

# **Pakistan Information Commission**

## **Government of Pakistan**

### **Order**

**Appeal No: 2574-03/23**

**Saddia Mazhar**

**Vs**

**Ministry of Communication**

Date:

May 30, 2023

None appeared on behalf of appellant or respondent, in spite of two notices issued to Secretary, Ministry of Communication. In the last notice, it was clearly intimated that in case of failure to attend the commission ex parte proceeding shall be recorded against the public body. In view of the above ex parte proceedings are recorded against Ministry of Communication.

2. The commission has gone through the contents of information request filed by the appellant to the respondent public body through email dated 13-02-23. Having no response from the public body the appellant approached the commission under section 17 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 through email dated 01-03-23.

3. The appellant has required the following information from the public body;

1. Whether the National Highways and Motorway Police collect the toll tax on Motorways by itself or toll tax collection is provided on lease to any other company / organization / contractors?
2. List of the Motorways whose tax collection is given on lease. Also provide following information regarding these Motorways,
  - a) Total tax collected from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup)
  - b) Copy of the lease / contract agreement signed with the contractor/leaser.
  - c) Who is responsible for the maintenance of these motorways?
  - d) Amount spent on the maintenance of these motorways from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup)

- e) Total number of traffic accidents reported on these motorways from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup).
3. List of the Motorways on which National Highways and Motorway Police collect the toll tax by itself, also provide the following information,
- a) Total tax collected from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup)
- b) Amount spent on the maintenance of these motorways from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup)
- c) Total number of traffic accidents reported on these motorways from Jan 2018 to date, (Motorway and Year wise breakup).
4. The information referred above is about tax collection by the motorway authorities, copy of lease/contract agreement with the contractor if the lease is granted for collection of tax and the amount spent on maintenance of motorways from year 2018 year wise.
5. The information required by the appellant pertains to public record and does not enjoy any exemption from disclosure under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017.
6. Said information is to be proactively published by the public body as required under section 5 of the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. The appellant being citizen of Pakistan has the fundamental right to have the information from public body. Therefore, the appeal is allowed, and the public body is directed to share all the requested information with the appellant within 10 working days of the receipt of this order.
7. Copy of the order be shared with the appellant and Secretary, Ministry of Communication for compliance.
8. Adjourned for submission of compliance report on July 13, 2023.

**Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui**  
Chief Information Commissioner

**Ijaz Hassan Awan**  
Information Commissioner