

Pakistan Information Commission
Government of Pakistan

1st Floor, National Arcade, 4-A Plaza
F-8 Markaz, Islamabad
Website: www.rti.gov.pk
Phone: 051-9261014
Email: appeals@rti.gov.pk
@PkInfoComm



In the Pakistan Information Commission, Islamabad

Appeal No 981-04/21

Sarmad Jadoon

(Appellant)

Vs.

COMSATS University

(Respondent)

ORDER

Date: August 09, 2021

Zahid Abdullah: Information Commissioner

A. The Appeal

1. The Appellant filed Appeal on April 06, 2021, to the Commission, stating that he had submitted information requests to the Comsats University, Islamabad, under the Right of Access to Information Act 2017 but did not receive any response from the public body.

2. The information sought by the Appellant is as follows:

“Copy of the inquiry report submitted by the campus harassment standing committee referred to in the show cause notice issued by Comsats University Islamabad, Abbottabad Campus is hereby requested.

Copy of show cause notice (No. CIIT/ATD/Adr/18/5) dated 08/05/2018 duly signed by Col. Anjum Hussain Shah (Retd), Additional Registrar (Admin) is attached herewith as Annex A”

B. Proceedings

3. Through a notice dated April 14, 2021, sent to Additional Registrar (Admin), Comsats University, Islamabad stated that “Under Section 14 of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017, each federal public body is bound to respond to a request as soon as possible and in any case within ten working days of receipt of the request. You are directed to provide reasons in writing within 7 working days of the receipt of this notice as to why the requested information has not been provided to the applicant, (copy of the information request and appeal thereon enclosed)”.

4. The Respondent through a letter vide No CUI/ATD/HR/14449 dated May 21, 2021 submitted its response, the same was shared with the appellant on May 25, 2021.

5. The Appellant on June 01, 2021 submitted rejoinder to the information shared with him.

6. The Appeal was fixed for hearing on July 08, 2021 and both parties were informed through notices sent on June 10, 2021.

7. Mr. Sajid Naseem, Director (Legal), Comsats University Islamabad attended the hearing. He was directed to produce complete record before the Commission in next hearing. The hearing was adjourned for August 05, 2021.
8. Mr. Sajid Naseem, Director (Legal), Comsats University Islamabad attended the hearing held on August 05, 2021 and submitted response / documents which is as under:

“Information which was requested by the Sarmad Jadoon duly provided to him however, he again requested for further information which was again provided to him but keeping in view exclusion of certain record keeping in view, provisions of section 7 sub class (G) which is as under:

"Record relating to the personal privacy of an any individual."

Para wise reply of the items is as under:-

- 1. That, reply of para no. 1 flags are annexed.*
- 2. That, reply of para no. 2 complains of the Sadia Zainab and Bareera Munzoor is annexed.*
- 3. That, reply para no. 3 charge sheets annexed.*
- 4. That, reply para no. 5 name of female student are mentioned, however their registration cannot be shared because of exemption contained in section 7 (G) of Act ibid*
- 5. That, reply para no. 6 copy of the prescription is not available.*
- 6. That, reply para no. 7 the name and registration number cannot be shared because she requested that it should not be disclosed.*
- 7. That, reply para no. 8 Daewoo bus ticket is not available, moreover this type information cannot be asked.”*

C. Discussion and Commission’s View on Relevant Issues

9. The commission observes that the Respondent, COMSATS has provided all the information requested by the Appellant in his original request.
10. This commission holds that the Respondent, COMSATS has provided information declared public in the subsequent queries of the Appellant.
11. This commission concurs with the Respondent, COMSATS that private information of students such as their registration numbers, names of the females who recorded their statements before the enquiry committee with the request to keep them confidential and the medical records of the student cannot be made public under the provisions of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017.

D. Order

12. Appeal is disposed of as the Respondent has provided all the requested information declared public under the Act to the Appellant whereas registration numbers, names of the females who recorded their statements before the enquiry committee with the request to keep them confidential and the medical records of the student cannot be made public under the provisions of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017.
13. The Rector, COMSATS is directed to notify Public Information Officer, (PIO), under Section 9 of the Act, put contact details of PIO on its web site as required under Section 5 (1) (h) of the Act and submit compliance report to this commission within 10 working days of the receipt of this Order.

14. Copies of this order be sent to the Rector, COMSATS and the Appellant for information and necessary action.

Mohammad Azam
Chief Information Commissioner

Fawad Malik
Information Commissioner

Zahid Abdullah
Information Commissioner

Announced on:

August 09, 2021

This order consists of 3 (three) pages, each page has been read and signed