

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order
Appeal No 5115-10/2025
Imaan Zainab Hazir
V
Ministry of Interior

June 02, 2026 Niaz Ali Khan, Designated Officer along with Sajid Ali, Section Officer,
Ministry of Interior appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The public body, vide order dated 13-05-2026, directed the Ministry of Interior to furnish copy of the notification vide which the information required by the applicant was classified by the Minister In-Charge under Section 7(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. The notification has not been furnished; however, copy of an extract of the note initiated by the SO Security-I to the Minister In-Charge, Ministry of Interior, seeking his approval to classify the required information, has been furnished. The said note was initiated on 01-06-2026, whereas approval was granted by the Minister In-Charge on 07-03-2026. The Commission has examined the said extract of the note and found that the approval does not contain reasons as to why the harm resulting from the disclosure of the information outweighs the public interest, as required under the first proviso to Section 7(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. Moreover, the information request in this case was filed by the applicant before the Secretary, Ministry of Interior, on 01-10-2025, whereas the note seeking the approval of the Minister In-Charge was initiated on 01-06-2026, which is much later than the filing of the information request and the appeal in hand. Nothing contained in the note or the approval granted by the Minister In-Charge indicates that it shall have retrospective effect. Up till now, no notification has been issued by the Minister In-Charge in pursuance of Section 7(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
2. In view of the above, when neither the approval contains the requisite reasoning nor does it have retrospective effect, the information sought by the applicant through this appeal and information request cannot be withheld on the pretext of Section 7(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
3. It is also observed that the information required by the applicant pertains to the engagement of private counsel in connection with FIR No. 234/2025 and the total cost incurred on the engagement of three private counsel, which is otherwise not exempt from disclosure under any other provision of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.

4. In view of the above, the Secretary, Ministry of Interior, is directed to furnish the required information to the applicant as well as to this Commission within 10 days.
5. Adjourned to 01-07-2026 for implementation proceedings.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order
Appeal No 5229-12/2025
Saddia Mazhar
V
Senate of Pakistan

June 02, 2026

None appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The public body, vide letter dated 16-04-2026, furnished a written reply stating that the information required by the applicant pertains to internal administrative and service records of Senate employees, which stand classified under Section 7(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 by the Chairman, Senate, through a comprehensive order issued in 2021. The aforesaid classification has also been expressly reaffirmed by the incumbent Chairman, Senate vide clarification dated 25-07-2025, issued in the context of proceedings before the Pakistan Information Commission.

2. Copies of both the above-mentioned orders were produced before this Commission. The Commission shared a copy of the written reply with the applicant, who acknowledged its receipt but, vide email dated 01-06-2026, filed rejoinder stating that a copy of the notification allegedly signed by the Chairman, Senate, whereby the requested record has been classified, has not been attached with the response of the Senate Secretariat. It was further stated that there is no provision in the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, which empowers or authorizes the Chairman, Senate, to classify any record in the manner claimed by the Senate Secretariat.

3. It was further added that the former Information Commissioner, in the appeal titled *Nadeem Umer v. Senate Secretariat*, has already turned down the said order of the Chairman, Senate and held that the Chairman, Senate cannot classify any record. The said order still holds the field and has not been challenged by the Senate Secretariat before any higher forum or High Court.

4. Lastly, it is submitted that under Section 13 of the Civil Servants Act, 1973, the Senate Secretariat is, even otherwise, bound to publish/publicize the asset declarations of its employees, where applicable under the law.

5. The Commission has examined the contents of the information request, the written reply of the public body, and the rejoinder of the applicant. As far as the objection of the applicant regarding non-provision of copies of the notification of the Chairman, Senate in respect of classification of certain records is concerned, a copy of the said order is available on the

file of the Commission. The office is directed to share the said notifications/orders with the applicant.

6. Regarding the objection that, in case titled *Nadeem Umer v. Senate Secretariat*, the former Information Commissioner had already turned down the said order of the Chairman, Senate and held that the Chairman, Senate cannot classify any record, and that the said order still holds the field and has not been challenged by the Senate Secretariat before any higher forum or High Court, it is clarified that any findings of the former Information Commissioners are not binding on this Commission. This Commission has already accepted the plea of the Senate regarding classification of certain records by the Chairman, Senate, who is the head of the Senate Secretariat, which is the House of the Federation. The Chairman is number 3 in the Warrant of Precedence of the President, and the Senate Secretariat is not under any Ministry under the Rules of Business. Therefore, taking forward the spirit of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, the Commission has held that the Chairman, Senate can exercise powers under Section 7(f) of the said Act.

7. The last objection, that the Senate Secretariat is bound to publish the record of assets of employees under Section 13 of the Civil Servants Act, 1973, is not tenable after declaration of the said record as classified documents.

8. In view of the above, no further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order of the Commission be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5101-11/2025
Muhammad Sajjad Hussain

V

National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA)

June 02, 2026

Mehwish Khan, Designated Officer, NEECA appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The applicant vide email dated 02-06-2026 has submitted that he has received the required information and made request to dispose of the appeal. In view of above, no further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order
Appeal No 5389-02/2026
Ijaz Ahmed
V

Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development

June 02, 2026

Applicant present in person. Hammad Nazar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and HR Development appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The representative of the public body has furnished a copy of a complaint lodged through email by Nazisa Amjad, Community Welfare Attaché, and has further submitted that, except for the said complaint, no other complaint was lodged against the applicant. Copy of the said complaint was handed over to the applicant, who has expressed satisfaction over the same.

2. In view of the above, no further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5320-01/2026

Fahad David

V

National Grid Company of Pakistan (NGC)

June 02, 2026

Arsalan Khan Barki Advocate appeared on behalf of the public body and filed fresh power of attorney.

1. On the last date of hearing, the Commission, after perusal of the information request and the written reply of the public body, noted that the information required by the applicant pertains to Section 5(a) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, whereby the principal officer of each public body shall, within six months of the commencement of the Act, ensure that a directory of its officers and employees, indicating their duties, is duly published, including uploading it on the internet or in such a manner as best ensures its accessibility, subject to reasonable restrictions based on limited resources.

2. In the present case, the applicant has requested the list of officers who retired, were dismissed, removed from service, compulsorily retired, or left service while retaining lien with NGC for the period from 01-01-2025 to 31-12-2025. The said information clearly falls within the purview of Section 5(a) and Section 6 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, and does not enjoy any exemption under any provision of the said Act.

3. In view of the above, the appeal is allowed. The Managing Director, National Grid Company, is directed to furnish the required information to the applicant as well as to this Commission within 10 days.

4. Adjourned to 07-07-2026 for implementation proceedings.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5317-01/2026

Fahad David

V

National Grid Company of Pakistan (NGC)

June 02, 2026

Arsalan Khan Barki Advocate appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. In the present case, the applicant has requested technical evaluation report, financial / final evaluation report and letter of acceptance in respect of outsourcing of written test examination for recruitment in NGC Rules, 2019. The public body in its written reply has taken plea that the required information is exempted from disclosure under Section 7 (g) and 16 (c), 16 (1) (b) (ii) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. The Commission has examined the contents of the information request and written reply of the public body and found that the required information clearly falls within the purview of Section 5(i) and Section 6(b) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, and does not enjoy any exemption under any provision of the said Act.
2. In view of the above, the appeal is allowed. The Managing Director, National Grid Company, is directed to furnish the required information to the applicant as well as to this Commission within 10 days.
3. Adjourned to 07-07-2026 for implementation proceedings.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order
Appeal No 5439-02/2026

Samiullah
V
Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)

June 02, 2026

Nisar Muhammad Khan, Assistant, FBR appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. Written reply has been furnished vide letter dated 02-06-2026. The applicant, vide his information request dated 02-02-2026, has requested from the Designated Officer of the public body attested copies of the cash book, budget register, and DDO payment register for the year 2023 to January 2026.
2. The public body, in its written statement, has submitted that the applicant is serving in Pakistan Post, Lahore, and is the real brother of Ubaid Ullah, Sepoy of this directorate. It is further stated that the applicant has filed repeated applications with the intent to divert attention from ongoing departmental inquiries against his real brother.
3. The public body has also taken the plea that the required information is exempted from disclosure under Section 16(b)(ii) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, as it may harm the detection, prevention, investigation, or inquiry in a particular case, since multiple inquiries against Mr. Ubaid Ullah, the real brother of the applicant, are ongoing at this stage.
4. The Commission has examined the contents of the information request and the written reply and noted that the information/record required by the applicant pertains to the expenditure of the public body, which is declared public record under Sections 5(g) and 6(b) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
5. As far as the allegation of the public body that the applicant is a habitual litigant and has filed several applications in order to influence the inquiry process against his real brother is concerned, the Commission has observed that the inquiry against the alleged real brother of the applicant pertains to a matter of recruitment of Data Entry Operator, which has no nexus with the information sought. The required information/documents relate to expenditure of the public body utilising public funds. Therefore, the plea of the public body is turned down.

6. The appeal is allowed. The Secretary (Compliance)/Designated Officer, FBR, is directed to furnish the required information to the applicant as well as to this Commission within 10 days. A copy of the order be sent to the Secretary (Compliance), FBR for implementation and to the applicant for information.
7. Adjourned to 08-07-2026 for implementation proceedings.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order
Appeal No 5116-10/2025
Imaan Zainab Hazir
V
Attorney General of Pakistan

June 02, 2026

Rashid Hafeez, Additional Attorney General, AGP appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The learned Additional Attorney General, Islamabad, has submitted in black and white that no formal NOC is issued by the Attorney General's Office for the engagement of any private counsel and that the AGP Office only provides consultation. It has further been stated that no fee is paid by the AGP Office. The questions in the information request relate to obtaining NOC from the AGP Office, the basis on which the engagement of private counsel was made, and the total cost paid to the private counsel.

2. In view of the categorical response furnished by the AGP Office, none of the queries of the applicant relate to the AGP Office. Moreover, in Appeal No. 5115-10/2025, an order has already been passed for sharing the required information by the Ministry of Interior. Therefore, in view of the categorical response of the AGP Office, the information does not pertain to the AGP Office; hence, no directions can be passed for sharing the same by the AGP Office. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5171-12/2025

Azmat Khan

V

Capital Development Authority (CDA)

June 02, 2026

Mehraj Tareen Advocate appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. Information furnished by the public body was shared with the applicant vide letter dated 15-04-2026 under RGL No. 170313162. A period of more than 20 days as required under the Access to Information Regulations 2023 has passed. No objection has been received from the applicant. It appears that the applicant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 4309-12/2024

Muhammad Ikram Shah

V

Capital Development Authority (CDA)

June 02, 2026

Mehraj Tareen Advocate along with Riaz Khan, Deputy Director (Law), CDA appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The reply to the show cause notice has been furnished by the said officer, who has regretted the delay in submission of the information. In view of the apology/regret tendered by the officer, the show cause notice is withdrawn.

2. As far as the required information is concerned, the public body did not contest this appeal and informed that an amount of Rs. 28,000/- is involved as photocopying charges, and after deducting the fee of 20 pages, an amount of Rs. 19,460/- is to be paid by the applicant. A copy of the reply and the proposed photocopying charges demanded by the CDA was shared with the applicant vide letter dated 27-01-2026 under RGL No. 170311854; however, the applicant has not deposited the said amount.

3. In view of the above, the appeal is disposed of in the manner that if the applicant pays Rs. 19,460/- in the form of pay order in favour of CDA Law Directorate, the public body shall share the required information with the applicant within 30 days. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner