

Pakistan Information Commission

Biannual Report

Reporting Period: June - December, 2025

Foreword

The completion of the third year of tenure marks a significant milestone for the Pakistan Information Commission (PIC). Over this period, the Commission has strengthened its regulatory role, improved service delivery mechanisms, and expanded public awareness regarding the Right of Access to Information. This biannual report book documents institutional achievements, operational progress, and the collective efforts of the Commission, public bodies, and citizens.

Special recognition is accorded to the leadership and strategic guidance of Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui and Mr. Ijaz Hassan Awan, whose commitment has directly contributed to timely disposal of appeals, capacity-building initiatives, and nationwide outreach.

Our Commissioners

Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui - Chief Information Commissioner



Mr. Ijaz Hassan Awan - Information Commissioner



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➤ Introduction and Institutional Mandate

The Pakistan Information Commission is mandated to ensure transparency, accountability, and good governance by enforcing citizens' constitutional right to access public information. The Commission acts as an independent oversight body responsible for:

- Adjudicating appeals and complaints related to denial of information.
- Monitoring compliance of public bodies with RTI laws.
- Promoting a culture of openness and transparency.
- Conducting awareness and capacity-building programs for public officials and citizens.

The biannual report captures performance indicators, outreach outcomes, and operational efficiency achieved during the closing phase of the third year.



Hearing Proceedings at the Pakistan Information Commission



➤ Overview of the Third Year of Tenure

The third year focused on consolidating institutional processes, improving turnaround time for appeals, and expanding public engagement. Key priorities included:

- Streamlining case management systems.
- Enhancing staff capacity and procedural clarity.
- Increasing visibility of the Commission through seminars, workshops, and awareness sessions.
- Strengthening coordination with federal stakeholders.

The reporting period reflects measurable improvement in service delivery and public trust.

Dialogue on Strengthening Access to Information & Media in Pakistan



Workshop conducted by CPDI in collaboration with PIC





➤ Leadership and Strategic Direction

Under the guidance of Mr. **Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqi** and Mr. **Ijaz Hasan Awan**, the Commission adopted a results-oriented approach. Strategic leadership emphasized:

- Timely decision-making and procedural discipline.
- Transparent internal governance and accountability.
- Encouragement of innovation in public outreach and case processing.
- Institutional resilience and sustainability.

Their leadership has been instrumental in setting performance benchmarks and motivating staff to meet ambitious service standards.

International Day for Universal Access to Information



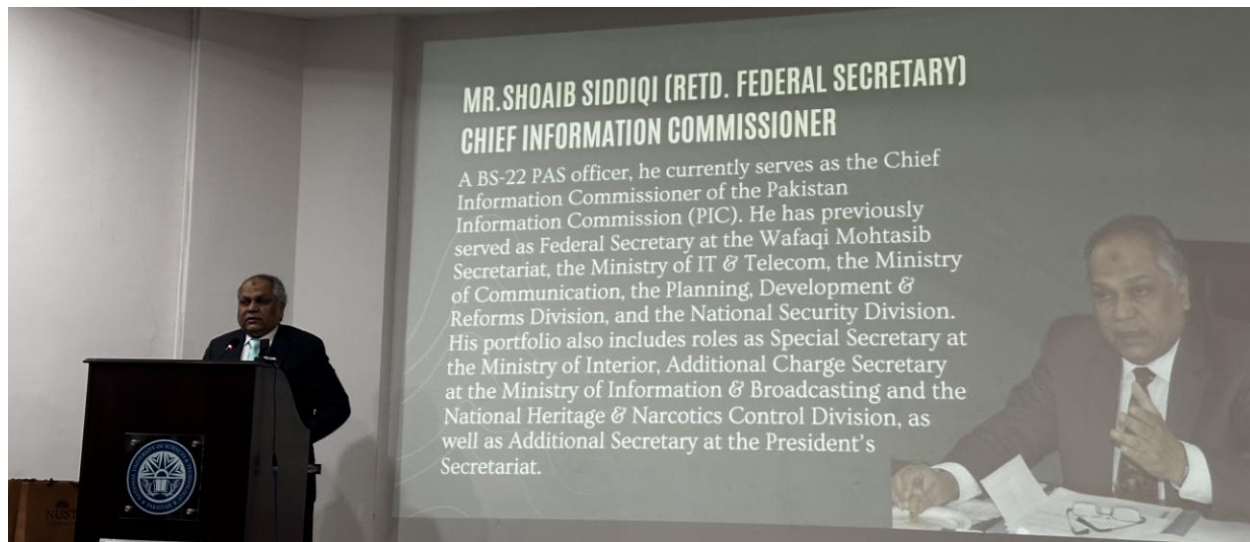
International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAL) is observed every year on 28 September. The day emphasizes that public access to information:

- ✓ Strengthens democracy and rule of law
- ✓ Enables citizen participation in decision-making
- ✓ Helps fight corruption and misinformation
- ✓ Supports sustainable development, peace, and justice

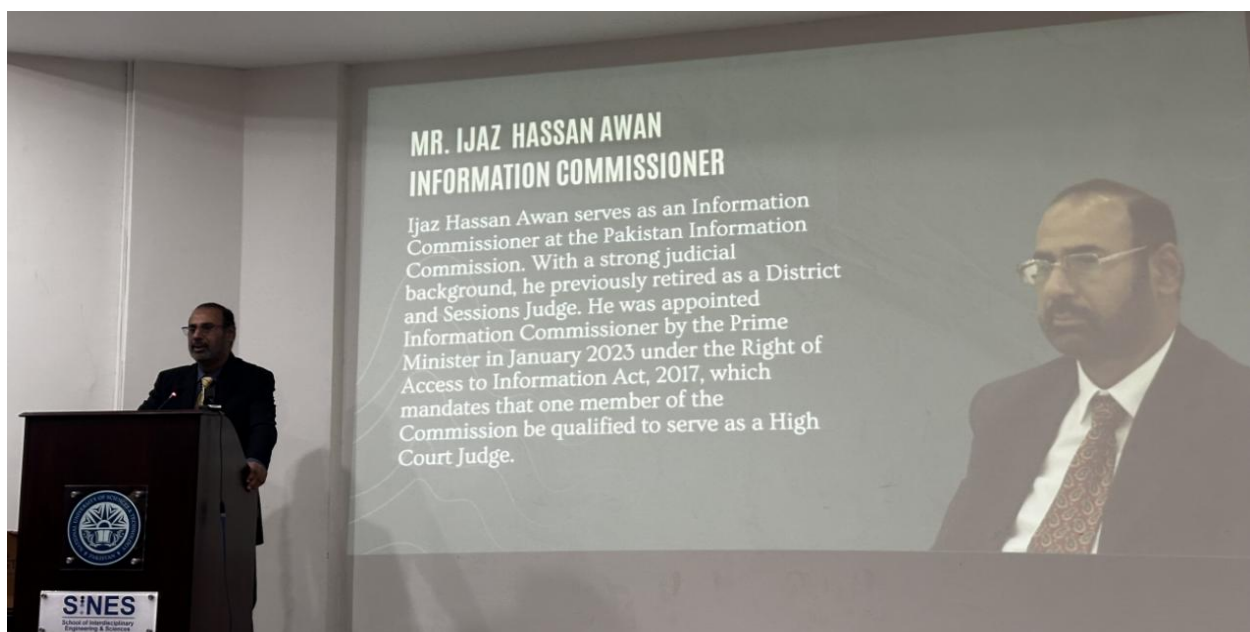




**Seminar conducted by the Pakistan Information Commission at the Jinnah School of Public Policy
National University of Sciences & Technology NUST**



The Chief Information Commissioner addressing students and briefing them on the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.



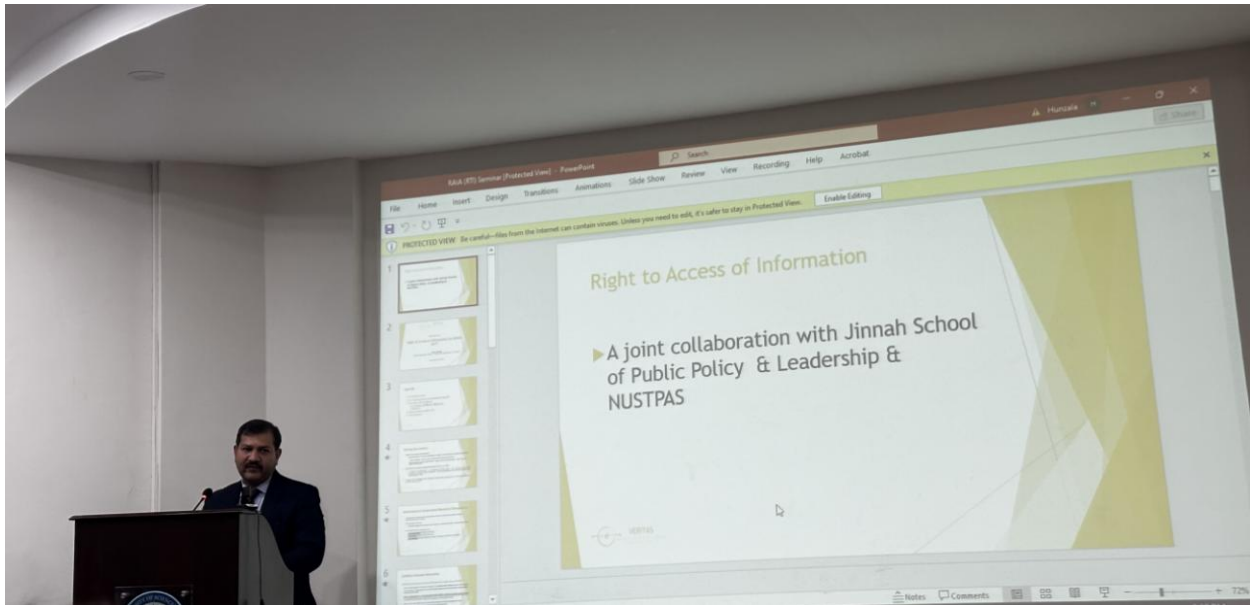
The Information Commissioner interacting with students and sharing his insights.





The Chief Information Commissioner, along with the Information Commissioner, engaged with the students by thoughtfully addressing the questions posed by them, providing detailed explanations and clarifications on the matters discussed.





➤ **Awareness and Capacity-Building Initiatives**

A central achievement of the reporting period was the expansion of awareness campaigns across multiple regions. Activities included:

- Seminars for students, journalists, civil society organizations, and public officials.
- Awareness sessions highlighting citizens' rights under RTI laws.
- Interactive workshops focusing on practical implementation of information disclosure.
- Distribution of informational materials and digital outreach.

These initiatives strengthened public understanding and encouraged proactive use of RTI mechanisms.

The Commissioners presenting biannual reports to prominent personalities, including politicians, civil society members, and representatives of various sectors.



Chief Information Commissioner Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui and Information Commissioner Ijaz Hassan Awan presenting the bi-annual report to the Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani at parliament house.

03 Thursday, August 28, 2025

Pakistan
OBSERVER

TWIN CITIES

ISLAMABAD

Prayer Timing

Fajar 04:40 am
Zohar 01:30 pm
Asr 05:15 pm
Sunset 08:45pm

Brothers in Islam
could help
poor & needy

**Islamabad
HOTLINE**

EMERGENCY

Police (Police) 112
Bomb Disposal 1122 & 16
Fire Services 1122 & 16
& Rescue Services 661122
Motorway Police 0298544
Capital Police Ex 0276801-23
Women Police Station
Islamabad 0273396
Rawalpindi 0276801-23

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance 115
FIA Flight Info 114
FIA Cargo 0298079
Railway enquiry 117
Railway Enquiry 0276827-5
MCA 021547
021542

HOSPITAL

CMH 0211111
MH 0211116

LCA organizes event to celebrate IDay

STAFF REPORTER

The Lahore College Association (LCA), an organization of former students of Lahore College for Women, has been successfully led by Mrs. Tehreem Zafar for many years. The association regularly holds programs, and this month, an event was organized to celebrate

on what they have given to Pakistan and what they will contribute in the future. The event concluded with patriotic songs, including a performance by senior bureaucrat Anjum Amin, who sang a national song with great passion and enthusiasm. Dr. Sahira Farooq also present-

ed a national song with great zeal. Finally, Mrs. Tehreem Zafar and the other women sang together, and the event ended with a prayer for Pakistan's prosperity and well-being.



Independence Day. Many women from the twin cities, including literary personalities, attended the event. The speaker included Professor Riffat Toor who beautifully discussed Pakistan's history and her visit to Bangladesh.

emphasized the importance of women's empowerment, urging all women to contribute to this cause. In the end, Mrs. Tehreem Zafar shared her thoughts, saying that everyone should reflect

ed a national song with great zeal. Finally, Mrs. Tehreem Zafar and the other women sang together, and the event ended with a prayer for Pakistan's prosperity and well-being.



Chief Information Commissioner Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui and Information Commissioner Ijaz Hassan Awan presenting the bi-annual report to the Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani at parliament house.

NA body slams ineffective vehicle emissions testing

STAFF REPORTER

The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination has expressed "grave dissatisfaction" over the country's current vehicle emissions testing regime.

urged the Ministry of Climate Change to prepare a detailed road map.

"The lack of planning and inter-agency coordination is unacceptable. Pakistan cannot afford cosmetic measures when air pollution

as a key contributor to smog and poor air quality in major cities like Lahore, Karachi, and Islamabad. Against emissions oversight, the Committee voiced alarm over forecasts of 22 percent heavier monsoon rains next year and criticized inad-

dress lithium-ion battery disposal, hospital waste, and plastic pollution. Lawmakers proposed engaging independent experts and the private sector to develop recycling and disposal solutions, while suggesting plastic bottle collection ma-



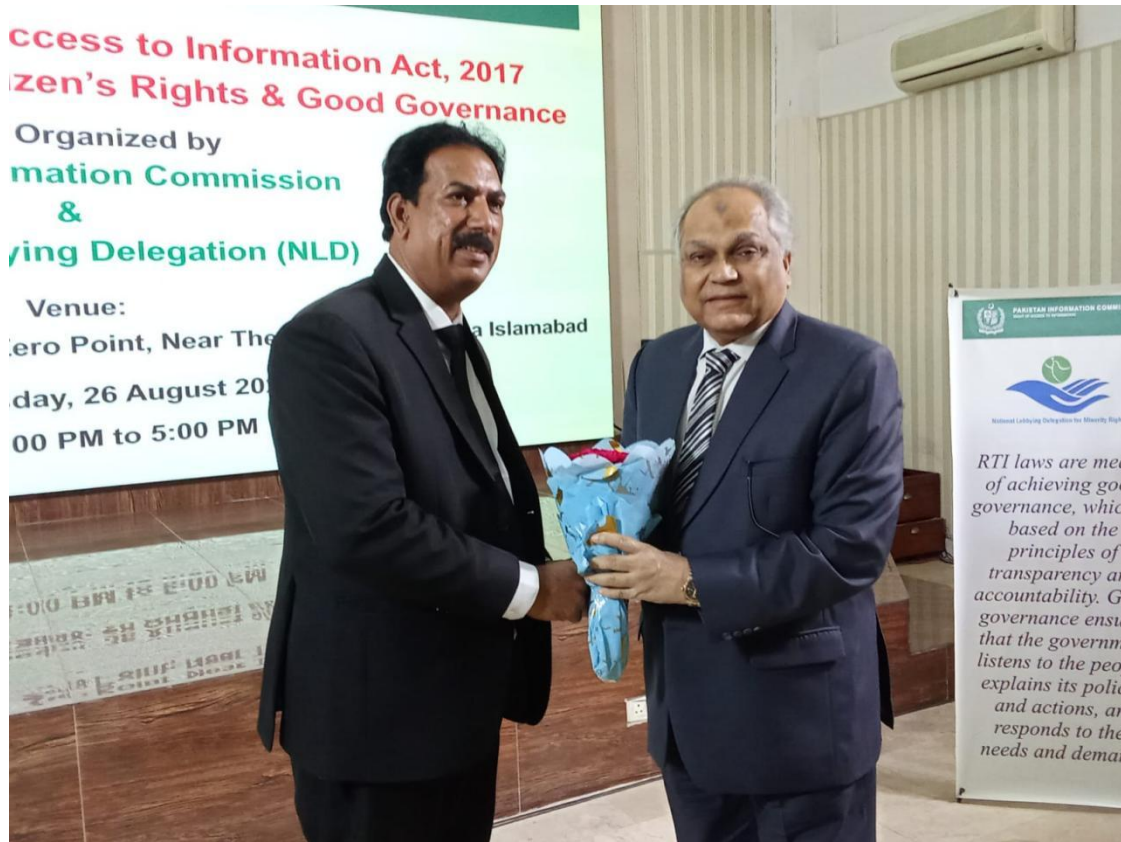
APP51-220725 ISLAMABAD: July 22 - Chief Information Commissioner, Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, along with Ijaz Hassan Awan, Information Commissioner, presenting the bi-annual report to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan at the Supreme Court of Pakistan. APP/ABB



The Chief Information Commissioner, accompanied by the Information Commissioner, formally presented the biannual report to the Honorable Chief Justice of the High Court as well as the Registrar of the High Court.



Presented the biannual report to a former member of the Punjab Information Commission, providing a comprehensive overview of its key findings, developments, and progress during the period.



A detailed account of the number of appeals received by the Commission against specific public bodies, presented in descending order from the highest to the lowest.

Public Body	No. Of Appeals
Capital Development Authority (CDA)	157
Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)	133
Federal Investigation Agency (FIA)	120
Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited (ZTBL)	117
National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA)	105
Higher Education Commission (HEC)	93
Establishment Division	89
Ministry of Finance	82
Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP)	76
Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL)	74
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	73
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)	72
Ministry of Interior	71
Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination	68
Ministry of Defence	67
Ministry of Law and Justice	67
Cabinet Division	66
National Accountability Bureau (NAB)	64
Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC)	63
Ministry of Housing and Works	59
State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)	55
Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO)	53

Employees Old Age Benefit Institute (EOBI)	52
National Bank of Pakistan (NBP)	50
Islamabad Police	47
Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL)	47
Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO)	46
Senate of Pakistan	46
Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO)	44
Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP)	44
Pakistan Post	43
Public Works Department (PWD)	43
Supreme Court of Pakistan	43
Gujranwala Electric Power Company (GEPCO)	42
National Assembly of Pakistan	42
Prime Minister's Office	42
Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training	41
Missing	41
Auditor General of Pakistan (AGP)	40
Pakistan Railways	40
Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA)	38
Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU)	37
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)	37
Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO)	36
Military Land and Cantonment Department	36
Ministry of Railways	35
National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA)	35
Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)	34

Ministry of Climate Change	33
Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony	32
National Highway Authority (NHA)	32
Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC)	29
Ministry of Human Rights	28
National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC)	26
Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP)	25
National Engineering Service of Pakistan (NESPAK)	25
Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman's) Secretariat	25
Accountant General Pakistan Revenues (AGPR)	24
Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB)	24
Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority	24
Ministry of Science and Technology	24
Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA)	24
National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA)	23
Cantonment Board Clifton (Karachi)	22
Pakistan Television Corporation (PTVC)	22
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	21
Federal Ombudsman Secretariat	21
State Life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan	21
Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA)	20
President Office	20
Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO)	19
K-Electric	19
Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division)	19
Banking Mohtasib of Pakistan	18

Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA)	18
Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology	17
International Islamic University Islamabad- IIUI	17
Benazir income Support Program (BISP)	16
Federal Insurance Ombudsman	16
Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS)	16
Excise and Taxation Department	15
Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC)	15
Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGCL)	15
Comsats University	14
Directorate General of Immigration and Passports	14
Federal Directorate of Education	14
Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA)	14
Ministry of Industries and Production	13
Ministry of Interprovincial Coordination	13
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)	13
Pharmacy Council of Pakistan	13
Deputy Commissioner Islamabad	12
Islamabad High Court	12
Ministry of Energy	12
Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication	12
Ministry of National Food Security and Research	12
Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	11
Ministry of Water Resources	11
National Assembly	11
Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR)	11

Chaklala Cantonment Board	10
Ministry of Finance	10
Pakistan International Airline (PIA)	10
Pakistan Medical Commission	10
Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)	10
Peshawar Electric Supply Company (PESCO)	10
Rawalpindi Cantonment Board	10

➤ Case Management and Disposal of Appeals

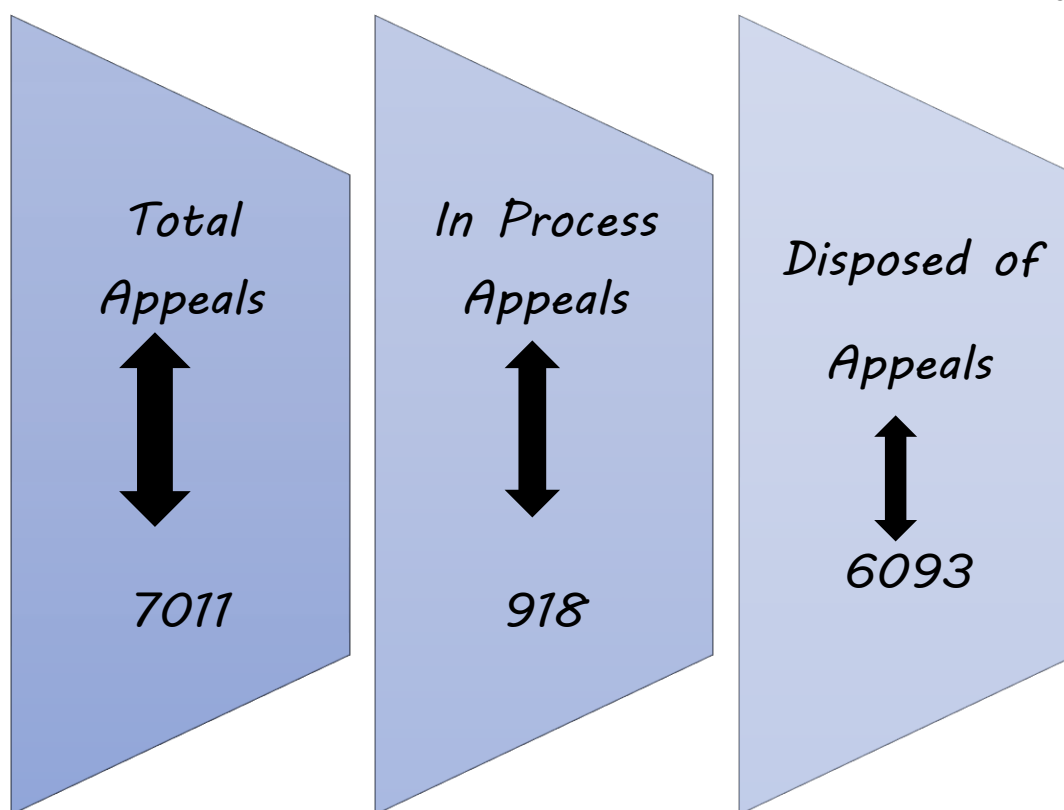
One of the most significant operational achievements was the **disposal of appeals within an average of 60 days**, reflecting improved efficiency and procedural discipline.

Key improvements included:

- Digitized tracking of appeals and complaints.
- Standardized timelines and internal monitoring.
- Improved coordination among legal, and hearing units.
- Enhanced communication with applicants and public bodies.

This performance directly contributed to increased public confidence and reduced backlog.

Appeal statistics reflecting the number of appeals disposed of and those pending adjudication before the Pakistan Information Commission.



➤ **Institutional Strengthening and Digitalization**

The Commission invested in institutional strengthening through:

- Process documentation and standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Staff training and knowledge-sharing sessions.
- Incremental digital transformation to improve record management and reporting accuracy.
- Internal performance reviews and feedback mechanisms.

These reforms enhanced operational sustainability and transparency.

Media Corner

Chief Information Commissioner participated in a television program, highlighting the Right to Information Act and its significance.

عزیر ملک

ماہم زاہد

شعیب احمد صدیقی

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

کیا کمیشن کی کارروائی عوام کے سامنے آنی چاہیے؟

صابن سے چھوٹی کار تک سیکڑوں مصنوعات پر جی ایس ٹی کی شرح کم کر دی گئی: خبر ایجنسی

سُنو پاکستان

LIVE

SUNO

Thu 04 Sep

رائٹ ٹوانفارمیشن

رائٹ ٹوانفارمیشن۔۔ عوام کا بنیادی حق

اوچ شریف: ریلیف کیمپ دور ہے، اپنی مدد آپ کے تحت نقل مکانی کر رہے ہیں، اہل علاقہ

سُنو پاکستان

پراہ راست

NEWS HD

18° | منظر آہاد

PIC Declares Aga Khan University a Public Body, Orders Release of Exam Leak Inquiry

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Information Commission (PIC) has issued a show cause notice to the President of Aga Khan University (AKU), Karachi, over non-compliance with the Commission's earlier order. The show cause notice has been issued under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, seeking an explanation from the President of Aga Khan University, Karachi, to explain why proceedings may not be initiated against

him under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Act. Earlier, the Pakistan Information Commission, vide order dated 11-08-2025, had ruled that Aga Khan University falls within the definition of a "public body" under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, and directed the institution to release details of an internal inquiry into a leaked examination paper held on August 6, 2023. The decision was made after an appellant filed a request seeking certified copies of the investigation report, recommendations of

the inquiry committee, names of committee members with their Terms of Reference (TORs), and details of AKU employees and outsiders allegedly involved in the paper leak. The appellant also demanded to know what disciplinary and legal actions were taken against those implicated, whether any complaints were filed with law enforcement agencies, and what preventive measures were adopted to avoid future leaks. Despite being issued notices, no representative appeared on behalf of Aga Khan University during

the hearing. The University, however, had submitted a written reply claiming that it does not qualify as a public body under Section 2(ix) of the RTI Act. The appellant countered this by arguing that Aga Khan University was established under the Aga Khan University Order of 1983, amended in 2002, making it a statutory body corporate with perpetual succession, powers to hold property, and the ability to sue or be sued in its corporate name. He further pointed out that the University had been granted land by the Federal

Government, was benefiting from government subsidies and tax exemptions, and operated under a licence issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan. After reviewing the relevant documents and hearing arguments, the Commission concluded that under Section 2(ix)(d) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, any statutory corporation or body established by the Federal Government qualifies as a public body. It noted that Aga Khan University, being established through a

Presidential Order, falls within this definition. The PIC also held that the requested information related to the paper leak inquiry did not fall under any exemption clauses of the law. "There is no legal justification for withholding this information," the order stated. Accordingly, the Commission allowed the appeal and directed the President of Aga Khan University to furnish all requested documents and details to both the appellant and the Commission within ten days.

University of Sargodha Hosts Conference on Seerat-un-Nabi

Bureau Report

SARGODHA: Celebrating 1500 Years of the Blessed Birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the University of Sargodha organized a conference titled "Seerat-un-Nabi: A Guide to Intellectual and Practical Guidance for the Muslim Ummah" under the auspices of the Department of Islamic Studies.

Prof. Dr. Hamad Lakhoi Dean Faculty of Islamic Studies University of the Punjab was chief guest while Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qasim Abbas was guest of honor. Other dignitaries included Prof. Dr. Masood Sarwar Awan, Prof. Dr. Rabbia Khalid Quraishi Dean faculty of Islamic & Arabic Studies, University of Bhawalpur and Syed Riaz Hussain Rizvi renowned religious.



ISLAMABAD: Participants posing for a group photograph after the cultural event held at the Embassy, in the Federal Capital.

Sajid Baloch appoints Secretary National Security Division

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Sajid Baloch has been appointed Secretary, National Security. Mr. Sajid Baloch is an officer of the Pakistan Administrative Service (PAS) 23rd CITE. He was previously serving as the Secretary, Science & Technology Division. He has also served as the Special Secretary, Cabinet Division, looking after the matters relating to Federal Cabinet, Regulatory Authorities etc.

He possesses rich experience of 3 decades in the public sector and development sector including 7 years in United Nations. Mr. Sajid Baloch has a good reputation as a competent, honest, public friendly officer and an administrator. He holds Masters Degree in Development & Environment from Kings College London and Electrical Engineering from NED University. He is a British Chevening scholar. He possesses extensive experience of governance, education, climate change, technology, TVET Skills, poverty, policy, law, gender, international donors liaison and project management. He has served as Executive Director (CEO), NATVTC National Vocational and Technical Training Commission, Ministry of

Education producing 100,000 highly skilled youth. Previously, he served as Registrar, Islamabad High Court. He has held the appointments as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, and Director General, BISP (Benazir Income Support Programme) (social safety). Sajid Baloch served with distinction as Deputy Permanent Delegate of Pakistan to UNESCO in Paris, including Member of Governing Executive Board of UNESCO responsible for coordination & programmes of UNESCO, and he was a key member of the 12-member drafting group of Global Development SDG-4-Education Agenda 2030. He also served as DG Education managing 13,000 schools and 5,00,000 students.

Mr. Baloch also served in UNDP and UNOPS for 4 years as Head of Governance & Gender GSP programme, and 3 of his governance projects won international awards. He also served as the Director Development, Finance, Excise, Agriculture, Labour and Registrar of Firms & NGOs, in the Islamabad Administration. He also served as the Deputy Commissioner of four districts.

Syed Sadat Hussain Shah condemns arrest of Palestinian aid convoy, calls it a crime against humanity

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: President of Tourism for Interfaith Peace & Development and President of Lake Shore Club, Syed Sadat Hussain Shah, strongly condemned the arrest of the convoy carrying aid for the oppressed people of Palestine. He said this action is a grave violation of humanitarian principles and international law. Preventing the delivery of aid to innocent and besieged Palestinians is a crime against humanity that deserves the strongest condemnation. Syed Shah appealed to the international community and human rights organizations to take notice of this inhuman

act and ensure the immediate release of the aid convoy and delivery of relief to the Palestinian people. He also urged the Government of Pakistan to highlight this matter globally and take effective diplomatic measures.

DC Attock directed law enforcement agencies to ensure rule of law in district

Bureau Report

ATTOCK: Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Aftab Raza during district coordination committee meeting has directed all the law enforcement agencies to maintain law and order situation in the district using all available resources. The meeting was also attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner General Attock Mr. Anil Saeed, Assistant Commissioner Attock Mr. Anis Abbas and other relevant officers of law enforcement agencies. The Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Aftab Raza advised the participants to complete the registration process of unregistered Chingchi Auto Rickshaws up to October 10, 2025 failing which strict legal action would be initiated against the violators. He was briefed that the unregistered Chingchi Auto Rickshaws are creating hardships for the general public and hurdles in the smooth flow of the vehicular traffic in particular. The meeting was also informed about the status of the law and order situation saying that 1118 vehicles were challaned on different violations besides imposing fine of Rs 95 lacs, 26 filling stations were closed and 115 trucks were seized during the last 25 days during their measurements illegality at spots.

TAPI Pipeline: A Lifeline for Pakistan's Energy Future?

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Regional Studies (IRS), Islamabad, through its Central Asia Program for Regional Connectivity and Cooperation, organized a thought-provoking session as part of its Eminent Speaker Series titled "Turkmenistan's Perspective on Regional Energy Corridors: TAPI and Beyond" on Wednesday, October 1, 2025. The lecture was given by Dr. Nikita Ilersitsky, Leading Research Fellow at the International Center for Central Asia (ICCA), Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. The event attracted scholars, energy experts, and policy analysts to discuss Turkmenistan's evolving energy landscape and its impact on the TAPI pipeline.

Dr. Ilersitsky emphasized that while Turkmenistan is energy-rich—with an estimated 24 trillion cubic meters of gas reserves—its current export infrastructure is outdated and underutilized. Most of its gas is exported to China under long-term contracts that give Chinese corporations significant control over production, creating an urgent need for Turkmenistan to diversify its export routes and reduce dependency. In this context, the TAPI pipeline emerges as a central project, offering potential access to South Asian markets. However, TAPI faces substantial obstacles, including limited capacity, high costs, and geopolitical complications, especially in Afghanistan, which remains the weakest link due to persistent instability and lack of infrastructure financing.

Despite this, Turkmenistan remains strongly committed to TAPI, viewing it as a strategic lifeline to new markets. Dr. Ilersitsky highlighted the broader context of regional energy dynamics, comparing three models of infrastructure development in Central Asia: the Russian model, which is based on legacy Soviet pipelines but is now outdated; the Chinese model, which is fast and efficient but entirely controlled by Chinese firms; and the Western model, which prioritizes selective, commercially viable infrastructure. Turkmenistan's emerging approach, centered on the TAPI project, attempts to engage South Asia, but its success will depend on international cooperation and stabilizing actors such as Russia, China, or regional organizations like the SCO. He noted that no single mediating force currently exists to harmonize interests in the region, making coordination difficult. Energy trends across Central Asia further complicate the picture. Kazakhstan's gas production is declining, Uzbekistan faces seasonal electricity shortages, and Kyrgyzstan is highly vulnerable to climate change—especially

ly glacier melt, which threatens both hydro and fossil fuel projects. Turkmenistan, despite American investment in some areas such as the Caspian Sea, still lacks updated energy statistics, with institutions like the Eurasian Development Bank no longer publishing data since 2018. Additionally, various swap deals with Iran and Uzbekistan remain small in scale and lack transparency. Dr. Ilersitsky concluded that while macroeconomic indicators may suggest positive growth, they mask underlying structural issues tied to foreign investment, dependence on natural gas, and weak development. For Turkmenistan, the path forward requires opening its economy to diversified investments, improving data transparency, and actively engaging regional partners. Projects like TAPI, though difficult, are essential to monetizing its vast gas reserves and integrating more deeply with South Asian markets. He also stressed the role Pakistan can play in advancing the project, given its growing energy needs and infrastructure capabilities. However, challenges remain, especially with India's reluctance to rely on Afghan transit routes and the broader lack of regional cohesion. The session ended with a robust Q&A, with participants raising questions about geopolitical risks, pricing mechanisms, and the future of regional energy cooperation.

Daily

Parliament Times

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Basic health centre inaugurated in Faisalabad

FIEDMC Industrial zone

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Social Security has established a Basic Health Centre in Faisalabad's FIEDMC Industrial Zone to provide healthcare facilities to industrial workers and their families. Commissioner Social Security Muhammad Ali formally inaugurated the centre.

The ceremony was attended by Medical Advisor Dr. Humaira Buzdar, FIEDMC CEO Mian Jameel Ahmed, Farah Bhatnagar along with a large number of Social Security doctors and medical staff. The centre has been constructed on a large plot of land in FIEDMC, where Social Security doctors and paramedics will deliver healthcare services. The FIEDMC Industrial Zone comprises more than 200 industrial units, employing over 15,000 workers. These workers and their dependents will now have access to diagnostic services, medicines, and other healthcare facilities close to their workplaces.

Commissioner Social Security Muhammad Ali also visited the Social Security Hospital.

PIC Declares Aga Khan University a Public Body, Orders Release of Exam Leak Inquiry

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Information Commission (PIC) has issued a show cause notice to the President of Aga Khan University (AKU), Karachi, over non-compliance with the Commission's earlier order. The show cause notice has been issued under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, seeking an explanation from the President of Aga Khan University, Karachi, to explain why proceedings may not be initiated against him under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Act.

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NUML Hosts Seminar to Celebrate International Translation Day 2025

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Department of Translation & Interpretation, Faculty of Languages, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad, organized a seminar to celebrate International Translation Day 2025 at Jinnah Auditorium, Salam Block, NUML.

The event was graced by the presence of the Rector NUML, Maj. Gen. Shahid Mahmood Kayani II (M) Rtd, with enthusiastic participation from the university community including DG NUML, Brig (R) Nadeem Asghar, Pro-Rector, Deans, Directors, Heads of Departments, faculty members, and students. The seminar commenced with opening remarks by Dr. Humaira Shahbaz, Director Department of Translation & Interpretation, who highlighted the significance of celebrating this day. 30th September, recognized by The United Nations, marked as International Translation Day under Resolution No. 288/75 passed on 24th May 1971. The theme for the year 2025 was announced as "Translation: Shaping the Future You Can Trust."

Prof. Dr. Jamil Asghar Jamil, Dean, Faculty of Languages, delivered the welcome address and emphasized that today, translation is held in high esteem precisely because of the sacrifices of those who laid down their lives, making this endeavor both meaningful and worthwhile. The highlight of the event was the keynote address delivered by renowned scholar, educationist, poet, and anthropologist Professor Jali Auli (T). He particularly reflected on the complexities of translating poetry, with a special focus on creative writings and Naat, underlining the delicate balance between meaning, form, and cultural context. Rector NUML, shared the university's future plans and highlighted the upcoming project of "Bait-ul-Hikmah", the House of Wisdom, where the House of Translation will play a pivotal role. He also announced that NUML will begin publishing books in the future. A distinctive feature of the seminar this year was the acknowledgement of NUML's teaching faculty for their contributions.



LAHORE: Employees of Environmental Department uses smoke gun in the surroundings of Gaddafi Stadium, in Provincial Capital.

Punjab launches massive crackdown on profiteering: over 14.9 million inspections, thousands penalized in September

Bureau Report

LAHORE: On the instructions of the Chief Minister Punjab, the crackdown against profiteers is continuing in full force. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Price Control Department, during the month of September, 14,916,211 inspections were carried out, resulting in 368,262 profiteers fined, 321 FIRs registered, and 4,607 individuals arrested. From 1,252,249 inspections of four categories, 30,547 profiteers were fined, 24 FIRs registered, and 378 individuals arrested. From 695,873 inspections of chicken shops, 28,551 profiteers were fined,

27 FIRs registered, and 621 individuals arrested. From 423,862 inspections of hotels and tandoors, 18,045 profiteers were fined, 98 FIRs registered, and 552 individuals arrested. From 470,128 inspections regarding sugar prices, 23,546 profiteers were fined, 29 FIRs registered, and 564 individuals arrested. The spokesperson of the Price Control Department stated that zero-tolerance policy against profiteering and hoarding is being strictly implemented across the province, and it will be ensured that essential commodities.

PIC Declares Aga Khan University a Public Body, Orders Release of Exam Leak Inquiry

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Information Commission (PIC) has issued a show cause notice to the President of Aga Khan University (AKU), Karachi, over non-compliance with the Commission's earlier order.

The show cause notice has been issued under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, seeking an explanation from the President of Aga Khan University, Karachi, to explain why proceedings may not be initiated against him under Section 20 (1)(f) of the Act.

Earlier, the Pakistan Information Commission, vide order dated 11-08-2025, had ruled that Aga Khan University falls within the definition of a "public body" under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, and directed the institution to release details of an internal inquiry into a leaked examination paper held on August 6, 2023. The decision was made after an appellant filed a request seeking certified copies of the investigation report, recommendations of the inquiry committee, names of committee members with their Terms of Reference (TORs), and details of AKU employees and outsiders allegedly involved in the paper leak. The appellant also demanded to know what disciplinary and legal actions were taken against those implicated, whether any complaints were filed with law enforcement agencies, and what preventive measures were adopted to avoid future leaks. Despite being issued notices, no representative appeared on behalf of Aga Khan University during the hearing. The University, however, had submitted a written reply claiming that it does not qualify as a public body under Section 2(ix) of the RTI Act. The appellant countered this by arguing that Aga Khan University was established under the Aga Khan University Order of 1983, amended in 2002, making it a statutory body corporate with perpetual succession, powers to hold property, and the ability to sue or be sued in its corporate name. He further pointed out that the University had been granted land by the Federal Government, was benefiting from government subsidies and tax exemptions, and operated under a licence issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan.



into question. His wife, Zahra Kamran alleged that the yamah se kya becham hai, she said, sug- cated procurement scam at the Parliament House dis- was a 30% profit mar- gin. This fraudulent prac- proper use of public funds. | stranger—a remarkable confluence in French literature and Pakistani art.

Pakistan Information Commission issues show cause notices to CDA Chairman and MCI Administrator

PEAK POINT ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Information Commission (PIC) has issued show cause notices to the Chairman, Capital Development Authority (CDA), and the Administrator, Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI), under Section 20(1)(f) of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. The show cause notices have been issued for the non-appearance of the representatives of both public bodies in hearings before the Commission held on October 21, 2025, and October 28, 2025. Both officers have been directed to furnish written replies explaining why proceedings under Section 20(1)(f) of the Act may not be initiated against the respective public bodies for their failure to appear and assist the Commission. The case pertains to an appeal filed by Ms. Ameera Adil, seeking detailed information from the CDA and MCI regarding policies, laws, and data related to responsible dog ownership, registration of dog owners, vaccination, ethical breeding, and control of stray dogs. The applicant also requested records concerning rabies eradication efforts, public awareness programs, collaborations with private veterinarians and NGOs, TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Release) operations, fund utilization, facility management, and animal welfare measures adopted by the respective authorities. Despite repeated notices, the representatives of the CDA and MCI did not appear before the Commission, prompting the issuance of show cause notices. The Commission has directed both officers to submit their responses to justify the absence and non-compliance with the provisions of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. The matter will be further examined upon receipt of the replies from both public bodies as it relates to human safety, public awareness and animal care.

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➤ **Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships**

Collaborations with government departments, academia, media, and civil society expanded the Commission's outreach. Engagement strategies included:

- Joint seminars and awareness events.
- Consultative meetings for policy alignment.
- Knowledge exchange with peer institutions.
- Engagement with development partners and research organizations.

Such partnerships strengthened institutional credibility and national visibility.

➤ **Lessons Learned**

Despite progress, challenges remained:

- Resource constraints and staffing limitations.
- Variations in compliance among public bodies.
- Need for continuous digital upgrades.
- Public awareness gaps in remote areas.

Lessons learned emphasized proactive planning, stakeholder coordination, and adaptive management.

➤ **Conclusion**

The closing of the third year reflects a period of institutional maturity, operational improvement, and growing public trust. Through effective leadership, consistent awareness initiatives, and timely case disposal, the Pakistan Information Commission continues to strengthen democratic accountability and citizens' empowerment.

This biannual report book serves as a formal record of progress and a foundation for future strategic growth.