

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No: 3863-08/24

Dr. Tousif Ahmed

Vs

Federal Urdu University

March 04, 2024

None appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. Information furnished by the public body was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 14-02-2025 under RGL No. 146485040. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4163-10/2024

Amir Shahzad

Vs

Federal Investigation Agency (FIA)

March 04, 2025

Appellant present in person. Asif Nawaz, Deputy Director, CCW, FIA appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body, vide letter dated 28-02-2025, has furnished certified copies of the requisite information, and one set of the same has been handed over to the appellant, who has expressed satisfaction with the sharing of the information and does not wish to pursue this appeal further. 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: 4139-10/24

Muhammad Malik

Vs

Federal Investigation Agency (FIA)

March 04, 2025

Appellant present in person. None appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body, vide letter dated 29-01-2025, furnished the required information, and it was shared with the appellant, who has acknowledged its receipt. He submitted that, in fact, he had not filed any application for the comparison of his signature, and the FIA itself generated an application using his signature.
3. Be that as it may, the allegation of the appellant is not questionable before this Commission as it is beyond the domain of the information Commission.
4. The Commission has obtained the required information from the FIA and delivered it to the FIA; hence, 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: 3939-09/2024

Saddia Mazhar

Vs

Federal Investigation Agency (FIA)

March 04, 2025

Ms. Sania Imtiaz, Deputy Director, FIA appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body did not refuse to provide the required information however, intimated that if the appellant pays the photocopying charges, the public body shall share the required information with the appellant. Accordingly, the Commission vide order dated 07-11-24 in the manner that the amount involve in photocopying charges come Rs 30 thousand and if said amount is deposited by the appellant, the required information shall be furnished by the public body. The appellant raised objection vide her email dated 30-11-24. She claimed that the information requested at Serial No. 1 and 2 is less than 20 pages and she is entitled to receive the said information free of cost as per the Access to Information Fee Regulations, 2023. She further objected that according to the above said regulation the information provided in CD, floppy or any other electronic device, should be provided free of cost. It was further added that none provision of the required information in digital form is also undermine the decision of the PM for a digital office system. Objection of the appellant were shared with the public body and it furnished objective response the claim of the appellant that information required at Serial No. 1 and 2 of the information required consist of only 20 pages has been denied. It is further added that such information is not maintained by the public body in specific requested form and manner and on the request of the appellant, the same has been prepared by exerting extra efforts and collection of data from across the country in the requested form and manner. The requested lists containing requisite Information have been printed and certified in accordance with Section 13(3) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 for provision of the same to the appellant. These lists consist of 120 pages and as per Serial No. 1 of the Schedule of the Access to Information (Fee) Regulations, 2023, the appellant is legally bound to pay 07 rupee for each page exceeding 20 pages i.e. $100 \times 7 = 700$ (PKR).

3. It is further submitted that FIRs are maintained in hard form only under section 154 of Cr.P.C, 1898. As per Section 13(3) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, certified copies of the same are to be provided to the appellant and fee of the same is to be charged under Serial No.6 of the Schedule of the Access to Information (Fee) Regulations, 2023 i.e. 1900 pages x 15 PKR cost per page = 30,000/- (PKR).
4. Furthermore, it is submitted that the appellant has misconceived Serial No.5 of the Schedule of the Access to Information (Fee) Regulations, 2023 as the same pertains to such public information which is already being maintained in soft form or 'computer/Information system generated information' which does not require certification under the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order, 1984. It (Serial No.5 of the Schedule of the Access to Information (Fee) Regulations, 2023) does not apply to public information maintained in hard form.
5. As the public body has not yet maintained its record in a manner that enables it to comply with its obligations under the Act, it is expected that the public body shall comply with the provisions of Section 8 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. Section 8 mandates that each public body shall endeavor to ensure, within the time prescribed in Section 5, that all records accessible under this Act are computerized and made available online to facilitate authorized access to such public records.
6. In view of the above, since the public body does not yet have the facility to maintain its records in a computerized form accessible online, the appellant, if interested in obtaining the required information, should pay the photocopying charges as determined by the public body in its written reply.
7. The Commission has already directed the Secretary, Cabinet Division, to implement the provisions required under Sections 5 and 8 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, and to ensure the maintenance of all records of the public body in computerized form. The Registrar's office shall follow up on the case and submit a report on the same.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No: 4175-11/2024

Muhammad Sajid

Vs

Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination

March 04, 2025

Muhammad Yasir Abbasi, Assistant Health Manager, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The appellant vide letter dated 28-01-2025 has furnished the written reply which was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 11-02-25 under RGL No. 146484977. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4170-11/2024

Abid Khan

Vs

Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority

March 04, 2025

Muhammad Anees Usman, Assistant Director (Law), Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The appellant, vide his information request, required the public body to disclose the name and qualification of the inspection team consisting of a psychologist, medical officer, and pathologist who inspected the rehabilitation center. The public body, vide letter dated 04-02-2025, filed a written reply opposing the appeal, contending that the required information cannot be provided as it is exempted from disclosure under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
3. In paragraph 2 of the written reply, it is further stated that the disclosure of the required information may prejudice ongoing legal proceedings. Moreover, an exemption under Section 16(1)(i)(v) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, has also been claimed. The written reply of the public body was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 11-02-2025 under RGL No. 1464874995 but no objection has been received.
4. The Commission has examined the information request and the written reply and found that disclosing the names and qualifications of the inspection team members would challenge the independence of the inspection system.
5. The point of interest to the appellant or any citizen would be the inspection report, not the names and qualifications of the inspecting team. This is further supported by Section 16(1)(iv)(v), as the disclosure of such information is likely to undermine the effectiveness of a testing (inspection) or auditing procedure used by the public body.
6. 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: 4178-11/2024

Syed Tahir Hasan

Vs

Pakistan International Airlines (PIA)

March 04, 2025

Muhammad Shahzad, Manager, PIA appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body vide letter dated 21/25 informed that all pension related liabilities, obligations and responsibilities have been transferred from PIAC to PIA HoldCo Limited. This transfer included all relevant funds, assets, and liabilities associated with the Pension Fund Audit.
3. PIA HoldCo Limited, a separate company, is now the legal and operation entity responsible for managing the pension obligations and related matters. Consequently, PIAC is no longer in possession of the requested information nor is it in the position to respond to inquiries pertaining to the pension fund trust.
4. The appellant vide his application dated 26-01-25 has acknowledged receipt of the above said response of the public body but has alleged that it is misleading and confusing. He has further stated that all terminal benefits are still being taken care and handled by the PIA. Further that all previous records are still held by the PIA.
5. The Commission has examined the information request, the written reply of the public body, and the rejoinder of the appellant. The objection of the appellant, being misleading and confusing, is not correct.
6. The public body has categorically stated that all records pertaining to the pension fund have been transferred to PIA HoldCo Limited, which is now responsible for managing pension obligations and related matters. Since PIAC is not in a position to provide the requested information, the appellant should approach the transferee department, i.e., PIA HoldCo Limited, for obtaining the required information.
7. If the said information is not received from the transferee department, the appellant has the right to file a fresh appeal against the said transferee department. 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: 4119-10/2024

Saddia Mazhar

Vs

Ministry of Aviation

March 04, 2025

Rana Sajjad, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Aviation appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body has furnished the required information vide letter dated 30-12-2024, which was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 10-12-2024 under RGL No. 144784410. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4072-09/2024

Amir Baloch

Vs

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)

March 04, 2025

Mahmood Nazir Rana, Law Officer, State Bank of Pakistan appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The appellant vide his information request dated 02-09-24 required from PIO, State Bank of Pakistan the following information;

Please provide me certified copies of finalized Inspection Reports available with State Bank of Pakistan Banking Inspection Department of following commercial Bank for last 2 years,

- a. Allied Bank Limited
- b. National Bank Limited
- c. Summit Bank Limited
- d. Faysal Bank Limited
- e. Habib Bank Limited

3. Since allegedly said information was not provided to the appellant within the time prescribed in the Right of access to Information Act, 2017, therefore the appellant was forced to file this appeal.

4. The public body furnished copy of reply sent to the appellant vide letter dated 09-09-24. It was pleaded in the said letter that the requisite information does not fall under the definition of public record as mentioned in section 6 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.

5. The appellant filed objection and claimed that the information required by him, which is copy of the inspection reports conducted by the State Bank, of private banks named in the information request, is public record and cannot be withheld by the public body.

6. Today the rep of the p b vide letter dated 4 3 25 has submitted that the inspection report as required by the appellant can not be provided as it is exempted from disclosure under the Section 46A

of the State Bank of Pakistan 1956 as amended up to 2022. The Commission has gone through the said provision and has found that it is provided in the said provision that no court tribunal or other authority shall be entitled to compel the Bank or any person in the service of the Bank to produce or as the case may be, give any evidence derived from, any unpublished record of the Bank.

In sub section 3 of the said station it is further provided that notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for time being in force, a report prepared by the Bank on a banking company under Section 40 of the Banking Companies Ordinance 1962 shall be deemed to be published for the purposes of sub-sections.

7. This insertion was made in 2022. Although RTI Act 2017 also has an over ridding effect over other laws under Section 25 but the reality is that the act was promulgated during year 2017 whereas section 46 (A) of the State Bank Act 1956 was inserted by Act VI of 2022 meaning thereby that it is latest insertion in the state bank of Pakistan act and has no overriding effect on the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 which was promulgated earlier than the insertion mentioned above. Therefore, without going into the merits of the information request, the Commission concludes that the required information is exempted from disclosure under Section 46 (A) of the State Bank Act and the said act has overriding effect of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. Therefore, required information cannot be provided to the appellant as being exempted from disclosure. 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: 4041-10/2024

Nadeem Umer

Vs

Chaklala Cantonment Board

March 04, 2025

None appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. Information provided by the public body was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 30-01-2025 under RGL No. 146484437. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4140-10/2024

Muhammad Arif Iqbal

Vs

Pakistan Military Accounts Department

March 04, 2025

Hashim Raza, Designated Officer / PIO, and Nazeer Ahmed, Assistant Accounts Officer, Pakistan Military Accounts Department appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body furnished the required information vide letter dated 20-11-2025. Same was shared by the Commission with the appellant vide letter dated 03-12-2024 under RGL No. 142238254. No response has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4109-10/2024

Saddia Mazhar

Vs

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

March 04, 2025

Syed Irfan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. Information furnished by the public body was shared with the appellant vide letter dated 28-01-2025 under RGL No. 146484147. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
3. 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: 4183-11/2024

Iqbal Ahmed

Vs

Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division)

March 04, 2025

Khurram Shahzad, Assistant Director, Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The public body, vide letter dated 01-01-2025, furnished a written reply stating that the information requested at Serial A is available on the mobile app named "Rahguzar," launched by OGRA, whereas data on illegal petrol pumps can be obtained from the concerned Deputy Commissioner.
3. The said information was shared with the appellant on 11-02-2025 under RGL No. 146485032. No objection has been received from the appellant. It appears that the appellant is satisfied with the response of the public body. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of.
4. 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: 3998-10/2024

Munir Ahmad

Vs

National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA)

March 04, 2025

Appellant present in person. None appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. Response was received from the public body, which was shared with the appellant, who submitted response on that. After deliberation on the information request, response of the public body and rejoinder of the appellant, it has come to light that the request has been addressed. Hence, 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: 4019-10/2024

Syed Raza Ali Shah

Vs

National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC)

March 04, 2025 Tahir Arif, Deputy Director, NAVTTTC appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. As far as furnishing of the information and its sharing is concerned, it is complete however reply of the show cause notice issued to the Mr. Amir Zahur, Deputy Director was awaited, which is furnished today and it is submitted that the officer was unable to appear before the Commission as a close relative was hospitalized for surgery. Furthermore, absence is regretted. In view of above, show cause notice is withdrawn.

3. No further proceedings are required. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to the public body.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No: 4133-10/2024

Ishaque Ahmed

Vs

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)

March 04, 2025

Azhar Mughal, PS, PTA appeared on behalf of the public body.

2. The response of the public body was shared on 27-11-2025 under RGL 142238032 wherein the public body took the stance that the information sought does not fall under its domain as it relates to the internal workings of PTCL, which is a private entity. The requested information pertains to the operational workings of PTCL.
3. The information request was also addressed to PTCL alongside the Chairman, PTA. The stance of the public body is substantiated by the judgment of the Islamabad High Court (IHC), which is binding on this Commission for consideration.
4. In view of the judgment of the IHC, no further proceedings can take place. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order shall be sent to both the parties.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

