

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No. 4672-04/2025

Moazam Javed Khokhar

Vs

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

November 25, 2025 Dr. Asif Iftikhar Khewaja, Manager Legal and Faik Ali, Manager HR appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. This appeal was decided on August 07, 2025 and Secretary, MOIB was directed to furnish certified copies of all the three documents mentioned at Serial 1, 2 and 3 of the information request. Subsequent hearings are held for implementation of the order of the Commission. Whatever information furnished by the public body has been shared with the applicant who is sending rejoinder. Today, in order to resolve the matter and to finalize the implementation of the order dated 07-08-2025, the Commission examined the information request and sought clear response of the representatives of the public body.

2. Following position has emerged,

i. The representative of the public body has categorical response, it has stated that no special audit of Contributory Provident Fund of APPC was carried out. They have submitted the same before the Commission in writing.

ii. Regarding fact-finding report of ERE-AAPC, the representative of the public body stated that this was carried out and the bank statements of the applicants as available with their files will be provided, and the representative of the public body took the plea of the privacy of the bank statements of the other employees.

iii. The representative stated that the fact-finding report of APPC employees provident fund has been provided to the applicant whereas no special audit has been carried out.

3. In view of this categorical position, there is no need to prolong this proceedings as expressed by the public body and written version submitted before the Commission.

4. Reply to the show cause notice issued to the Manager (Legal) has been furnished, it is submitted that he had submitted information, regrets delay in responding, and sought apology. In view of the submission made by him, the show cause notice is withdrawn.

5. 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. 4560-03/2025

Malik Tariq Mahmood

Vs

Public Works Department (PWD)

November 25, 2025 Hayat Murtaza, Executive Engineer (QS), PWD appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The representative of the public body has submitted that Mr. Asad Ali Kazmi attended the hearing before the Commission and informed that no tempered/confiscated item was taken from the Customs Intelligence Department under jurisdiction of that office, therefore no record exists about that. He stated that letter dated 12-09-2025 signed by the Executive Engineer and addressed to the Executive Engineer (QS) was sent to the Commission.

2. The representative of the public body present before the Commission has reiterated today that no tempered/confiscated item was taken from the Customs Intelligence Department under jurisdiction of that office, therefore no record exists about that.

3. In view of the categorical response of the public body as reflected in letter dated 12-09-2025 and oral statement made by Hayat Murtaza, Executive Engineer (QS), PWD, present before the Commission today, no further proceedings are required.

4. As far as the question of reply to the show cause notice is concerned, Hayat Murtaza, Executive Engineer (QS), PWD, appearing before the Commission, has explained the reasons for non-appearance and has regretted the same, hence the show cause notice is withdrawn.

5. Copy of the order and copy of letter dated 12-09-2025 be shared with the applicant. 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. 4625-04/2025

Ch. Ashraf Ali Gujjar

Vs

Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited (ZTBL)

November 25, 2025 Ch. Adeel Ashraf, SVP/ PIO, ZTBL appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. In response to the rejoinder of the applicant dated 24-11-2025, the public body has furnished reply vide letter dated 25-11-2025. As far as objection No. 1 of the rejoinder is concerned, it has categorically been stated that the desired information does not exist with the public body as no board approval was required for Govt Circle. As far as objection No. 2, it is submitted that the public body has not violated or bypassed the government instructions. Furthermore, copy of the notification/order of the Cabinet Secretariat, Establishment Division, with regard to verification of degrees/certificates of Federal Government Employees as required under objection No. 3, is provided.
2. In view of the above, the appeal stands disposed of after sharing the information and response furnished today.
3. If the applicant believes that any misleading or false information has been furnished by the public body, he may file a separate complaint before the Commission. 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. 4712-05/2025

Aamir Baloch

Vs

Pakistan State Oil Company Limited

November 25, 2025 None appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. As far as appeal is concerned, it stands sine die adjourned as the order of the Commission has been challenged and suspended by the Islamabad High Court.
2. However, in respect of the unbecoming conduct of Mr. Waleed Ahmed, Sr. Manager, PSO, the Commission desires to take the matter with the Managing Director, PSO, and in response to the said order, guidance has been sought from the Commission and specific details of the conduct of Mr. Waleed Ahmed, Sr. Manager, PSO, have been sought.
3. The Commission appreciates the concern and regard shown by the head of the public body in its letter dated 17-11-2025.
4. The Commission observed erratic behavior during proceedings held on 23-09-2025 and accordingly deems it proper to bring it to the knowledge of the Managing Director, PSO instead of taking up the matter by itself. In view of the positive response of the head of the public body conveyed through the General Manager (Legal Affairs), the Commission would only advise the public body to sensitize its representatives about proper manners before a quasi-judicial forum. As a matter of grace, it would not like to take the matter further. Copy of the order be sent to the Managing Director, PSO.

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission

Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No. 4963-09/2025

Aun Ali

Vs

Military Land and Cantonment Department

November 25, 2025 Naveed Khattak, Computer Operator, Cantonment Board Quetta appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The response provided by the public body vide letter dated 14-10-2025 was shared with the applicant through letter dated 27-10-2025 under RGL No. 154262608.

2. The applicant has sent rejoinder dated 03-11-2025 taking reservations on the response of the public body and has not furnished any specific details.

3. The public body has responded vide letter dated 21-11-2025 stating that the Board is bound by the specific legal frameworks of Pakistan, particularly regarding the protection of employees' privacy. They have taken plea under Section 7(g) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 relating to personal privacy. The public body has also relied on a judgment of the High Court in PLD 2025 Lahore 649 wherein it has been said that;

“A public information officer may refuse an application for access to information where disclosure of the information shall or is likely to cause harm to a legitimate privacy interest, unless the person concerned has consented to disclosure of the information---such provision gives the power to public information where such disclosure of information is likely to harm the legitimate privacy or interest of individual unless the person concerned has consented to disclosure of information-Right to information under Article 19-A of the constitution and the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 does not extend to any ""legitimate privacy interest" of an individual guaranteed under Article 9 & 14 of the Constitution and protected under S. 13 (1) (b) of the Act ibid.”

4. The public body representative and the reply move on to state that the Quetta Cantonment is a highly sensitive and strategic area and is in close proximity to sensitive military installations. It has been stated that sensitive personal or official data of employees can pose a serious security risk keeping in view the prevailing circumstances and challenges to defence and national security.

5. The response also stated that the appointment of the designated officer under Section 9 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 does not come in their purview, who is under the administrative control of MOD, and the appointment is still awaited.

6. They stated that the employees' interests are looked after and in case of any grievance they may come and approach the Quetta Cantonment Board.

7. The Commission has examined the information request, response of the public body, and rejoinder of the applicant, and response on rejoinder from the public body. Issues highlighted relating to security in the area of the public body are quite important and significant.

8. The issue relating to operational duties and security of public officials has further been highlighted by the Islamabad High Court in Writ Petition No. 1546 of 2022 wherein it has been held that the doctrine of proportionality requires a delicate balance between the Right of Access to Information and security.

9. It has been further held that the right to information is an important constitutional safeguard against arbitrary exercise of power but it cannot be stretched to undermining the interest of public safety and security.

10. In view of whatever has been stated above, the appeal is decided as under:

(i. & ii) List containing names of temp/contract employees would not be required to be provided by the public body.

(iii). The public body should provide a clear response about the timeline or policy for regularization of these employees.

(iv). Response about the Public Information Officer has already been clarified by the public body.

11. The appeal stands disposed of. Copy of the order be sent to both the parties. The Cantonment Executive Officer, Cantonment Board Quetta is directed to comply with the information cited at Serail No. (iii) of the information request within 10 days.

12. In view of the security situation, the representative of the public body is not required to appear in person but to send the response in writing through post.

13. Adjourned for implementation proceedings on 30-12-2025

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

Order

Appeal No. 4640-04/2025

Murtaza Hashim

Vs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

November 25, 2025 Maria Ateeq, Director (Spokesperson) and Taimoor Zulfqar, MOFA appeared on behalf of the public body.

1. The appeal was disposed of vide order dated 25-09-2025 and the applicant was directed to file a separate complaint if he believes that the information furnished by the public body is false, now the applicant has filed a complaint under section 20 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 alleging that the public body instead of sharing entertainment allowance amended in November 2023 the public body has stated that it is available on the website; however, old entertainment allowance rates are available on the internet and the latest entertainment allowance are not available there . Copy of the complaint is handed over to the representatives of the public body for filing its reply.
2. Adjourned to 23-12-2025

Ijaz Hassan Awan
Information Commissioner

Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui
Chief Information Commissioner