

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5025-10/2025

Azmat Khan

Vs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

December 16, 2025

Rameez Malik Director (SE), MOFA appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The public body, vide letter dated 13-11-2025, has informed that the information required by the applicant pertains to the status of Afghan refugees, which falls under the purview of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit Baltistan and Frontier Regions.
2. Since the required information does not relate to MOFA, therefore no further proceedings are required. The appeal is disposed of in the manner that the applicant may approach the concerned ministries as mentioned above, and if the required information is not provided, he may file a new appeal before the Commission.
3. In view of the above, 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 5050-10/2025

Raja Zaheer Ahmed

Vs

Ministry of Finance

December 16, 2025

Saeed Anwar, Assistant, Ministry of Finance appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The applicant vide his information request sent through post on 11-10-2025 addressed to the secretary Finance division required following documents,
 - i. *A certified copy of the noting/summary or any official documentation through which approval was granted for the issuance of Office Memorandum No. 11(1)-V/2005-20 dated 07-04-2025.*
 - ii. *The legal basis, rules, or laws cited or relied upon for issuing the said Office Memorandum.*
2. Allegedly, the said information was neither provided to the applicant nor any response was furnished by the public body, which resulted in the filing of this appeal before the Commission.
3. On notice to the public body, it furnished a written reply stating that the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 ensures citizens' access to existing public records and official documents maintained by public bodies. However, seeking explanations, justifications, or opinions regarding the actions, conduct, or working of a public body does not fall within the ambit of the Act. The law guarantees access to records, not to interrogatories on decision-making processes or personal discharge of official functions; therefore, the Finance Division is not obliged to provide a response under the provisions of the Act. However, if the applicant requires any further public document or Office Memorandum, he may indicate the same, which will be provided forthwith.
4. The Commission has examined the contents of the information request and the written reply of the public body. The representative of the public body was also heard. In Query No. 1 of the information request, the applicant has required from the public body a certified copy of the noting/summary or any official documentation through

which approval was granted for the issuance of Office Memorandum No. 11(1)-V/2005-20 dated 07-04-2025.

5. In Query No. 2 of the information request, the legal basis, rules, or laws cited or relied upon for the issuance of the said memorandum have also been required.
6. The stance of the public body is that seeking explanations, justifications, or opinions regarding the actions, conduct, or working of a public body does not fall within the ambit of the Act; hence, it cannot be provided to the applicant.
7. The Commission has consulted the relevant law on the subject. Under Section 5(b) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, the principal officer of each public body shall, within six months of the commencement of this Act, ensure that the statutes, statutory rules, regulations, bye-laws, orders, and notifications, etc., are duly published, including uploading over the internet or in a manner which best ensures that these are accessible, subject to reasonable restrictions based on limited resources.
8. Thus, the public body, under the said provision of the law, is bound to disclose the rules and regulations which formed the basis of Office Memorandum No. 11(1)-V/2005-20 dated 07-04-2025.
9. Similarly, a certified copy of the noting/summary or any official documentation is public information as defined under Section 2(v) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, which states that "Information" means information based on record.
10. Under Section 2(ix), "record" means a request for access to information and includes a request for access to a specific record.
11. Further, Section 6 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 declares certain documents as public records, subject to the provisions of Section 7. Section 6(d) of the Act also declares public record to include final orders and decisions.
12. In view of the provisions of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 mentioned above, the information sought by the applicant pertains to public record; therefore, the stance of the public body is not maintainable and is turned down.
13. The appeal is allowed. The Secretary, Ministry of Finance, is directed to furnish the required information to the applicant within 10 days, failing which action under Section 20 of the

Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 shall be initiated against the concerned quarter. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties.

14. Adjourned to 15-01-2026

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No 5014-10/2025

Kauser Ali

Vs

Capital Development Authority (CDA)

December 16, 2025

None appeared on behalf of the public body in spite of directions of Secretary (CDA Board) / Designated Officer, CDA to Director General (Services), CDA and Director General (Works), CDA vide letter dated 11-11-2025 and 10-12-2025 for appearance before the Commission.

2. In view of the above, let show cause notice be issued to the Director General (Services), CDA and Director General (Works), CDA to show cause as to why penalty may not be imposed and proceedings under Section 20(1)(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 may not be initiated against him for delaying provision of information and blocking implementation of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
3. Adjourned to 15-01-2026

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoab Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

