



**In the Pakistan Information Commission, Islamabad**  
**Appeal No 1855-04/22**

**M. Saeed Ahmed**

**(Appellant)**

Vs.

**Water and Power Development Authority**

**(Respondent)**

**ORDER**

**Date:** August 16, 2022

Zahid Abdullah: Information Commissioner

**A. The Appeal**

1. The Appellant filed an appeal, dated April 11, 2022 to the Commission, stating that he submitted an information request to the Director, Water and Power Development Authority on February 28, 2022 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:

*Dear superintendent engineer mepco circle Sahiwal/public information officer Public information are requested under right of Access to Information act 2017*

- i. *Regarding external audit reports for the financial years 2019/2020,2020/2021 certified copies.*
- ii. *It is requested to provide this information at your proactive website disclosure under the Right of Access to Information details of contingent for the financial years 2020/2021, 2021/2022.*
- iii. *Kindly provide me a Servant consumer numbers of WAPDA meters.*
- iv. *The status of meter active or inactive with date.*
- v. *How may free units are provided to WAPDA servant per scale.*
- vi. *Type of meters installed at WAPDA servant residence.*

**B. Proceedings**

3. The record on the file suggests that the Respondent submitted its response on the intervention of this commission on May 16, 2022 and its text is as under:  
“It is submitted that notice has been received from your Good Office online complaints on PMDU portal as mentioned in his appeal. In this regard appellant has been called to attend this office in person and informed him several times to provide specific numbers/person's detail, but in vain

Appellant has requested below mention gathered record/information 1- All Consumer No's of Wapda Servant's Meters.

In this regard it is submitted that this office has No proper list/record of all Wapda employees Consumer No's. However if complainant demands

Consumer Number or Numbers of any specific employee or employees of MEPCO (OP) Circle Sahiwal, that can be provided as per Rules & Regulations mentioned in Section 11 (3) of the Right to Access Information Act 2017 after a payment of cost.

2- Status of Active and Inactive Meter with Date and how many Free Supply Units are provided Wapda Servants per Scale. Detail of free supply units given to MEPCO Employees is as below

Scale	Units per Month
1-4	100
5-10	150
11-15	200
16	300
17	450
18	600
19	880
20	1100
21- 22	1300

Meters of MEPCO (OP) Circle Sahiwal employees are checked on regular basis and all are in operational position. However if any discrepancy being pointed out during routine checking at any stage then it is dealt with as per Rules & Regulations of department.

3- Type of Meters Installed at Wapda Servants Residence This office has no proper record of installed Meters at Wapda Servants residence, because they are scattered all over Pakistan. However if complainant demands installed meter details of any specific MEPCO (OP)

Circle Sahiwal Employees, that can be provided as per rules and regulations mentioned in Right to Access Information Act 2017. 4- Certified Copies of External Audit Report For Financial Year 2019-20, 2020 21 & Detail of Contingent of the Financial Year 2020-21

Detail of budgetary allocation for the year 2019-20, Annual Report,

Audit Reports and other reports 30.06.2019 has already been uploaded on MEPCO official Website. Audited Annual Accounts Financial Year 2020-21 is

Also uploaded on MEPCO official Website in Download Section. Link of MEPCO official Website is [www.mepco.com.pk](http://www.mepco.com.pk)

It is worth mentioning here that appeal filed by appellant /applicant barred by limitation as narrated in section 17(1) of the Right to Access Information Act 2017. So appeal in hand not maintainable and liable to be dismissed.”

4. The Appellant submitted his response on May 25, 2022 and its text is as under:

*“I received the letter from Pakistan Information Commission, Dear sir response from superintending Engineer circle sahiwal is in Complete, the Contingent Details is not included forties side to provide me, you are order Superintending Engineer MepCo SWL to requested to finally. Provide me details Information about Sahiwal circle Details including Contingences.”*

5. The Respondent submitted its response on June 21, 2022 and its text is as under:

*“In continuation of this office letter No 10860-63 on dated 16.05.2022 dissatisfaction of appellant vide appeal No.1855-04/22 received from your good office on dated 09.06.2022, in which appellant have shown is dissatisfaction regarding contingent report. In response appellant was called on his mentioned cell Ph. No, to attend the office of undersigned and elaborate what appellant meant about contingent detail as undersigned already replied vide previous letter that all audited finance reports are already published on MEPCO official website ie www.mepco.com.pk. In response appellant attended the office of undersigned on dated 20.06.2022 and he mentioned that he is un aware of MEPCO official website and he still didn't check any information from website. Moreover MEPCO official website has been shown to appellant physically and showed him all detail of budgetary allocation for the year 2019-20, Annual Report, Audit Reports and other reports Audited Annual Accounts Financial Year 2020-21 which are already uploaded on MEPCO official Website in Download Section.*

*In response appellant mentioned that he will check the reports from web and he is satisfied now. Furthermore, it is submitted that annexure attached with letter on dated 09.06.2022 is not clear as appellant stated "You are requested to kindly order Superintending Engineer MEPCO SWL to provide me details information about Sahiwal circle details including contingencies." As this office already submitted detailed reply vide No.10860-63 on dated 16.05.2022. (Copy attached).”*

**C. Issues**

6. The instant appeal has brought to the fore the following issues:

- Has the Respondent provided the requested information permissible under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017, henceforth referred to as the Act, 2017?
- Has the Respondent, WAPDA taken steps to ensure proactive disclosure of information as required under the Section 5 of the Act, 2017?

**D Discussion and commission’s views on relevant issues:**

7. In his original request for information, the Appellant sought access to audit reports for different financial years and also asked the Respondent to provide *“this information at your proactive website disclosure under the Right of Access to Information details of contingent for the financial years 2020/2021, 2021/2022”*. The Respondent submitted that *“Detail of budgetary allocation for the year 2019-20, Annual Report, Audit Reports and other reports 30.06.2019 has already been uploaded on MEPCO official Website. Audited Annual Accounts Financial Year 2020-21 is Also uploaded on MEPCO official Website in Download Section”*.
8. The Appellant has maintained that the Respondent has not provided complete information and also maintained that *“the Contingent Details”* have not been provided.
9. This commission agrees with the stance of the Respondent that the Appellant has not clarified as to what is meant by contingent, or, contingency details.
10. The Appellant has also sought specific information about the consumer numbers of meters pertaining to WAPDA employees and the date wise status of each meter. The Respondent has maintained that it does not keep such records.
11. The stance of the Respondent, WAPDA that it does not maintain record of consumer number of meters allotted to its employees and the date wise status of each meter is not satisfactory. It means that the records are not being properly kept. This commission

maintains that it is not sufficient to state that “Meters of MEPCO (OP) Circle Sahiwal employees are checked on regular basis and all are in operational position. However, if any discrepancy being pointed out during routine checking at any stage, then it is dealt with as per Rules & Regulations of department”.

12. As WAPDA employees get electricity on concessionary rates, it is responsibility of the Respondent, WAPDA to keep proper record of recipients of this concession with their particulars on its web site as required under Section 5 (1) (e).

#### **E. Order**

13. The Appeal is allowed. The Respondent is directed to ensure proactive disclosure of all categories of information on its web site as required under Section 5 of the Act, 2017, including, name of the employee, consumer number of meter allotted to each employee and the date wise status of each meter as required under Section 5 (1) (e) of the Act 2017 and submit compliance report to this commission in the Template for the Compliance Report-Proactive Disclosure of Information under Section 5 of the Right of Access to Information Act 2017’.

This template is available under ‘Information Desk’ category at the web site of the commission [www.rti.gov.pk](http://www.rti.gov.pk). This compliance report be submitted to this commission within one month of the receipt of this Order.

14. Copies of this order be 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: August 16, 2022

This order consists of 4 (four) pages, each page has been read and signed.