Pakistan Information Commission

National Arcade, Block 4-A, First Floor, (Near National Bank of Pakistan) F-8, Markaz, Islamabad

Website: www.rti.gov.pk



Appeal No-229-12/2019

Asadullah	(Appellant)

Vs.

Ministry of Climate Change

(Respondent)

ORDER

Mohammad Azam: Chief Information Commissioner

A. The Appeal

- 1. The Appellant filed an appeal with the commission on 12/12/2019 in which he stated that he had requested information from Ministry of Climate Change under the Right of Access to Information Act 2017.
- 2. The information sought by the Complainant, through application dated 5/11/2019, is as under:
 - i. "Allocation of development fund to your department for the financial year 2018-19
 - ii. Utilization of development fund by your department in the year 2018-19."

B. Proceedings

- 3. Through a notice dated 27/01/2020, the Commission called upon the Respondent to submit reasons for not providing the requested information.
- 4. The Respondent did not respond to the notice and the hearing date was fixed for 10/03/2020 through the hearing notice sent on 24/02/2020 and both parties were informed accordingly.
- 5. No one appeared on behalf of the Respondent on the date of hearing on March 10, 2020.

C. Discussion and Commission's View on Relevant Issues

6. The requested information by the appellant falls within Sections 5 (g) and 6(b) of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017. The requested information by the applicant requires proactive disclosure as it relates to allocation of Development Budget for the FY-2018-19 and utilization of development funds by the Ministry of Climate Change. The respondent by not responding to the notices issued by the Commission has shown total disrespect to Right of Access to Information Act 2017.

- 7. The commission is of the view that the respondent has failed to enforce Section 12 and section 13 (1) & (2) of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017, as the appellant has not received the requested information.
- 8. The respondent has failed to provide the requested information to citizen within a maximum of 20 working days of the receipt of the information request and thus failed to implement Section 14 (1) and (2) of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017.

D. Order

- 9. The appeal is allowed. The Respondent is directed to provide the requested information to the Appellant, as per his request at the earliest, but in any case, not later than 10 working days of the receipt of this order. Furthermore, the Respondent is directed to take immediate steps to proactively share through the website all categories of information mentioned in Section 5 of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017 and submit the compliance report to the Commission by 18-08-2020.
- 10. Copies of this order are sent to the Respondent and the Appellant for information and necessary action.

Mohammad Azam Chief Information Commissioner

Fawad Malik Information Commissioner

Zahid Abdullah Information Commissioner

Announced on: July 16, 2020