

IN THE PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION

Shehbaz Akmal

Vs

Director E&T Lahore

Subject:

Complaint Regarding Non-Provision of Information/Document

11.09.2019

The complainant is not present.

Muhammad Ali inspector legal branch is present on behalf of E&T-department. He has following reservations vis-à-vis the information sought by the complainant.


- (i) That the quantity of requisite information is equivalent to truck-load and cannot be furnished physically in one go.
  - (ii) That almost 80% of requisite information is already available on departmental website.
2. We have given due consideration to the constraints of the department in furnishing entire requisite information in hard form or certified copies thereof. The complainant has in addition to requiring entire record of registration of vehicles in Lahore region from 01.01.2017 till to date has also demanded the attendance of owners, and certified copies of entire transactions and correspondence in relation to all vehicles so registered since 01.01.2017. As stated the average number of registered vehicles in year is 50, 000/- as such the entire record of about 1, 25, 000/- vehicles will not be less than 2 lacs. In this view of matter when law does provide under rule No.5 (10) that if requested information has already been published, PIO shall simply inform the applicant about the published material or the address of the website on which information is published.
3. The Commission unanimously decides that:
- (i) PIO should accordingly informed the complainant through a written letter with a copy to this Commission intimating the categories of requisite information already available on the website.
  - (ii) As regards remaining part of information, he should count the pages of the requisite information to be furnished and workout total fee at the rate of Rs. 2 per page, less first 20 pages free of cost.
  - (iii) As commission has already issued guidelines that an applicant can demand only information relating one financial year

through one RTI application and may file a second application after retrieving the information through first application. PIO shall, therefore, consider this RTI application/complaint only for one year w.e.f 01.1.2017 to 31.12.2017 and shall confine his response only to year 2017.

4. As the Commission has already passed an order dated 26.08.2019 at very outset to upload entire requisite information on website and to simply intimate the complainant about this fact along-with the website. The Commission hopes that E&T Department, already better in disclosure of information than any other department, shall possibly disclose all public information in future on website as proactive disclosure. Copies of this order be forwarded to the complainant, Mr. Rizwan Ahmad Sherwani, Director, E&T Department and Secretary E&T Department Lahore.
5. To come up on 16.09.2019 for submission of compliance report.

  
(Saeed Akhter Ansari)  
Information Commissioner

(Hassan Iqbal)  
Information Commissioner

  
(Mahboob Qadir Shah)  
Chief Information Commissioner