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இலங்கை சட்டத்தரணிகள் சங்கம்

**BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA**

19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

His Excellency Anura Kumara Dissanayake  
President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka,  
Presidential Secretariat,  
Colombo 01.

Your Excellency,

**RE: CONCERNS RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONING OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION**

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) wishes to draw Your Excellency's attention to several concerns arising from the Public Statement issued by the Right to Information Commission on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

The Right to Information Commission, established under the Right to Information Act No. 12 of 2016, plays a vital role in safeguarding the constitutional right of citizens to access information under Article 14A of the Constitution. Its independent functioning and accountability are therefore of paramount importance. Under Section 12(1)(a) of the Act, the BASL nominates a member to the Commission, making the Association a principal stakeholder in its operations. It is to be noted that with appreciation that with the limited resources, the Commission has rendered commendable service during the past decade since its establishment.

As a key stakeholder, the BASL is deeply concerned about the challenges currently faced by the Commission, particularly issues of serious understaffing and inadequate financing. These deficiencies directly undermine the Commission's ability to function independently and effectively.

Therefore, we respectfully urge Your Excellency to take immediate steps to ensure the provision of adequate and independent financial resources to the Commission, thereby safeguarding its autonomy and capacity to discharge its mandate.

Furthermore, the BASL strongly opposes amendment to the Right to Information Act that would curtail the citizens' right to information guaranteed under Article 14A of the Constitution. We emphasize that any proposed amendment to the Act or to the functioning of the Commission must be preceded by due consultations including with the BASL, as a principal stakeholder, and with the general public.

President  
Rajeev Amarasuriya

Deputy President  
Rienzie Arsecularatne PC

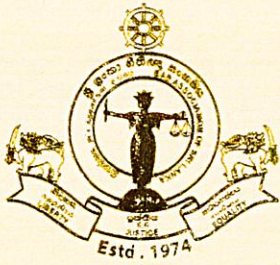
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**BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA**

We trust that Your Excellency will give due consideration to these concerns in the interest of upholding the constitutional rights of the people and ensuring the continued independence of the Right to Information Commission.

Yours faithfully,

**Rajeev Amarasuriya**

**President**

**Bar Association of Sri Lanka**

**Chathura A. Galhena**

**Secretary**

**Bar Association of Sri Lanka**

*Copies to:*

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Colombo 07.

President  
**Rajeev Amarasuriya**

Deputy President  
**Rienze Arsecularatne PC**

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