 essay.
2. The **absence of any realistic risk** to crime prevention.

3. The public interest in accurate historical and numismatic documentation.

- i. The Information Officer refuses a request made for information
  - ii. **The Information Officer refuses access to the information on the grounds that such information is exempt from being granted under Section 5**
  - iii. Non-compliance with time frames specified in the Act
  - iv. The Information Officer granted incomplete, misleading, or false information
  - v. The Information Officer charged excessive fees
  - vi. The Information Officer refused to provide information in the form requested
  - vii. The requester has reasonable grounds to believe that information has been deformed, destroyed, or misplaced to prevent the requester from having access to the information
- Details:

08. Brief description of the information requested:

In the 2025 Sinhala publication "**නාසැලෙන පහන් වැඹ**" for the *75th Anniversary Commemorative of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka* on page 92, shows an image of an Essay with the signature of Governor Herbert Tennakoon dated 1979-01-01. A low-resolution blurred digital image from the Book is attached  
I requested a 200dpi or higher scanned image of both sides of the 1979-01-01 Rs2 note, which has not been properly documented in the Numismatic Literature.

09. If Appeal has not been submitted within the specified time period, cause of delay [s. 31(5)]:

10. Any other details: .....

Date: **2026-01-28**

Signature: **Kavan Ratnatunga**

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2 attachments



1979-01-01\_lkff\_2r\_f.jpg  
51K



2025-218\_RTI4.pdf  
111K