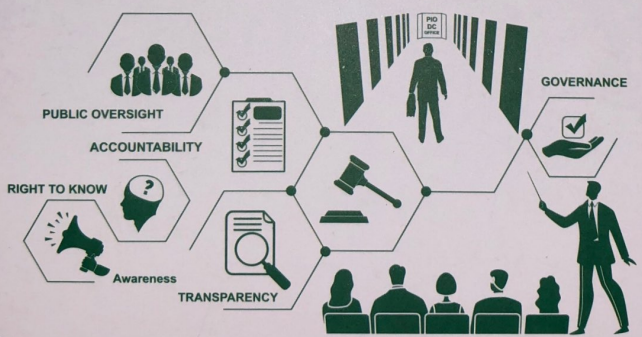
PUNJAB
INFORMATION COMMISSION



Annual Reports 2018-19 & 2019-20

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Annual Reports 2018-19 & 2019-20

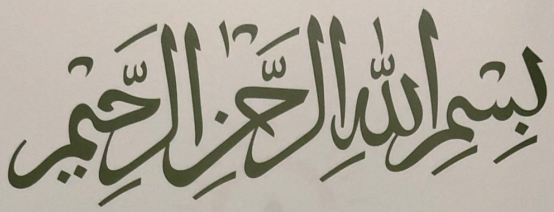
PUNJAB
INFORMATION COMMISSION

باخبر عوام — بہتر نظام

DYNAMIC LOGO

(The dynamic logo on front cover of this book-let was conceived by the Chief Information Commissioner Punjab and was got designed with the courtesy of National College of Arts Lahore in the beginning of year 2020)

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Holy Quran - *(Surah al zumar 39: 9)*

say, " Are those who know can be equal to those who do not know ? " Only they will be remembered (who are] people of understanding .

Article 19 - A , Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973

"Every citizen shall have the right to have access to information in all matters of public importance subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by law"

Preamble of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013

Whereas it is expedient to provide for transparency and freedom of information to ensure that citizens have improved access to public information, to make the Government more accountable to citizens; to enforce the fundamental right of access to information in all matters of public importance, and to provide for ancillary matters;

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ANNUAL REPORTS 2018/19 & 2019/20

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INTRODUCTION

(ANNUAL REPORTS FOR YEARS 2018-19 & 2019-20)

The preparation of Annual Report, based on the activities during a financial year, is a mandatory obligation of Punjab Information Commission. The Commission, since its establishment in March 2014, has been submitting its Annual Reports to the government as an overview of its activities during the respective financial years. Its activities include disposal of RTI Appeals, facilitating access to information, promoting and strengthening RTI regime through appointment of Chief PIOs/ PIOs by public bodies and pro-active disclosures by them. The responsibility of laying Annual Reports before the Assembly is however of government whereas the commission is responsible only to prepare and submit reports to the government under section 6 (6), reproduced below: -

> *"The Commission shall prepare an Annual Report on the implementation for the provisions of this Act during a financial year and submit it to the Government by 31 August and the Government shall lay the report before Provincial Assembly of the Punjab."*

Our predecessor Information Commissioners got published as many as two Annual Reports for the years 2014-15 and 2015-2016 and submitted to the government well in time with request to lay before Assembly. The government consequently got the approval of Cabinet Committee to lay before Assembly in Nov 2020.

The 3rd report for 2016/17 became due in August 2017 but then the Commission was dysfunctional for vacancy of posts of Commissioners. We the present set of Commissioners after assuming charge in May 2018 prepared 4th Annual Report for 2017/18 and fully covered the conditions of Commission of preceding year 2016/17, though normal functions of the Commission remained suspended for most of the part

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of said year. As already stated the Cabinet Committee accorded the approval to lay all reports from 2014/15 to 2017/18 in its 37th meeting held on 16.11.2020 & 17.11.2020.

The approval of Cabinet Committee for laying of Annual Reports 2018/19 and 2019/20 has been recently accorded hence being submitted accordingly.

This booklet containing Annual Reports for both years 2018/19 and 2019/20 provides a deep insight for Civil Society and Provincial Assembly of the Punjab into the working, achievements and challenges of Punjab Information Commission. It throws light on the disposal of cases, the key initiatives including the game changer initiative of constitution of Provincial RTI Implementation Committee, approval of Service Regulations, RTI Awareness and Training activities, development of RTI anthem, training of PIOs, historic judgment of Lahore High Court, Lahore due to voluntary appearance of Chief Information Commissioner as Amicus-Curie, allocated budgets, human resource matters, pictorial display of activities, crucial challenges, proposed amendments and list of some important orders/disclosures.

Similarly, Section-9 of RTI Act, 2013 enjoins upon each public body to prepare its Annual Report of its activities of previous financial year by 31st August and make it available for public inspection free of charge. It is very clear that public bodies would never come up to the expectations for implementation of RTI Act, 2013, unless they do not start regular preparation and publication of their Annual Reports. Annual Report is in fact is a kind of overview and analysis of activities appreciating strengths and weaknesses of the organization and to fix priorities for future. Punjab Information Commission can take pride to be pioneer for impressing upon public bodies to fulfil this statutory obligation. It was in the same background that on assuming the charge by us in May 2018 only the Punjab Assembly Secretariat prepared and submitted its Annual Report at the end of year 2018. The concerted efforts of the Commission led to preparation and forwarding of Annual Reports by 50 & 100 public bodies by the end of years 2019.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hon'ble Members Punjab Assembly,

السلام وعلیکم!

The insertion of Article 19-A in the Constitution in the year 2010 acknowledged that the citizens' have fundamental "right to information" known as RTI, in all matters of public importance. It was a great break-through for the people of Pakistan. The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab in the same wake took a historic initiative by promulgating "the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013" to implement and carryout the purposes of Article 19-A based on premise that citizens being tax payers are real owners of public information held by public bodies. As a result of a recent study carried out under the auspicious of UNESCO, this Act has been ranked among 10 best RTI laws of the world for the Provincial Assembly of Punjab deserves felicitations.

The Punjab Information Commission is an independent regulatory body to implement RTI law. It is obligated to promote the culture of transparency, accountability and also encourage the citizens to frequently ask questions in matters of public importance. The Commission is also committed to guide public bodies to provide an efficient, effective and credible RTI mechanism through appointment of PIOs, impress upon their trainings and ensure proactive disclosures through their dedicated web-sites.

The performance of Punjab Information Commission during past two and half years remained more than satisfactory. It has successfully got its existence as well as the power of RTI law acknowledged by civil society and public bodies alike during said period. Mr. Fayyaz ul Hassan Chohan and Mian Aslam Iqbal as Ministers for Information & Culture, Dr. Yasmin Rashid Minister for Health and Madam Firdous Ashiq Awan, Special Assistant to CM for Information have been appreciating the commendable performance of Punjab Information Commission during the period under report. The Special Monitoring Unit (SMU) of CM Secretariat Punjab subject to comparative evaluation of the performance of all Commissions in the year 2020, observed the distinguished performance of Punjab Information Commission by personal visit of its analyst. It is pertinently noted that the Commission has disposed of more than 5500 RTI Appeals during the said period but still a quick glance at important Directives/Orders at pages no. 12 to 14 would give an idea about the significance of work of Commission.

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Similarly Section-9 of RTI Act, 2013 enjoins upon each public body to prepare its Annual Report of its activities of previous financial year by 31st August and make it available for public inspection free of charge. It is very clear that public bodies would never come up to the expectations for implementation of RTI Act, 2013, unless they do not start regular preparation and publication of their Annual Reports. Annual Report is in fact is a kind of overview and analysis of activities appreciating strengths and weaknesses of the organization and to fix priorities for future. Punjab Information Commission can take pride to be pioneer for impressing upon public bodies to fulfil this statutory obligation. It was in the same background that on assuming the charge by us in May 2018 only the Punjab Assembly Secretariat prepared and submitted its Annual Report at the end of year 2018. The concerted efforts of the Commission led to preparation and forwarding of Annual Reports by 50 & 100 public bodies by the end of years 2019 & 2020.

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Maximum disclosures by local, district and provincial governments keep people informed about their public services. This generates healthy public debate about the propriety of use of public funds. Public bodies also get an opportunity to amend or improve their policies in the light of public opinion. The successful nations progressed following the same principles of "transparency", "inclusiveness" and "government of the people, by the people, for the people". Democracy without such principles is mere a skeleton of a dead body. The all-round corruption already playing havoc with the nation is also a consequence of "poor governance", resulting from "water-tight secrecy of public importance matters", "non-inclusiveness" and "elitism". Political scientists never gauge the efficacy of any democracy from the fact of just putting in place of "adult-franchise" and "an elected government", rather they assess from the level of participation of people in public affairs particularly in local governance.

We have already paid heavy price for maintaining thick walls of secrecy surrounding the matters of public importance leading to "elitism" and "personalized governance". Although RTI Act, 2013 has theoretically and legally annulled the Official Secrecy Act, 1923, bringing entire public affairs in the public domain, yet powerful and ruling classes as well as top bureaucracy of Pakistan have yet to repose full faith in RTI as key for progress of Pakistan. Had it been done from day one, each baby would not have born with a huge burden of loan on his/her shoulders and national assets would not have been on foreclosure spree.

We ensure this August house through Hon'ble Speaker, who is a symbol of sagacity and judiciousness, that Punjab Information Commission will leave no stone unturned to enforce RTI law in its letter and spirit keeping unflinching faith in our resolve that "***right to information is the future of Pakistan***".

خونِ دل دے کے نکھاریں گے رخِ برگِ گلاب
ہم نے گلشن کے تحفظ کی قسم کھائی ہے۔

(Mahboob Qadir Shah)
Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab

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RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND ITS SIGNIFICANT TO ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE

Right to information is usually used as a synonym for democracy. This is a tool to strengthen citizen's sovereignty. The RTI is all about making citizen informed. Informed society means a lively and functioning democracy. The RTI Act empowers people to seek information from the government/public bodies and ask for government documents and their copies, therefore, citizens know about government decisions through exercise of RTI.

Free flow of information is a must for a Democratic Society and it helps a society to grow and to retain a continuous debate and discussion among the people. No democratic society/government can survive without accountability. And basic postulate of accountability is that people should have information about the functioning of the government. Gone are these days when public dealings were kept in strict secret, a practice which often led to corruption, misuse and abuse of statutory and administrative power.

Freedom of information brings openness in the government functioning which helps to promote transparency in administration, keep government more accountable and ultimately reduce corruption. Disclosure of information in regard to functioning of the government must be the rule and secrecy an exception. The Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 was promulgated to make the government transparent and more accountable. There have been no vehicle available for individual citizens to impact the government structure. In a system reeking with corruption and becoming increasingly insensitive to the problems of disadvantaged citizenry, the right to information has shown a promise of empowering citizens to ensure accountability and be an agent of good governance.

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The transformation of mere governance to good governance is possible only if the citizen of the country have right and access to information and participation in governance. The good governance is the governance in which people are served by their representative/government functionaries and not ruled by them. Participation of people is sine-quo-non of any democratic form of government in achieving the ideal state of good governance and RTI act is a major step towards this goal.

RTI not only brings transparency and accountability in governance but also acts as the deterrent against arbitrary actions, policies and decision of public authorities, therefore, RTI definitely strengthens the governance.

"Democracy is the form of the government established by the people, of the people and for the people." This phrase suits on the text only until and unless there is access of right to information of the activities of their representatives and that of public functionaries. This right includes right of holding public opinion and to seek and receive information form the public authorities, thus there is a definite nexus between RTI, and good governance.

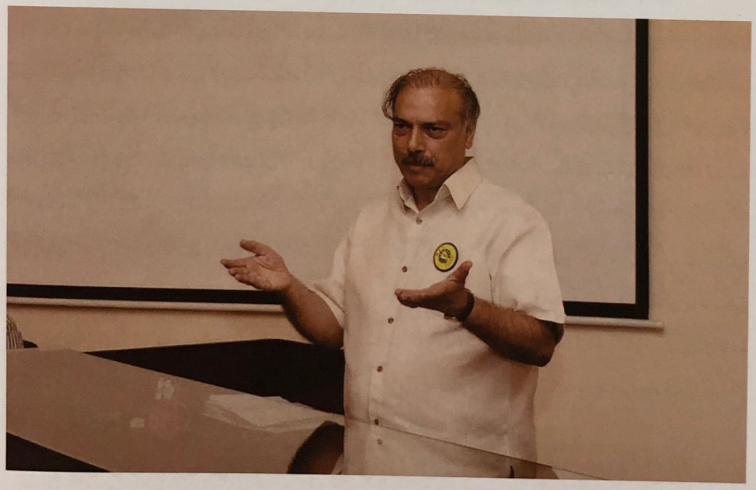
Open government is the culture of true democracies and gradually all liberal democratic countries are moving towards openness and in such environments our county may not be an exception. Whenever we talk about good governance, the first thing which strikes our mind is transparency, accountability and participation of people. These elements or core values necessarily lead to an informed society followed by good government. The effective implementation of RTI Act can also become an effective tool in ensuring rule of law. The access to information in matters of public importance provides a solid platform for "Rule of Law".

Political will and commitment, RTI is a fundamental right under Article 19-A of the Constitution of Pakistan and it is now being implemented through the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013.Effectively forming a system of openness is also not just a technical tick-box process. All reforms operate in a political

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context that can either drive or hinder reform. So political will and willingness of state apparatus are integral to create an open government. If the political will is not there already, then it needs to be generated or nurtured to accepts its importance. If we really believe in the efficacy of this Sunshine law aiming at transparency and good governance we must support its implementation whole heartedly and in letter and spirit.

Our cultural values are real challenge to bring about "open government". The anti-people and non-participatory cultural values permeate the leadership and officials alike, who believe that information is a source of their personal power, therefore, they resist with a common man. This tendency needs to be reversed, creating a culture of openness & transparency as a foundation for open government. The virtues of access to information need to be inculcated in the minds of politicians and public functionaries by promoting "maximum disclosure" through exercise of right to information (RTI).



(Saeed Akhter Ansari)
Information Commissioner, Punjab

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پنجاب میں معلومات تک رسائی کا سفر

(حسن اقبال (انفارمیشن کمشنر پنجاب)

برصغیر میں تاج برطانیہ کی حکومت کی پالیسی کا ایک اہم جز وحکومت اور عوام کے درمیان میں ایک طویل خلیج بھی رکھنا تھا۔ اس خلیج کو پُر کرنے کیلئے انہوں نے ایسے طبقات منتخب کر رکھے تھے۔ جنہیں وہ مراعات دے کر اپنا ہمنوا بناتے تھے۔ اور پھر ان سے اپنے لئے کام کراتے تھے۔ یہ درمیانی طبقہ اپنی مراعات کی خاطر عوام کو دھوکہ، فریب اور ہر لحاظ سے استحصال کر کے حکومت کا غلام بنانے میں حکومت کو ہر قسم کا تعاون فراہم کرتے تھے۔ اس سارے نظام میں ایک ایسا عنصر کارفرما تھا۔ جس کی وجہ سے عوام کو حکومتی اقدامات سے نابلد رکھا جاتا تھا۔ اور حکومت کے بارے میں کسی قسم کی معلومات عوام تک جانے نہیں دی جاتی تھیں۔ اس نظام کو مزید مضبوط کرنے کیلئے آفیشل "سیکرٹ ایکٹ" جیسے قوانین کا نفاذ بھی کیا گیا تھا۔ بلکہ حکومت کی طرف سے جاری ہونے والے ہر خط کو ایک درجہ دیا جاتا تھا کہ وہ کس حد تک ملازمین یا عوام تک جاری کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس میں "خفیہ" وغیرہ کی پابندی لگائی جاتی تھی جس کا مقصد یہ تھا کہ کوئی بھی معلومات عوام تک نہ جا پائیں۔ تقسیم ہند کے بعد بھی پاکستان میں یہ سلسلہ جاری رہا اور حکومت اور عوام کے درمیان فاصلے موجود رہے۔

اگرچہ پاکستان میں جمہوریت آئی لیکن جمہوریت کے ساتھ عوام کی معلومات تک رسائی کے حقوق کو تسلیم نہ کیا گیا۔ اگر بیرونی دنیا میں دیکھیں تو ترقی یافتہ ممالک میں معلومات تک رسائی کا حق صدیوں پہلے دیا جاچکا ہے۔ اسی طرح امریکہ اور دوسرے ترقی یافتہ ممالک بھی ان قوانین کو اپنے ممالک میں رائج کر چکے ہیں اور آج جن ممالک میں جمہوریت ہے وہاں معلومات تک رسائی کے حق کو جمہوریت کا بنیادی جز قرار دیا جاچکا ہے اب ان ممالک میں عوام کو یہ حق حاصل ہے کہ وہ کسی بھی حکومت امر کے بارے میں حکومتی اداروں سے معلومات حاصل کر سکتے ہیں ان قوانین کے اطلاق میں جرمنی، برطانیہ، فرانس وغیرہ سرفہرست ہیں۔ اس امر کی وضاحت ضروری ہے کہ عوام کو ان امور پر معلومات قانون کے مطابق فراہم نہیں کی جاسکتی۔ جن کا تعلق ملکی سلامتی، مستقبل کی پالیسی سازی یا جس سے کسی بین الاقوامی معاملات پر زد پڑے۔ اس کے علاوہ تمام عمومی قسم کی معلومات تمام محکمہ جات سے حاصل کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ دنیا کے جن ممالک میں ابھی تک ان قوانین کا اطلاق نہیں ہے۔ انہیں بھی جمہوری اقدام کے تحت معلومات تک عوام کی رسائی کے حق میں تسلیم کرنے کیلئے کہا جارہا ہے۔ دنیا کی بہت سی تنظیمیں اور غیر سرکاری ادارے اس سلسلے میں سرگرم ہیں۔ بین الاقوامی طور پر ایسے دباؤ پیدا کیے جارہے ہیں کہ تمام ممالک ان قوانین کو نہ صرف بنائیں بلکہ ان پر عمل پیرا ہوں۔ ان امور پر باقاعدہ نظر رکھی جارہی ہے۔

پاکستان میں بھی اٹھارویں آئینی ترمیم کے ساتھ آئین میں ایک آرٹیکل A-19 کا اضافہ کیا گیا ہے۔ اس آرٹیکل کے تحت عوام کو بنیادی حق دیا گیا ہے کہ وہ حکومت اور حکومتی اداروں سے ہر قسم کی معلومات حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔ آئین کے اس آرٹیکل پر عملدرآمد کیلئے

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سب سے پہلے صوبہ خیبر پختونخواہ نے صوبائی سطح پر قانون بنایا اور اس قانون پر عمل کروانے کیلئے ایک کمیشن کا قیام عمل میں لایا گیا۔ اسکے بعد صوبہ پنجاب میں 2013 میں معلومات تک رسائی کا قانون بنا اور اسکے ساتھ ہی ایک کمیشن "پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن" کا قیام عمل میں لایا گیا یوں پنجاب میں پرانے نظام کو ختم کر کے عوام کو یہ حق دیا گیا ہے کہ حکومت اور اس کے اداروں سے ہر قسم کی معلومات لے سکیں۔ یہ قانون اپنی نوعیت کا پہلا قانون ہے۔ جو کہ اس سے قبل ان معاملات پر موجود قوانین سے نہ صرف متصادم ہے بلکہ ان کی نفی ہے۔ ایک ایسی صورتحال کہ اس سے قبل قانوناً معلومات تک رسائی ناممکن تھی۔ جسے اب ممکن بنا دیا گیا ہے۔ اس قانون کے تحت بننے والے پہلے کمیشن نے کام کیا اور بڑی حد تک پُرانی فرسودہ روایات کو توڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی۔ تین سال کی مدت ختم ہونے کے بعد دوسرے کمیشن نے کام کا آغاز کیا۔ جو اس وقت تقریباً ایک سال سے زائد عرصہ کام کر چکا ہے لیکن حقیقت یہ ہے موجودہ کمیشن نے ایک سال کے عرصہ میں وہ تمام منفی رجحانات جو کہ معلومات تک عوام کی رسائی کے حق کے خلاف پائے جاتے تھے۔ ان کو پاش پاش کر دیا اور قانون کی عملداری کو قانون کی کتابوں سے نکال کر میدان عمل میں ڈال دیا۔

کمیشن نے سب سے پہلے اس امر کو یقینی بنایا کہ وہ ہر سرکاری دفتر میں پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر تعینات ہوں۔ اور انہیں اس دفتر یا محکمہ کا سربراہ بااختیار بنائے تا کہ عوام کی طرف سے آنے والی معلومات کے حصول کی درخواستوں کو موقع پر نبٹا سکے۔ اور معلومات کی فراہمی کو یقینی بنا سکے۔ اگر پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر بوجوہ عوام کو معلومات نہ دلوا سکے تو عوام اس دفتر کے سربراہ کے پاس بھی درخواست دائر کر سکتے ہیں اور دوسری صورت میں پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں شکایت کر سکتے ہیں۔ یہ تحریری شکایت کمیشن میں آنے کے بعد 30 دن کے اندر اس پر فیصلہ کیا جاتا ہے۔ موجودہ کمیشن نے قانون کے مطابق نیم عدالتی طریقے سے شکایات سننے کے نظام کو رائج کیا جائے اور ضابطہ دیوانی کے تحت جو اختیارات حاصل تھے ان کو استعمال کیا۔ اس کے ساتھ ساتھ مختلف تنظیموں کے ساتھ مل کر عوام اور سرکاری اہلکاروں کو قانون کی کتابیں، طریقہ کار اور دیگر تفصیلات فراہم کی گئیں۔ اس طرح چراغ سے چراغ جلا اور آج خدا کا شکر ہے کہ معلومات تک رسائی کے حق کو صوبے کے طول و عرض میں جانا جا رہا ہے۔ عوام اپنی ضرورت اور خواہش کے مطابق ہر سرکاری دفتر سے معلومات حاصل کر رہے ہیں۔ اور جمہوریت کی اصل روح کی طرف تیزی سے بڑھ رہے ہیں۔ یہاں اس امر کا ذکر ضروری ہے کہ اس قانون کے اطلاق سے ان تمام سرکاری اہلکاروں میں سوالات ہوں گے۔ انکے بارے میں معلومات لی جائیں گی اور اگر کیس کے طریقہ کار، ضابطہ کی خلاف ورزی یا مالی معاملات میں شکوک و شبہات پائے گئے تو اس کے بارے میں نہ صرف اعلیٰ عدالتیں پوچھیں گی۔ بلکہ حکومت خود اس پر کاروائی کرے گی۔ ان سب سے بڑھ کر اس قسم کے منفی رجحانات عوامی ناراضگی کا بھی سبب بنیں گے۔

شروع میں کمیشن کو ان قوانین پر عمل کرنے میں شدید مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑا۔ ان میں عوام اور سرکاری اداروں کے قانون سے

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ناواقفیت سب سے زیادہ تھی۔ اسکے علاوہ بطور خاص سرکاری اہلکاروں کی ذہنی ہم آہنگی کا مسئلہ تھا۔ اس سلسلے میں چند ایک پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسران اور سرکاری اہلکاروں کے خلاف قانون کے مطابق کاروائی کرنا پڑی جس کے لیے کمیشن کو بادل نخواستہ یہ اقدام اٹھانا پڑے۔ لیکن اس وقت الحمداللہ پورے پنجاب میں قانون کی عمل داری بڑی تیزی سے بڑھ رہی ہے اور سرکاری اہلکار بڑی تیزی سے قانون کے مطابق معلومات تک رسائی دے رہے ہیں۔ یہاں اس امر کا ذکر بھی ضروری ہے کہ عوام میں سے بعض درخواست دہندگان معلومات تک رسائی کے لئے حد سے آگے نکل گئے اور ایک درخواست میں پانچ سے دس سال تک کو معلومات اور اس دفتر نے اس عرصہ میں جو کچھ کیا وہ سب حاصل کرنے کی خواہش کرنے لگے۔ جس کے بعد سرکاری اہلکاروں اور دفاتر میں سخت اضطراب پیدا ہوا۔ لیکن کمیشن نے اس سلسلے میں بھی بخوبی حل کیا اور عوام کو صرف ایک سال تک اور ایک شعبے تک کی معلومات حاصل کرنے کیلئے پابند کیا۔ اس طرح قانون کی عمل داری کو نہ صرف سہل بنایا۔ بلکہ بامعنی بنا کر اس کے قائم کردہ اہداف کو حاصل کرنے کی کوشش کی۔

پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کا کام اب آہستہ آہستہ ایک معیاری سمت کی طرف رواں ہے اب شکایت ہزاروں سے کم ہو کر سینکڑوں میں آگئی ہیں۔ اور اب سینکڑوں سے بھی نیچے آگئی ہیں کیونکہ معلومات کا حصول اب متعلقہ دفاتر میں ممکن بنا دیا گیا ہے۔ کمیشن پالیسی سازی، قانون سازی میں متعلقہ اداروں کی معاونت، ریگولیشنز اور دیگر اہم کاموں کی طرف توجہ دے رہا ہے۔ اور ایک ایسے ادارے کو قائم کرنے کیلئے کوشاں ہیں جس میں شفافیت، قانون کی عمل داری، معلومات تک فوری رسائی اور شکایت کا ازالہ شامل ہو۔ کمیشن کی شب و روز کاوشوں سے ان تمام امور پر بڑی تیزی سے کام جاری ہے اور امید غالب ہے کہ یہ نوزائیدہ ادارہ جسے تعارف میں مسائل تھے۔ اب ایک مکمل فعال ادارہ بن چکا ہے۔ ان تمام مراحل میں اگر کامیابی ہوئی تو یہ صرف کمیشن کی کاوش نہیں ہے بلکہ سب سے پہلے یہ حکومت پنجاب کی پالیسی کے عین مطابق ہونے کی وجہ سے کمیشن کی کوکاوشوں کو پورے پنجاب میں پذیرائی ملی۔ چیف سیکرٹری پنجاب نے اس سلسلے میں خصوصی احکامات جاری کیے اور اسکے بعد حکومت پنجاب کے تمام سیکرٹری صاحبان ادارہ جات کے سربراہان اور دیگر نے اپنے اپنے محکموں کو معلومات تک رسائی کیلئے پابند کیا۔ اور یوں یہ حکمت عملی کامیاب ہوئی۔ قانون کا کا اطلاق، تعلیم و تربیت، انتظامی سربراہوں کا تعاون اور کمیشن کی طرف سے شب و روز محنت ایک ایسا مجموعہ بنا کہ اس نے خوب کام کر دکھایا۔ سرکاری اداروں سے معلومات کی فراہمی جو کہ کسی دور میں ایک خواب تھا۔ آج ایک خوبصورت حقیقت کے روپ میں ہمارے سامنے موجود ہے۔ آج معلومات تک رسائی کا حق جو کہ جمہوریت کا بنیادی جزو ہے۔ جمہوری حکومت کے شانہ بشانہ چل رہا ہے۔ اس سے نہ صرف جمہوریت مضبوط ہوگی بلکہ عوام کا حکومت پر اعتماد بڑھ رہا ہے۔ وہ بداعتمادی کا خلا جو دہائیوں سے چل رہا تھا اب ختم ہو رہا ہے۔ اب لوگ بھی اس بات پر یقین کرنے لگے ہیں۔ کہ سرکاری اہلکار اپنی عوام کی خدمت کیلئے کام کر رہے ہیں۔ جب معلومات نہیں تھیں تو اس قسم کا اعتماد بہت زیادہ فقدان تھا۔

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RTI A CARDINAL PRINCIPLE OF ISLAMIC GOVERNANCE

The human knowledge is based on urge to know through collection of maximum information. In this context the very first word of revelation i.e. "***Iqra***" (reading or reciting) as a command of Allah to our Prophet (P.B.U.H) is a complete message about the Islamic philosophy. This command necessarily implies a direction to Muslims to acquire knowledges including the science of governance & state craft-ship. The divine declaration of Holy Quran further clinches the issue stating that those individuals/nations who are not well informed (illiterate) can't be equal to those who are well-informed (literate). (Al-Quran 39:9-Surah-Al Zumar).

The well-known example of Hazrat Umer (R.A), who allowed a "badu" to intercept his delivery of Khutba of Jummah prayer to seek explanation about the source of extra cloth used for his dress, is a shining example of people's right to ask question from the ruler even suspending obligatory ritual. This was nothing but acknowledgment of right to information.

The Prophet (P.B.U.H) in-spite of resistance from all other chieftains, declined to put his signatures on the "Treaty of Madina" unless it was read over and made understood to the crowd thronged outside with intent to first get public approval. This example of pro-active disclosure of a constitutional document likely to influence a common man, is unparalleled in the history of mankind.

In short access to information is pivotal role in Islamic polity and Pakistan being an Islamic Republic, disclosure of matters of public importance, is mandatory. The RTI Act, 2013 fulfills the Islamic principles of "transparency" and "public approval" of policy matters. RTI eliminates corruption, improve efficiency of public functionaries & with participation of citizens brings credibility for government. Punjab Information Commission stands committed for said Islamic, Constitutional and legal ideals.

(Muhammad Nouman Nazir)
Assistant Director (A&T)

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DISPOSAL CHART OF RTI APPEALS

Period	Disposal	Writ Petitions	Penalty cases
Pending cases	1792	---	---
1st June 2018 to 31 Dec 2018	656	22	1
1st Jan 2019 to 31 Dec 2019	1597	04	23
1st Jan 2020 to 31 Dec 2020	1330	04	02
1st Jan 2021 to 10 Feb 2021	265	---	---
Total Disposal	**5640**	**30**	**26**

GENDER WISE STATISTICAL DATA OF FILLING OF RTI APPEALS

Gender	Percentage
Male	95%
Female	5%

The Commission is well aware of women empowerment as a crucial factor to achieve cohesion and vibrance of society. We cannot progress until & unless women are equipped with knowledge and they come forward to play their role in all walks of life. However, the poor figure of exercise of RTI by women as compared to menfolk is quite alarming. This obviously explains the marginalization of women in our society and Commission will have to make it a part of its agenda to bring the abysmally low ratio of 5% to at least 20% by the end of year 2021.

PER DAY DISPOSAL OF RTI APPEALS

From 01.06.2018 till 20.02.2021 total working days come to 725 days approx whereas total disposal of RTI Appeals during said period was 5640 cases. As such **per day disposal of 7/8 RTI Appeals** by Punjab Information Commission has been more than satisfactory.

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کمیشن کے جون 2018 سے اب تک کے اہم احکامات:

اگرچہ کمیشن نے جون 2018 سے اب تک کم از کم 5500 اپیلوں کا فیصلہ کیا ہے تاہم چند اہم احکامات مندرجہ ذیل ہیں:۔

i. ایل ڈی اے، ٹیپا، ایم سی اے کو اور نج ٹرین کے بجٹ وغیرہ کی تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

ii. ایل ڈی اے کو تمام غیر قانونی ہاؤسنگ کالونیوں کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

iii. کاشانہ ہوم کی سکینڈل کی انکوائری رپورٹ سی ایم آئی ٹی کو پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

iv. منال ریسٹورنٹ کی انکوائری رپورٹ سی ایم آئی ٹی کو پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

v. محکمہ فنانس کو تعلیم، صحت، تحفظ ماحولیات، صاف پانی، گڈ گورننس، انسانی حقوق و خواتین کی ترقی، وزیر اعلیٰ ہاؤس اور اُس کے صوابدیدی فنڈز کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

vi. DPO قصور کو بچوں کی زیادتی کے مشہور سکینڈل میں JIT رپورٹ پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

vii. FDA کو زیر تعمیر کشمیر انڈر پاس کی تمام تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

viii. ڈی جی اینٹی کرپشن کو Source Reports اور اس کی بنیاد پر لا متناہی مدت تک جاری شدہ انکوائریوں اور جوڈیشل ایکشنز کی قانونی حیثیت پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

ix. میونسپل کارپوریشنوں کو غیر قانونی ایڈورٹائزنگ بل بورڈز کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

x. تمام DSPOs کو انوسٹی گیشن کیلئے مختص فنڈز اور ان کے استعمال کی تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xi. کمیشن کا شیخ زید ہسپتال رحیم یار خان کو 167 ملین کی خرد برد کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xii. آئی جی جیل خانہ جات سے پنجاب کی جیلوں میں وبائی امراض میں مبتلا قیدیوں کی تفصیل جاری کرنے کا حکم۔

xiii. کرونا کیلئے حکومتی بجٹ و میڈیکل سہولیات کا سوؤ موٹو (suo-moto) نوٹس پر معلومات کا حصول۔

xiv. آئی جی پولیس سے ایک سال کی کرائم ڈیٹا کا حصول۔

xv. پریس کلبوں کی رجسٹریشن کے قانون کی مشتہری۔

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xvi. چیف منسٹر کے ہیلی کاپٹر کے اخراجات کا حصول۔

xvii. گورنر سیکرٹریٹ میں زیر استعمال گاڑیوں کی مرمت و پٹرول کے اخراجات کی تفصیل کا افشاء۔

xviii. بورڈ آف ریونیو کا لاہور میں کھربوں روپے کی زمینوں کو لیز پر دیئے جانے کی تفصیل کا افشاء۔

xix. میڈیکل ایجوکیشن کے لئے لاوارث نعشوں کا غیر قانونی حصول کا انکشاف۔ محکمہ ہیلتھ میں قانون سازی کے لئے کمیٹی کا قیام۔

x. ش پنجاب میں دس ہزار غیر رجسٹرڈ شدہ پرائیویٹ سکولوں کا انکشاف۔

xxi. ہوم ڈیپارٹمنٹ سے ممنوع و غیر ممنوع اسلحہ لائسنسوں کے اجراء کی تفصیل کا حکم۔

xxii. سروسز ہسپتال سے سابقہ وزیر اعظم نواز شریف کے علاج کی تفصیلات کا حصول۔

xiii. محکمہ تحفظ ماحولیات کو جاری شدہ NOCs، زیر التواء درخواست ہائے لائسنس وزیر التوا شکایات کی تفصیلات کو بذریعہ Website پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xiv. سینئر سول جج بہاولنگر کو درج چہارم تک کی بھرتیوں کی معلومات افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xv. سابقہ چیف جسٹس منصور علی شاہ کی مراعات اور حکومت سے بچوں کے لئے طبی علاج کی سہولت حاصل کرنے کی معلومات کا افشاء۔

xxvi. تمام اعلیٰ عہدیداروں کو فروری 2021 میں آر ٹی آئی ایکٹ 2013 کے احکامات پر مکمل کرنے کی وارننگ اور مارچ-2021 میں تمام محکموں کے سوشل آڈٹ کا اعلان۔

xxvii. شوگر ملوں سے ٹیکسوں کی وصولی اور شوگر Cess کی رقوم کے استعمال کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxviii. فیصل آباد، ملتان اور لاہور میں شراب کا پرمٹس سے کہیں زیادہ فروخت کا انکشاف۔

xxix. پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کو حل شدہ پرچے نتائج کے اعلان کے بعد بطور پبلک انفارمیشن پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxx. وزیر اعلیٰ کے احکامات پر سکول ٹیچروں کے تبادلوں کے احکامات کی تفصیل کا افشاء۔

xxxi. چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر کا سول سرونٹس کنڈکٹ رولز 1964ء کی شق ہائے نمبران 18و20 کو آئین و قانون سے متصادم قرار دینا۔

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xxxii۔ لاہور میں شہری زمینوں کا سالانہ سستے ترین ریٹس پر لیز کیے جانے کی تفصیلات پبلک کرانا۔

xxxiii۔ بورڈ آف ریونیو کو پنجاب بھر میں Expired Lease والے پیٹرول پمپس کے خلاف کیے جانے والے اقدامات کی تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxiv۔ ڈی جی ہیوی انڈسٹریز کو ہر مدِ شماری کے لیے کروڑوں روپے کے TA/DA کی تفصیلات کے اجراء کا حکم۔

xxxv۔ ضلع سرگودھا میں رئیل اسٹیٹ اور موٹر شو روم ایجنٹس سے وصول شدہ ٹیکسوں کی تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxvi۔ محکمہ کوآپریٹو پنجاب کے کمپیوٹر ریکارڈ روم میں آتشزدگی کی انکوائری رپورٹ پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxvii۔ پنجاب ہیوریٹس بورڈ کی ای لائبریری کے لیے مبینہ چون کروڑ روپے کی کتابوں کی خریداری کی تفصیل۔ پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxvii۔ ایل ڈی اے سے رہائشی پلاٹوں کو غیر قانونی طور پر کمرشل کیے جانے کی تفصیلات پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxix۔ سابقہ گورنر پنجاب کی تنخواہوں و مراعات کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxx۔ عدالت عالیہ کے ججوں کی تنخواہوں و مراعات کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxi۔ پنجاب آب پاک اتھارٹی کی رجسٹریشن اور انتظامی و مالی امور کی تفصیل پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxii۔ محکمہ فنانس سے پنجاب کی 70 پبلک سیکٹر کمپنیوں کے مالی و انتظامی امور پبلک کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxiii محکمہ فارسٹ پنجاب کو "بلین ٹری سونامی" پروگرام کے تحت مختلف ضلعوں میں کاشتہ درختوں کی تعداد اور اس سلسلہ میں موصول شکایات پر انکوائریوں کی تفصیلات افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxiv۔ ڈی جی وائلڈ لائف پنجاب کو جنگلی اور پالتو جانوروں اور پرندوں کو بدسلوکی سے بچاؤ کے قانون و اقدامات اور اس سلسلے میں پچھلے تین سالوں میں موصولہ شکایات پر کی جانے والی کارروائیوں کی تفصیلات افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxv۔ پنجاب پولیس کو کھوجی کتوں کی تعداد، ان کی خوراک اور ٹریننگ کے لیے مختص بجٹ اور ان کا تفتیشوں کے لیے استعمال کی تفصیل افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxvi۔ پنجاب پولیس کیا تھرڈ ڈگری میتھڈ پر یقین رکھتی ہے؟۔ اگر نہیں تو اس کے پاس موجود پولیگراف مشینوں کی تعداد اور تفتیشوں کے حوالے سے استعمال کی تفصیلات افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxvii۔ پنجاب کے تمام ڈپٹی کمشنرز کو بطور صدر ڈسٹرکٹ ریڈ کریسنٹ برانچز، اپنی اپنی ضلعی برانچ کے عہدے داروں کی لسٹ، اکاؤنٹس، اثاثہ جات، سالانہ آڈٹ رپورٹ سال 2019,2020 اور پچھلے ایک سال کے دوران انسانی خدمت اور خیراتی اقدامات کی تفصیل افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

xxxxviii۔ لاہور جم خانہ کلب کو اپنی رجسٹریشن، فنڈز کی تفصیلات بمعہ آڈٹ رپورٹ، حکومت سے حاصل شدہ لینڈ کی لیز کی دستاویزات کی نقول، مستقل ممبران اور ویٹنگ لسٹ کے درخواست دہندگان کی تفصیل بمعہ ممبر شپ دیئے جانے کے رولز کی تفصیلات افشاء کرنے کا حکم۔

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LANDMARK ORDER AUTHORED BY CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

1. **Muhammad Nouman ul Haq vs Punjab Public Service Commission-***RTI Appeal against PIO of PPSC for Non-Disclosure of Answer Sheets after announcement of result.*
   The Commission in detailed judgment held that PPSC is not doubt a constitutional and statutory body but it does not mean that its rules and regulations in conflict with the provisions of constitution would sustain. That to be creation of constitution or a statute does not change the status of PPSC as a public body. That regulations of PPSC are subordinate or delegated legislation as such can never override Article 19/A or RTI Act, 2013 which are supreme law and primary legislation respectively. That the judiciary does have protection of exemption titled "Exemption to administration of justice" under sub clause (f) of clause (1) of Sec-13 but still it discloses detailed judgement containing arguments along-with decree sheet having no regard to the exemption available to it. That under the prescribed oath Chairman and Members PPSC under obligation to strictly follow the Constitution. The argument of answer sheets being privileged documents brushed aside. That after promulgation of Article 19/A of Constitution and the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013, regulation No. 16.35 (b) (iii) of Policy Decisions of PPSC being in conflict with supreme/primary legislation is nullity in the eye of law. In short Answer Sheets after pronouncement of results declared public information liable to be disclosed. Order Accordingly.

2. **Dania Qais vs CCPO Lahore-** *Diaries (Zimnies) as public information;*
   The Commission has considered the relevant provision of law, Sec-172 (2) Cr. P.C, and Sec-161 & 145 of Evidence Act as well as the exception provided at sub clause (C) of section 13 of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 concluded that diaries (zimnies) of a criminal case cannot be claimed either by complainant of a case or by anyone on his behalf except limited grounds provided u/s 172 (2) Cr. P.C to refresh the memory or to confront a witness during the proceedings of Court of law, therefore, this part of complainant's plea is turned down, due to legal position adverse to his plea to retrieve case diaries.
3. **Ghulam Mujtaba Ch vs Govt Nawaz Sharif Hospital Lahore**- *Operation notes of all patients operated upon by Dr. Ayesha WAMO in addition to operation notes of the birth of his baby;*
   The appellant declared entitled for operation notes of his wife along-with copies of inquiry report but held not entitled to get operation notes of all patients handled by the same Dr. Ayesha WAMO to harass her after remaining unsuccessful inquiry against her.
4. **Shah-Jahan vs Govt High School Toba Tek Singh-** *Requisition of service record of Moeen-ud-din Arabic teacher, father in law of appellant, in the background of family dispute and divorce to the daughter of appellant, suits for maintenance still pending;*
   There is no doubt that RTI Application followed by this appeal are based on personal vendetta alone and there is scant element of any public good to unearth any corruption or irregularity. Overwhelming evidence of mala-fides and personal vendetta is present on the part of appellant, Sec-13 (1) (b) of the act provides "a legitimate privacy interest, unless the person concerned has consented to disclosure of information, the information can be held". The RTI request in this case of an ex-son in law against the old father of his ex-wife is in a bid to settle personal scores/pending family cases. Commission

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discourage such cases where mala-fides and personal vendetta is flouting on record, therefore, appeal dismissed.

5. **Asif Sarwer vs Distt Education Authority, Lahore-***Copies of service record of ex-wife of appellant were demanded in the background of dissolution of marriage and parties at daggers drawn- PIO refused claiming exceptions;*

We have examined the appellant and we are not satisfied abut the bona-fides of appellant as RTI request is based on personal animosity and does not appear a matter of public interest. It instead appears conflict arising of dissolution of marriage through court in year 2017. PIO has rightly taken stance that the requisite information is primarily personal information of shumaila shehzadi/Bulavi (BS-1) and appellant is out to harass his Ex-wife by filling of a number of complaints to different quarters. We feel that appellant has not come up with clean hands and is not entitled to exercise right to information regarding personal information of his Ex-wife- Appeal dismissed.

6. **Jamshaid Akhtar vs DG LDA, Lahore-***Poor handling of RTI business and lack of responsibility of LDA;*

In the background of detailed history of inefficiency in the conduct of RTI business and twisting the facts with lame excuses during hearings, the Commission issued warning to DG LDA to ensure the implementation of following actions;

(i) As per law each office of LDA must have a designated and notified PIO by DG LDA who has a conspicuous office with displaying his status as PIO to ensure easy access for citizen;

(ii) Designated and notified PIO must record the details of each RTI Application and issue a receipt to that effect;

(iii) PIO must take all possible steps to provide requisite information to the applicant within 14 days (in extra ordinary circumstances extra 14 days) and to accordingly keep the applicant informed;

(iv) In case information is not available or only partial is available, he will redress the complainant accordingly with an explanatory note by him;

(v) PIO are also under obligation to put a note at the foot of each copy of information that it conforms with the original record and must put his signatures with date.

(vi) In case of a complaint filed to Punjab Information Commission only designated and notified PIO shall respond and personally appear on being summoned along-with copy of his/her notification.

(Directions passed for compliance within stipulated time frame).

7. **Abdur Rasheed vs Additional Secretary (Coord) Governors' Secretariat Lahore-** *RTI Appeal based on refusal to disclose "Noting Portion";*

"Noting" or 'Noting Portion" are strictly speaking not part of the definition of "information" as provided u/s 2 (f) of RTI Act, 2013

1. "Noting Portion" and "Report" are distinguishable and are not transposable. A "Report" includes is always considered a public document but it never includes opinions or examinations made during the scrutiny of cases by different officers in a hierarchy enjoying a confidence provided by law. In case law does not provide such protection (confidence) any junior officer in the hierarchy will not dare to freely and independently make his opinion/recommendation having no regard to the inclination of a senior officer. It is the same wisdom of law which is reflected at Sec-13 (1) (c) under the title of "Exceptions" that disclosure of nay information which is likely to cause harm to breach of confidence can be refused or withheld.
2. The law ousts conflicting opinions or view based in internal examination from the purview of statutory right of information. Sec-4 (d) of RTI Act, 2013 stipulates that only such Acts, Ordinance,

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Rules, Regulation, Notification, Circulars and other legal instruments are liable to be disclosed, which are to be enforced issued or used by a public body in the discharge of its functions. Conflicting views contained in "Noting Portions" are not rather cannot be issued, used and enforced which is the prerogative of competent authority by making final order.

3. Internal discussion and views are considered subjective activity for the conscience of an organization and like-wise mental exercise of an authority to consider both sides of a proposal in juxta-position are purely subjective proceedings never liable for disclosure except the final order which is "issued", "used" and "enforced" as objective reality.
4. Mere holding of any information by a public body does not make it enforceable for the purpose of RTI Act, 2013 unless it qualifies under section (2) (f) and 4(d) and is also not exempted by any of the exceptions provided u/s 13 of RTI Act, 2013.

(Appeal dismissed)

8. Mansoor Ahmad Siddique vs BOR/Settlement & Rehabilitation- *Appeal against Non-disclosure of Minutes of Meetings;*

Minutes of meeting as such are not included in the list of documents forming part of public information defined at Sec-2 (f) of RTI Act, 2013-

Minutes of meetings contain a summary of discussion comprising conflicting views of members of committee leading to final orders based on consensus or majority view, which ultimately prevail for implementation. In case minutes of meeting are made public any member of committee will refrain from free discussion. That is why law takes care of this aspect by exempting the disclosure of such information under Rule relating to breach of confidence vide sub clause (c) of clause (1) of Section-13 of RTI Act 2013. In-addition free and frank advice or views within a public body is also protected under sub clause (h) of clause (1) of Sec-13. Consequently, disclosure of minutes of meeting is likely to harm the ability of public body.

Sub-clause (d) of Sec-4 enjoins upon a public body to inter-alia proactively disclosed following information;

> "Act, Ordinance, Rules, Regulations, Notification, Circulars and other legal instruments being enforced, issued or used by the public body in the discharge of its functions"

The underlined parts qualifying the nature of information which may be disclosed as an obligation. Citizens do have stakes in the final order but any stake in mere opinion which was never acted upon cannot be conceived of by any stretch of imagination. Consequently, the conflicting views in minutes of meeting, unless enforced, issued or used, are not part of sharable public information. Appeal dismissed.

9. Ch Abdullah vs Director Land Reclamation Lahore-*Review Petition against order of award of penalty;*

The Commission made all possible efforts for DLR Punjab to respond to RTI Application within stipulated period but Rana Muhammad Iqbal DLR delayed for about 10 months. We are of unanimous view that he deliberately defied his statutory obligation and repeated directions of Commission probably out of bad blood created due to alleged vilification campaign launched by Ch Muhammad Abdullah (respondent/appellant) to persecute DLR on account of his religious faith, DLR could resort to legal action but there was no justification to resist the discharge of his obligation under RTI Act, 2013.

Consequently, Review Petition is dismissed on merits, however we are inclined to reduce his penalty from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 15,000/- on compassionate grounds of DLRs' retirement meanwhile. Besides the spirit of law is not to collect revenue but to punish for the infringement of law taking care of financial position and material hardships. Order accordingly.

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10. **Muhammad Saleem vs IGP Police Lahore**-*Appeal against a casual order of PIO claiming exemption without cogent arguments;*

The Commission takes serious exception to the conduct of PIO who is DIG (Crimes) in IGP office. He passed a causal order dated 14.06.2019 claiming exemption under so called "discrete/crucial departmental disclosures which could be prejudicial to the interest of department"

The interest of department simpliciter is no ground as against public interest of transparency in exercise of fundamental right of access to information. A penalty of Rs. 5,000/- imposed for the objectionable conduct of PIO for not diligently responded to directives of Punjab Information Commission.

11. **Haider Ali Bhatti vs XEN Irrigation Department Lahore-** *Appeal against non-disclosure by PIO (XEN) as well as another XEN CBDC Division Lahore;*

PIO/XEN found to have promptly issued as many as 6 directives to the other XEN CBDC Div Lahore, who was custodian of original record, after filling of RTI Application and in compliance of directives of the Commission. Thus the Commission attributed delay to XEN/CBDC Div Lahore and awarded him penalty of Rs. 50, 000/-. PIO was exonerated.

12. **Shahbaz Ahmad vs Mines & Minerals Punjab-** *Appeal against refusal to disclose copies of CNIC number*

The Commission decided as follows;

As regards ID cards, there are no two opinions that ID card number is no doubt a personal and sensitive piece of information enabling hackers to access to bank record and other personal data, therefore, it is declared exempted while providing remaining information available on ID card.

13. **Tahir Anjum vs SMO Shahjevna Jhang-** *RTI appeal for non-provision of information and mean while senior medical officer/PIO retired*

The Commission had to deal with the case where not only PIO had retired during the pendency of appeal but PIO had also attributed removal of public record by a clerk when he was transferred from concerned rural health center. The Commission directed CEO district health authority Jhang to hold Inquiry and fix responsibility to ultimately take action even against retired SMO/PIO by forfeiting his pension if found guilty. In enquiry report the clerk was not only intimated as guilty but also the information recovered from him. The clerk was also intimated to have sacked.

14. **Rukshanda Mirza VS DPI Colleges Punjab**- *RTI appeal against refusal from allowing inspection of documents*

The Commission while interpreting "Right to Information" with reference to Clause (j) of Sec-2 declared that inspection of public information also includes the sharing of information. Order accordingly.

15. **Muhammad Naseem vs Chairman PHEC-** *RTI appeal for non-disclosure not only by PIO but also by Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission in disregard of directions of Commission.*

The Commission awarded penalty of Rs. 50,000 to Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission holding that in case of non-availability of particulars of PIO the Commission

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directed the Chairman as HOD to act as PIO under rule 3(4) of RTI rules 2014. On failure of Chairman to make compliance he as head of administrative unit was awarded penalty under sec-15, to have shifted responsibility of PIO to his shoulders. Order accordingly.

16. **Imran Iftikhar vs PIO Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department Lahore-** *Suo-Moto Notice of Commission in respect of preparedness details and budgetary allocations to fight Covid-19 pandemic.*

The Commission took Suo-Moto Notice in May-2020 when thick layers of panic of Covid-19 had caused general depression in the society and public confused about preparedness of Health Department when news of corona wards filled to capacity were poring in. The Commission while interpreting Sec-6 that *"the Commission may conduct an inquiry, on its own accord or on a complaint, and may direct a public body to disclosure information to an applicant or in a pro-active manner"* held that the Commission in such wide spread panic conditions can takes Suo-Moto. Consequently on the direction of Commission Health Department disclose the allocated budget of Rs. 6.7 billion and detail of purchases and expenditures. On the direction of Commission minister for health held press conference with live telecast on national hook-up to take public at large into confidence by explaining the details of preparedness.

17. **Sayed Raza Ali Shah Vs PIO Punjab Assembly**- *A news item on Social media converted into RTI appeal and Suo-Moto action taken in respect of refusal of PIO for disclosure for non-filing of copy of CNIC with RTI request.*

On Suo-Moto Notice PIO summoned, heard and order as follows:

I) Sec-6 (1)(a) interpreted that the Commission may conduct an inquiry on its own accord (without filing of complaint) which does include any news item in press or social media.

II) As regards dismissal of RTI application for non-attachment of copy of CNIC, the Commission held that no-where in the Act the direction to enclose copy of CNIC with original RTI application. Secondly CNIC is only a proof of citizenship and not citizenship itself. Commission decided that the spirt of RTI law is people friendly therefore, its provisions need to be interpreted liberally in favour of common man in public interest. Therefore, age-old law of presumption will come into play and unless respondent public body contest the citizenship, the applicant is not under obligation to compulsorily annex copy of CNIC with RTI request. The order of PIO Punjab Assembly declared illegal and information directed to be disclosed.

18. **Nadeem Umer vs Shalimar Club Rawalpindi-***Shalimar Club Rawalpindi refused disclosure claiming to not to be a public body;*

(i) Commission directed DC Rawalpindi to hold inquiry about status of Shalimar Club and censured DC for forwarding only report of ADC prepared without application of mind and hearing only Shalimar Club without affording opportunity to the citizen Nadeem Umer.

(ii) Commission found after examination of byelaws that the club was a body registered with Registrar Joint Stock Companies. The focal person in management includes DC Rawalpindi as President with powers to appoints Chairmen of all sub-committees, to chair all meeting of MC & having power of casting vote. The grant of lease of state land originally at the rate of Rs. 1 per kanal with maximum increase of Rs. 4.19 per kanal. The objectives of club stated in byelaws "to provide facilities to the resident of Rawalpindi and Islamabad", thus valid public interest found

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in the affairs of club. Letter of General Secretary dated 24.09.2019 conceded the club as public body. The Commission on account of these facts found that Shalimar Club Rawalpindi was fully covered under definition of public body at Sec- 2(h) (vii) that substantial funded bodies, though private or NGOs, will be considered public bodies. No doubt left in the status of Shalimar Club as public body keeping in view most favourable lease of state land and DC Rwp as focal person in management. Order Accordingly.

19. **Women Action Foundation vs LHC-** *RTI Appeal for non-responsiveness of PIO of Lahore High Court to disclose salary & perks of judges of Lahore High Court, Lahore;*

The Commission found the requisite information as public information. The order recalled Ex-Chief Justice Mansoor Ali Shah who disclosed similar information on filling of RTI Application. Commission directed PIO of LHC, Lahore to make disclosure within one month. Order Accordingly.

20. **Saif Ullah vs Senior Civil Judge Bahawalnagar-** *RTI Appeal for disclosure of details of recruitments of Process Servers;*

The Commission held the information of public nature and directed to be disclosed. Order Accordingly.

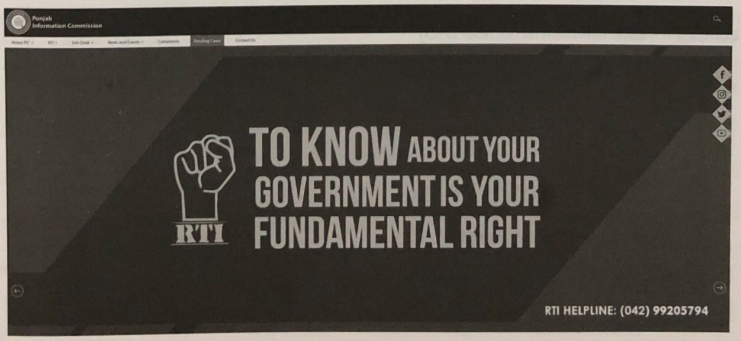
21. **Rana Nasir Mehmood vs PIO of DPS Kasur-***RTI Appeal for non-disclosure of an inquiry report of a scandal of illicit relations between lady teacher & an officer based only on here-say without any complaint of harassment. The respondent claimed protection from disclosure of not being a public body.*

(i) All three Information Commissioner were unanimous in finding that DPS Kasur is a public body for being established on state land and District Administration being part of governing body. Thus held as public body.

(ii) Two Information Commissioner found that inquiry report of scandalous matter was public information hence liable to be disclosed.

(iii) Chief Information Commissioner wrote a dissenting judgment declaring that such disclosure does not meet the Islamic, Constitution and legal objectives, the disclosure on application of harm test found against public interest vide clause (2) of Sec-13 and that element of blackmailing and harassment on the part of applicant noted in inquiry report.

Note: ***The full text of above noted and other landmark orders by Chief Information Commissioner Punjab are available on the Web-Site of Commission*** *(www.rti.punjab.gov.pk)*



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COMPLIANT PUBLIC BODIES & PIOS

Punjab Information Commission while discharging its statutory obligations where points out such public bodies and PIOs with low or nil compliance for RTI law, either out of their mind-set or incompetency, it also appreciates those public bodies or PIOs which are prompt to respond to RTI requests of citizens and to the directions of Punjab Information Commission.

Following is brief detail of public bodies and PIOs who were compliant and duly appreciated by the Commission. They deserve a reflection in the Annual Report of Punjab Information Commission for their respect for fundamental right to information. They shall be distributed appreciation certificates during upcoming RTI International Day.

Compliant Public Bodies

1. Provincial Assembly of the Punjab;
2. Secretariat of Governor of the Punjab;
3. Chief Minister's Secretariat;
4. Higher Education Department;
5. Finance Department;
6. Excise & Taxation Department;
7. University of the Punjab;
8. WASA, Lahore

Compliant Public Information Officer (PIO)

Sr. No.	Name & Designation	Departments
1.	Mr. Ali Bukhari Deputy Secretary	Finance Department
2.	Mr. Ahmer Khan, Project Director	P&S Healthcare Department
3.	Mr. Rizwan Shewani Director	Excise & Taxation Punjab

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4.	Ms. Isra Rashid, Law Officer	Children Hospital Lahore
5.	Ms Nimra Khan, Section Officer	S&GAD
6.	Ch Shabbir Gujjer, MO	MC Lahore
7.	Mr. Ali Abbas, Chief Officer	MC Rawalpindi
8.	Mr. Shahzeb Amin, DD	WASA
9.	Dr Usman Cheema DMS	Service Hospital Lahore
10.	Ms. Azmat Naz, Deputy Director	Environment Protection Agency
11.	Mr. Asif Latif Additional Registrar	GCU Faisalabad
12.	Mr. Jaleel Tariq Deputy Registrar	University of Punjab
13.	Mr. Tahir Mehmood Bashir Deputy Registrar	GCU Lahore
14.	Ms. Samia Islam Deputy Registrar	LCWU
15.	Ms. Maryam Adnan XEN	5th Building Division Lahore
16.	Ghulam Mustafa Admin Officer	Sheikh Zaid Rahim Yar Khan
17.	Rana Muhammad Tariq PRO	PCTB
18.	Ms. Aruj Suleman Assistant Director	Punjab Education Foundation
19.	Babar Gondal SO	Higher Education Department
20.	Muhammad Junaid Liaison Officer	KEMU Lahore
21.	Mr. Rashid Minhas Assistant Director	School Education Department
22.	Asif Ijaz Assistant Director	Aukaf Department
23.	Dr. Khalid Mehmood Deputy Registrar	UET Lahore
24.	Mr. Khuram Shabbir, Inspector	Punjab Police

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RTI AWARENESS & TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Although Punjab Information Commission in order to perform its statutory duty of launching of RTI awareness campaign and conduct of training sessions conducted a large number of programs but the significant events are detailed below;

- The Commission completed in **July 2018** already ongoing RTI Internship Program of 6th badge of 15 University students being run with the support of GIZ.
- The Commissioners successfully got training in two days TOT workshop in **August 2018** on methodology measuring of RTI implementation at Islamabad conducted by Toby Mendal an RTI Expert.
- CIC conducted an RTI Awareness Session of as many as 100 official/officers of Health Department at head office District Health Authority Kasur on **16.08.2018**.
- The Commission conducted a RTI awareness Seminar for about hundred lawyers and judges in Hameed Nizami Trust on **16.08.2018**.
- A Seminar of about 40 best of the best PIOs of Lahore was conducted in the head office of Commission on **12.10.2018**.
- All three Commissioner participated RTI partners planning workshop-2019 organized by GIZ in Islamabad on **18th and 19th Dec 2018**.
- The internship program of RTI Training of University Student with the support of GIZ completed in **Dec 2018** with training of total 100 students.
- CIC was Guest Speaker in a live program "180 Degree on Channel City 42" on **02.01.2019.**
- Address of CIC in University of Management Technology on **09.02.2019**.

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- Addressed a RTI Seminar in Mass Com Department of University of Punjab.
- The Commission conducted RTI Training Workshop of Chief PIOs of all Departments on **28.05.2019** in the Punjab Civil Secretariat. All three Commissioners delivered comprehensive lecture about their duties and receptibilities. Model RTI Registers prepared with the help of GIZ were distributed among them.
- The Commission in collaboration with a delegation of KP Information Commission and Senior Officer of E&T Department conducted RTI Seminar on **29.06.2019** in PC Hotel Lahore.
- Chief Information Commissioner appeared as Amicus-Curia in the Multan Bench of Lahore High Court Lahore to argue about RTI law & consequently to get a historic judgment by J. Mujahid Mustaqeem on **25.06.2019.**
- The entire staff of KP Information Commission visited Punjab Information Commission on **30.08.2019** and Commissioners and Staff of both Commission exchange their views and experiences for the whole day to sharpen their mutual knowledge.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed a huge gathering of journalists in Press Club Lahore on **27.9.2019** followed by a RTI Awareness Walk around Shimla Pahari Lahore to sensitize general public about fundamental right to information.
- On **28th Sep 2019** International RTI day was sermonized in Al Humra Hall with large attendance of judges, Advocates, Journalists, RTI activists, academia and other parts of civil society. Mr. Aslam Iqbal Provincial Minister for Information & Culture was Chief Guest whereas Mr. Justice ® Sh Ahmad Farooq was guest of honour.
- Paris Peace Forum **2019** was attended by Chief Information Commissioner and Mr. Hassan Iqbal Information Commissioner from **11 to 13 Nov 2019**. A large number of KPK Ministers and Secretaries were also part of

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delegation. The Pakistani delegation headed by Mr. Shafqat Mehmood presented "RTI methodology" proposal which was highly appreciated by delegations from all countries. This visit was funded by GIZ.

- The first ever overseas RTI Seminar was conducted by Chief Information Commissioner Punjab by addressing as many as two Seminars of Pakistan origin UK citizens in Birmingham on **22 Nov 2019**. His interview was also telecasted on Sky TV on **24.11.2019** covering whole of Europe and USA. The cost of this visit on way back to Pakistan was borne by Chief Information Commissioner.
- RTI partners planning workshop-2020 LoGo-II attended by Punjab Information Commission and addressed by Chief Information Commissioner on **16.09.2019**.
- Punjab Information Commission conducted a Special Training Workshop of PIOs for preparation of Annual Reports on **20.12.2019** with the help of Mr. Aftab Alam a renowned RTI Consultant.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed District Bar Kasur in presence of District Judiciary Kasur on **02.10.2019**. On the importance and features of RTI Act, 2013.
- Chief Information Commissioner conducted a Divisional RTI awareness training seminar in QMC Auditorium Bahawalpur on **10.01.2020**. As many as 300 PIOs from all over Bahawalpur Division took part along-with office bearers of Bar Association. Commissioner Bahawalpur was the Chief Guest.
- Chief Information Commissioner also addressed Bar Association Bahawalpur on same day i.e **10.01.2020** as part of RTI awareness campaign.
- Chief Information Commissioner conducted a Divisional RTI awareness training seminar in Arts Council Hall DG Khan on **13.01.2020**. As many as 250 PIOs from all over DG Khan Division took part along-with office bearers of Bar Association. Commissioner DG Khan was the Chief Guest.

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- Chief Information Commissioner also addressed Bar Association DG Khan on next day i.e **14.01.2020** as part of RTI awareness campaign.
- Punjab Information Commission conducted second meeting of National Forum of Information Commissions which started with a full day meeting of all Information Commissions of Pakistan in Gym-Khana Lahore on **06.02.2020**.
- On second day of National Forum of Information Commissions on **07.02.2020** a Grand RTI Seminar was held at Al-Humra Arts Council Lahore. It was attended by 250 members of Civil Society including judges, lawyers, journalist, university student, academician etc
- The Commission decided in **June 2020** to take steps for establishment of a RTI You-tube Channel in the background of restricted movements and lockdown to continue RTI awareness campaign with the help of technology.
- Mr. Ghalib Bandesha IG Police ® led a delegation of 30 Senior Police Officers to visit Punjab Information Commission. Mr. Hassan Iqbal Information Commissioner gave a comprehensive briefing whereas CIC spoke as concluding remarks. All Police Officers praised the performance of Punjab Information Commission.
- Commission finally succeeded to set up RTI YouTube Channel in **Nov 2020** with the financial support of GIZ, a German Government funded organization, already signatory of MOU for cooperation in certain areas including RTI.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed a jampacked hall of Medical Students of Red Crescent Medical College Lahore on **17.11.2020** as part of RTI Awareness Campaign.
- Chief Information Commissioner conducted two RTI Seminars for Gujranwala District Judiciary and lawyers on **19.12.2020**.

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- A ceremony of MOU signing with PITB for RTI web-portal and digital complaint management system was held in the head office of Commission on **07.01.2021**. Renowned lawyers and journalists participated in the meeting.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed District Judiciary and Senior Officers of District Management and Police in Faisalabad.
- A Seminar on RTI & Good Governance was conducted by Punjab Information Commission in Rawalpindi on **16.01.2021**. District & Session Judge Rawalpindi was Chief Guest and PIOs as well as HODs of all departments were invited. Chief Information Commissioner delivered a two hours lecture on all aspect of RTI Act, 2013.
- Chief Information Commissioner held RTI Training Session of Police Officers of Faisalabad in the office of Commission.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed District Judiciary as part of RTI awareness campaign in the Committee Room of District & Session Judge Sheikhupura on **28.01.2021**.
- Chief Information Commission attended a meeting of Executive Committee of APNS in the office of Madam Firdous Ashiq Awan Special Advisor on **05.02.2021**. He apprised about the role of Punjab Information Commission to implement RTI Act, 2013.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed all media houses in Press Club Lahore on **09.02.2021** he apprised about the performance and major decisions of Punjab Information Commission. The participant took keen interest in a recent order of Chief Information Commission declaring "Answer Sheets" as sharable public information.

Note:

It has been noted from experience that awareness seminars through out the Province of Punjab do have a significant role but the importance of daily

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more than 100 citizens accessing Punjab Information Commission and to inspire them exhibiting a passion by the Commissioner is not less important. One Commissioner on rotation bases almost daily deliver a short lecture to the appearing 15/20 PIOs in different cases. In addition each order relating to a particular public body is also very important. We generally observe in each order about the know-how of appearing PIO about RTI law and the state of pro-active disclosure of the public body concerned subject to browsing of its web-site and pass suitable directions to HOD of the public body. In short RTI awareness campaign is a 24/7 or perennial exercise requiring patience, dedication and passion by Information Commissioners.



Commissioners conducting RTI awareness session of appearing PIOs after conclusion of RTI Court business.

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RTI AMBASSADORS

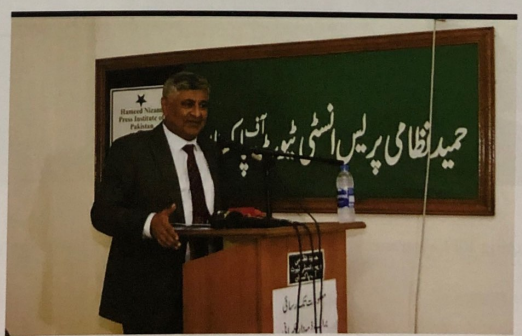
Punjab Information Commission is working only with a single office at Lahore and has no regional offices throughout the Punjab. At the same time, it may be the smallest body of Government of the Punjab for currently having only 19 supporting staff for three Information Commissioners.

In the background of above limitations, the Commission resorted to an innovative idea to outreach far-flung areas and different segments of civil society without any financial implications. It was decided that all Presidents and General Secretaries of all Bar Associations of Punjab may be declared RTI Ambassadors during their tenure as such.

The rationale of above arrangement was another fact also that RTI Act is in the shape of a legal framework and the Commission is also vested with powers of Civil Court. Thus, like journalists, legal fraternity is also a natural ally of the Commission in the crusade against "secrecy", "corruption", "non-inclusiveness" and "inefficiency".

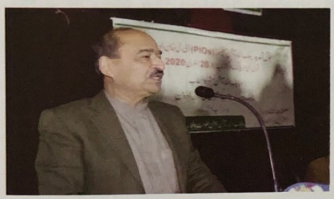
This decision was taken by the Commission in the end of 2019 and Presidents and Secretaries of all Bar Associations of Punjab were taken on board. This decision produced wonderful results. It was in this background that where-ever Chief Information Commissioner visit in any part of the Province, the Bar Association of the district concerned warmly welcome and fully cooperate for RTI awareness programs. After announcement of RTI Ambassadors Program, Chief Information Commissioner, first of all visited Kasur District Bar Association along-with District Judiciary followed by Multan, Bahawalpur, DG Khan, Gujranwala, Sheikhupura, Faisalabad and Rawalpindi Bar Associations.

Pictorial reflections of addresses in Bar Associations are as follows;



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RTI YOU-TUBE CHANNEL

Punjab Information Commission is committed under "the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013" to launch RTI awareness campaign throughout the length and breadth of Punjab. The foundation of RTI law was laid in the year 2010 with insertion of Article/19-A in the constitution and with the promulgation of the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act in the year 2013. However citizens are still not fully aware of their fundamental right to information and how to exercise it particularly the people of far-flung areas of South Punjab. At the same time public bodies have also yet to go a long way for providing an effective mechanism of implementation of RTI. These objectives can be achieved only by creating conducive environments in favour of RTI as a tool for good governance in the Province of Punjab.

Chief Information Commissioner Punjab had already floated the idea of establishing YouTube Channel with the financial assistance of GIZ in a meeting of LoGo-II Planning Workshop which was held in PC Lahore on 26.09.2019. This proposal was endorsed by all participants but it could not be implemented immediately.

That with the onset of COVID-19 crisis from Feb, 2020 onwards, human movement was restricted due to social distancing and frequent lockdowns. Chief Information Commissioner after marathon visits of Bahawalpur and DG Khan in January, 2020 had to suspend his scheduled visits of remaining divisional headquarters.

In the above background the Commission again pursued with GIZ to implement the proposal of establishment of RTI YouTube Channel to continue the RTI campaign with the help of IT Technology. This dream was ultimately translated into reality in November, 2020. GIZ provided the equipment and services of a renowned IT Consultant Mr. Asad Jaan to impart training to the staff and internees of University of South Asia and Lahore College for Women University. In this regard the vision and support of GIZ

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team comprising Mr. Muhammad Atif, Team Leader and Mr. Iftikhar Khan Advisor are fully acknowledged.

SSDO a renowned NGO working under the able leadership of Syed Kausar Abbas also joined hands in the project of RTI You-Tube Channel by coordinating between the Commission and Mass Communication Students of both above-mentioned universities. The training of staff and internees started on 16.11.2020 and ended on 20.11.2020. However, the internship of students of both universities completed on 31.01.2021 with a dignified ceremony by distribution of appreciation certificates among the staff and internees.

Pictorial reflections of said activities are as follows;



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Punjab Information Commission (PIC) in collaboration with GIZ-LOGO program and SSDO kicked off One-week training (16.12.2020-20.12.2020) on "Effective Use of Digital & Broadcasting Journalism for Promoting Transparency & Right to Information" for PIC staff and Mass Communication University Students as internees.











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HISTORIC JUDGMENT BY JUSTICE MUJAHID MUSTAQEEM

- Chief Information Commissioner appeared as Amicus Curia before Multan Bench of Lahore High Court, Lahore in WP No. 9315 of 2019 which led to a historic judgment by Hon'ble J. Mujahid Mustaqeem directing the Government of Punjab to take ownership for implementation of RTI mechanism provided under RTI Act, 2013.
- Chief Information Commissioner addressed the Court on the need of Government to perform its functions to provide automation, digitization of official record of all public bodies, provision of online services, pro-active disclosure through web-sites and web-portals to ensure effective implementation of RTI Act 2013.
- Chief Information Commissioner also proposed the constitution of a Provincial RTI Implementation Committee to ensure effective implementation of RTI Act, 2013 issuing positive directions to all Administrative Secretaries and HODs.
- Chief Information Commissioner also proposed the constitution of a Review Committee to evaluate the performance of RTI business of each public body.
- Hon'ble High Court while passing a historic judgement accepted all proposals of Chief Information Commissioner and directed the Government to proceed accordingly. It was directed that Provincial RTI Implementation Committee shall examine and improve the working of PIOs, take necessary measures for improvement of RTI working of departments to achieve the objects of the Act. It was directed by Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore that any recommendations/orders of Chief Information Commissioner in this regard shall be implemented by the Committee in public interest.

(*The judgment can be seen at pages 35 to 44).*

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of governments, as safeguarding citizens against mismanagement and corruption. This has led to enact freedom of information legislation.

4. In Pakistan, right of access to information has been acknowledged as a fundamental right vide Eighteenth Amendment since the year 2010 by inserting Article 19-A to the Constitution. The said provision reads as under:

"19-A Right to information.- *Every citizen shall have the right to have access to information in all matters of public importance subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by law.*

5. It is appreciable that in pursuance of the command of Article 19-A supra a very effective legislation by the Provincial Legislature has been made i.e. The Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 (the Act). Moreover the Punjab Government has established The Punjab Information Commission as implementing agency of this legislation since 2014. It is regrettable to note that public at large is still not much aware about the remedy available to them under the said law in cases where government functionaries or public bodies do not respond to their requests of access to information. At this juncture it would be appropriate to reproduce Pre-amble of the Act ibid to highlight its purpose, scope, extent, import and reasons:

"Whereas it is expedient to provide for transparency and freedom of information to ensure that citizens have improved access to public information; to make the Government more accountable to citizens; to enforce the fundamental right of access to information in all matters of public importance; and, to provide for ancillary matters"

The Pre-amble quoted above would indicate that primary object of the said law is to make the government more accountable to citizens and to enforce their fundamental right of access to information in all matters of public importance. The premise of such fundamental right is based upon the concept that the citizens being tax payers are real owners of public information held by the public bodies or government departments. It is no doubt a modern device in the political history of civilized society rather a weapon against corruption, nepotism and arbitrary decisions by making any public document or public action transparent and open to public view. Any citizen without an obligation of explaining his interest can seek information regarding any public matter/document from any public body/functionaries. His being only citizen of Pakistan is enough to constitute his cause of action. The public body can also not ask the reason for

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seeking such public information. At this juncture I feel it imperative to note that Section 4 of the Act requires the public body/state functionaries to proactively disclose certain information. Said provision of law reads as under:

"4. ***Proactive disclosure.-*** *Subject to the provisions of this Act, a public body shall proactively disclose*

(a) Particulars of the public body, its functions and duties; (b) Powers and functions of its officers and employees;

(c) Norms and criteria set by the public body for the discharge of its functions;

(d) Acts, Ordinances, rules, regulations, notifications, circulars and other legal instruments being enforced, issued or used by the public body in the discharge of its functions;

(e) A statement of categories of information being held by the public body;

(f) A description of its decision-making processes and any opportunities for the public to provide input into or be consulted about decisions;

(g) A directory of its officers and employees with their respective remuneration, perks and privileges;

(h) Budget of the public body including details of all proposed and actual expenditures;

(i) Amount of subsidy and details of beneficiaries if the public body provides any subsidy;

(j) Particulars of the recipients of concessions, permits or authorizations granted by the public body;

(k) Facilities available with the public body for obtaining information held by it;

(l) Name, designation and other particulars of the public information officer of the public body; and

(m) Any other information that the Government may notify in the official Gazette.

The over-all scheme of the Act casts a legal obligation upon public body to release information through electronic or other means having public access (of course with the exception of information that the body is required to protect due to privacy risk). Needless to mention that law expects government functionaries pro-active and not lethargic role. For this purpose, the Act of 2013 requires designation of public information officers (P.I.O.) in all administrative units or offices under it who have been bound down to provide requisite information within 14 days of

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filing of R.T.I. application under Section 10 of the Act. For said purpose each public body was mandated under Section 7 of the Act to designate/notify at least one public information officer for each office or administrative unit within 60 days of promulgation of this Act. Said provision of law runs as under:

"7. ***Designation of public information officers:-*** *(1) A public body shall, within sixty days of the commencement of this Act, designate and notify as many officers as public information officers in all administrative units or offices under it, as may be necessary.*

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a public information officer shall provide information to an applicant, and shall perform such other functions as may be prescribed to achieve the purpose of this Act.

(3) The public information officer may seek necessary assistance of any other officer of the public body.

(4) Any officer whose assistance has been sought under subsection (3) shall render all assistance to the public information officer seeking his assistance and for purposes of any contravention of the provisions of this Act, such other officer shall be deemed as public information officer.

6. Now I come to the present case which has arisen from denial of the respondents to make available required information to the petitioner recognizing his fundamental right. Feeling embittered by the conduct of the respondents not to come to his aid, the petitioner has invoked jurisdiction of this Court under Article 199 of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973 (the Constitution) to enforce his fundamental right guaranteed under Article 19-A of the Constitution.

7. Shorn of unnecessary details, facts of the case are that Hakim Muhammad Saeed, petitioner being elected councilor pointed out certain illegalities in ongoing development works in his constituency of Distt. Council and as such approached respondents No. 2 to 4 making a request to provide him record of development work for the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 as well as record of tenders of repairs of government buildings etc. (detailed in petition). As per petitioner, he filed a number of applications before the respondents but all his efforts proved fruitless. Case of the petitioner before this Court is that since he is seeking copies of public record/documents as such as per mandate of the Act, the respondents are under

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obligation to accede to request of the petitioner. Bare perusal of Section 4 of the Act would depict that information required in the present case falls in category (h) thereof.

8. `Learned counsel for the petitioner has vehemently argued that Article 19-A of the Constitution enshrines the right of citizens to have access to information in all matters of public importance as their fundamental right. He has also referred the provisions of the Act which provide statutory mechanism to facilitate citizens to retrieve copies of public record where public bodies do not fulfill their statutory liability.

9. When pointed out that the petitioner has a remedy to approach to Public Information Officer in terms of the Act absence of which is condition precedent to invoke constitutional jurisdiction of this Court, learned counsel submits that no Public Information Officer has yet been designated in the concerned department, which necessitated filing of the instant petition.

10. Keeping in view the importance of issue involved in this petition, it was felt by this Court that at least Punjab Information Commission was a proper party. As such notice was issued to the Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab to appear and assist the Court in this matter.

11. **Mr. Mahboob Qadir Shah, Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab (C.I.C.) has entered appearance and while addressing the Court has highlighted basic features of the Act vis-a-vis rights of citizens in cases where government functionaries/public bodies decline or cause inordinate delay to provide public information and the powers of Punjab Information Commission to enforce its decision against any officer or public body**.

12. The C.I.C. submits that in case a citizen is not provided requisite information within 14 days or inordinate delay is being caused or the conduct of P.I.O. or public functionaries is objectionable then he can file Right to Information complaint to Punjab Information Commission under the law and the Commission in such case is under obligation to ensure provision of public information maximum within 30 days. The Act has blessed the Commission with powers of civil court as it has the authority to impose penalty under Section 15 upto rupees 50 thousand in case of violation of its orders. Even section 16 provides punishment awarding imprisonment upto two years in case of commission of offence of destroying any record. The R.T.I. Law being a special law takes precedence over all other laws. As such it provides a powerful tool and mechanism to implement the objects of freedom of information.

13. He has also highlighted that filing an R.T.I. application to the P.I.O. for public information followed by seeking the support of Punjab Information Commission by filing R.T.I.

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complaint is one part of mechanism bringing public information in public domain. The law at the same time provides much strongest and stringent mechanism of proactive disclosure by public bodies under Section 4 of the Act which casts a mandatory obligation for public bodies to voluntarily bringing entire public information in public domain through its websites, circulars and notices. It means that most of the important public information regarding functions, duties, orders, regulations, circulars etc. are intended to be readily available for public. In my view proactive disclosure is most salient aspect of this law. In a civilized society government institutions must fulfill this obligation to improve their credibility by taking public into confidence about their internal working and decisions including budget, expenditure, income etc. The court has been apprised that the Chief Secretary Govt. of Punjab has already issued instructions to government departments to proactively disclose their information which needs further improvement as transparency is paramount consideration.

14. A perusal of Article 19-A of the Constitution would show that every citizen has been conferred a right to have access to information. However, such right is available under the said constitutional provision only if matter relates to public importance. Enforcement of this right has been further made subject to curtain regulations and reasonable restrictions imposed by law. So far as first part of the provision is concerned, it cannot be denied that quality of work done from public exchequer and transparency of actions of government departments in awarding tenders etc. are of vital importance to the public at large. As such it is crystal clear that the prayer of the petitioner relates to issue of public importance. Steering thoughts in this regard have been gathered from the case *Shabbir Hussain v. Executive District Officer (Education), Larkana and 5 others* **[2012 CLC 16 (Sindh)].**

15. So far as non-framing of regulations is concerned, suffice it to say that absence of same cannot have effect of rendering this right as nugatory. Therefore, even if no regulations are framed, this right is available to the citizens. Needless to mention that in absence of Rules/regulations, it becomes obligation of the court to determine whether request for information in a particular case or denial thereof is reasonable or an order is without lawful authority or not. Reference may be made to the case *Muhammad Masood Butt and 3 others v. S.M. Corporation (Pvt.) Ltd. and 5 others* **(PLD 2011 Karachi 177).** Even otherwise it is apprised by C.I.C. that the task of framing Regulations is near to completion. It will be fair enough to expect that this task will be completed at the earliest, preferably in 60 days and the public be apprised of the Regulations by modern devices/means of communication.

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16. The question of right to information and providing information by the government functionaries/public bodies has more than once been discussed by the courts of law. In case *Province of Punjab v. Qaisar Iqbal and others* **(PLD 2018 Lahore 198)** Full Bench of this Court held as under:

> ***"61. Right to information and access to information in all matters of public importance*** *is indisputably a fundamental right guaranteed under Articles 19 and 19-A of the Constitution. The right of information stems from the requirement that members of a democratic society should be sufficiently informed that they may influence intelligently the decision which may affect themselves. The people of Pakistan have a right to know every public act, everything that is done in public way, by their public functionaries and chosen representatives. People are entitled to know the particulars of every public transaction, acquire information in all matters of public importance and to disseminate it. It enables people to contribute on debate on social and moral issues and matter of public importance. Without information, a democratic electorate cannot make responsible judgments about its representatives. Freedom of information is the only vehicle of political discourse so essential to democracy and it is equally important in facilitating artistic and scholarly endeavors of all sorts. In sum, the fundamental principle involved here is the people's right to know and freedom of information and freedom of speech and expression should therefore, receive a generous support from all those who believe in democracy and the participation of people in the administration and matters of public importance."*

In *Hamid Mir and others v. Federation of Pakistan and others* **(PLD 2013 SC 244)** the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan held that in view of provisions of Article 19-A of the Constitution, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was obliged to disclose the nature and use of all funds allocated to it including the secret funds. A Division Bench of Sindh High Court in *Saifan uz Zaman Khan v. Federation of Pakistan through Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad and 7 others* **(PLD 2017 Sindh 559)** held that right to information under Article 19-A of the Constitution was of immense value in promoting transparency by ensuring that citizens had knowledge of matters concerning public administration.

17. Right for information has also been recognized in India though not expressly and separately recognized, but the Courts there, have always interpreted right of freedom of

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expression, under Article 19 of Indian Constitution to include right of information. In case *Sheela Barse v. Union of India* (AIR 1986 Supreme Court 1773) R.I.T. has been very liberally interpreted, extended and given new dimensions by the Court while observing as under:

"We are of the view that the petitioner should have access to information and should be permitted to visit jails, children's home, remand homes, observation homes, borstal schools and all institutions connected with housing of delinquent or destitute children. We would like to point out that this is not an adversary litigation and the petitioner need not be looked upon as an adversary. She has in fact volunteered to do what the State should have done."

In case of *Suri Dinesh Trivedi v. Union of India etc.* **(1997 (4) SC 306),** the Court Indian Supreme Court held as under:-

"In modern constitutional democracies, it is axiomatic that citizens have a right to know about the affairs of the Government which, having been elected by them, seeks to formulate, sound policies of governance aimed at their welfare."

In case *Peoples Union for Civil Liberties v. Union of India* **(AIR 2003 Supreme Court 2363)** the Court even observed as under:

"The aforesaid passage leaves no doubt that right to participate by casting vote at the time of election would be meaningless unless the voters are well informed about all sides of the issues in respect of which they are called upon to express their views by casting their votes. Disinformation, misinformation, non-information all equally create a uniformed citizenry which would finally make democracy a mobocracy and farce."

18. The Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 became effective on 16.12.2013 as such, as noted above, Public Information Officers ought to have been designated at the most by 16th of February, 2014 but, it is regrettable that, as submitted by the Chief Information Commissioner, so far P.I.O. are yet to be appointed in most of public/government offices.

19. For what has been discussed and observed above, this petition is allowed and the respondent departments are directed to provide requisite information to the petitioner within statutory period of 14 days under the Act. The Chief Information Commissioner, present in Court undertakes to ensure compliance of this order by the respondents.

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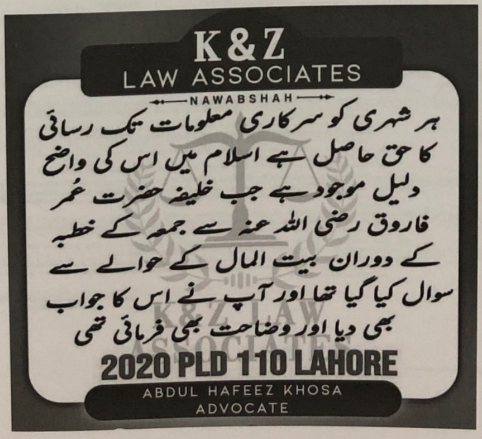
20. A copy of this order be also sent to the Chief Secretary, Government of the Punjab, to take appropriate steps to ensure implementation of his earlier orders with regard to posting of public information officers and also ensure that the provisions of the Act are implemented in letter and spirit and any violation whereof be seriously noticed. It will be appreciated that on monthly basis progress report of public information officers of respective government departments be summoned and reviewed by the Secretary of Information and Culture Department, Govt. of Punjab. **In addition to it an implementation Committee at provincial level may be constituted to examine and improve working of public information officers, take necessary measures for improvement of the working of the departments and to achieve the objects of the Act. Any recommendation/ orders of the C.I.C. in this regard be got implemented by the implementation Committee in public interest.**

Sd/-
(MUJAHID MUSTAQEEM AHMED) JUDGE

APPROVED FOR REPORTING:

Note :-

The above judgment has been reported at **2020-PLD 110-LHR.**



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CONSTITUTION OF PROVINCIAL RTI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

(A GAME CHANGER INITATIVE)

- Pursuant to the historic judgment rendered by Mr. Justice. Mujahid Mustaqeem Ahmed, inspired by the passionate arguments of Mr. Mahboob Qadir Shah, CIC as Amicus-Curiae, the Government constituted a high powered Provincial RTI Implementation Committee comprising ACS Punjab as Chairperson vide notification dated 07.07.2020. The Committee also includes Secretary Information & Culture and Secretary I&C as its members.

D/Order/Committee Notification Order

GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
INFORMATION & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Dated Lahore, the 07th July, 2020

NOTIFICATION

No.SOE(INF)2S-1/2014(P). In pursuance of the Judgement dated 25.06.2019 passed by the Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Multan Bench, Multan, in Writ Petition No.9315/2019, a Provincial Implementation Committee, comprising the following, is hereby constituted to examine and improve the working of Public Information Officers and take necessary measures for improvement of working of Government Departments to achieve the objects of the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013:

i.	Additional Chief Secretary Punjab	Chairperson
ii.	Secretary, I&C Wing, S&GAD	Member
iii.	Secretary, Information & Culture	Member
iv.	Chief Information Commissioner Punjab (or his nominee)	Member
v.	Any other co-opt member	

2. The Committee shall ensure the implementation of recommendations / orders of the Chief Information Commissioner Punjab.

3. Furthermore, the *TORs* of the Committee are as under:-

(i) The Committee shall:
   a) ensure designation of Public Information Officers and Chief Public Information Officers by public bodies vide Section-7 of the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013.
   b) take necessary measures for improvement of the conduct of Right to Information business by government departments vide Section-10 of the said Act.
   c) ensure pro-active disclosure by public bodies through web-sites etc. vide Section-4 of the said Act.
   d) take steps to achieve the objectives of the Act vide Preamble of the Act.

(ii) The Committee shall hold a meeting at-least once in each quarter of the year.

(iii) The Committee may convene a meeting on some urgent issue relating to the objects of the Act ibid or on special request by the Chief Information Commissioner Punjab.

(iv) Agenda of meetings of the Committee shall be based on reports of the Chief Information Commissioner, Review Committee, Government Departments and matters of public interest reflected in Print & Electronic Media.

(v) The Committee may call for a report in writing or summon any head of department or any other officer of any public body as the case may be.

(vi) The Committee shall generate a report of each meeting and its recommendations shall be circulated to relevant quarters for implementation subject to the approval of the Chief Secretary Punjab.

RAJA JEHANGIR ANWAR
SECRETARY

P.T.O.

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SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEE

- The Committee has so far held its three meetings on 29.07.2020, 07.11.2020 and 12.01.2021. The salient decisions so far taken by the Committee are as under;-

(1) Responsibilities of Administrative Secretaries/HODs

(I) That each **Administrative Secretary/HOD will hold a meeting with Chief PIO/ PIOs after each 06 months** and will forward the minutes of meeting to the Committee.

(II) That **Mr. Khalid Bashir Addl. Secty. I&C Wing, S&GAD as focal person** of the Committee will **circulate** the orders accordingly and will get the **feedback** to be put up in next regular meeting of the Committee.

(2) Responsibilities of Chief PIOs

(I) That appointment of **Chief PIOs may be made by designation preferably Addl. Secty. (Admn)** and not by name.

(II) That **focal person will circulate the directions** to all Administrative Secretaries/HODs and **will submit a list of Chief PIOs** of all public bodies along-with department wise progress report in next meeting.

(3) Creation of a RTI Monitoring Wing in S&GAD

(I) That as proposed by Chief Information Commissioner, **a dedicated RTI Monitoring Wing** may be created under a Deputy Secretary in S&GAD for which focal person shall take necessary steps and shall put up the progress in next meeting.

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(4) Notification for RTI Court in the Commission

(I) That Punjab Information Commission may forward to law and PA Department **a reference for advice and legal input to notify RTI Court** before the conduct of next meeting.

(5) MOU between PIC & PITB dated 07.01.2021 for RTI Portal

(I) That **PITB will demonstrate the proposal** to the Committee with its basic features in next meeting.

(6) Holding of RTI Seminar

(I) That a **grand RTI Seminar** involving all Administrative Secretaries/HODs/Commissioners/Deputy Commissioners/ Chief PIOs etc will be organized by Secretary Information & Culture Department in Al-Humra Hall Lahore.

Note;

- It is apprised that the commission has received up till 20.02.2021 forty-three (43) notifications of appointment of Chief PIOs which is only 1/3rd of total departments.
- It is also apprised that the Commission has already forwarded a reference for legal advice or input to Law & PA Department vide letter dated 13.02.2021 for notification of RTI Court in the Punjab Information Commission.
- The Commission has also issued a reminder dated 13.02.2021 to Govt. for creation of RTI Monitoring Wing headed by ADS in S&GAD.
- A letter to Secretary Information & Culture Department has also been written to extend help for the conduct of Grand RTI Seminar in Al-Humra Hall in March 2021.

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HUMAN RESOURCE/RECRUITMETS

- The Governor sanctioned 43 posts vide notification No. SO(B&A) 2-3/2014 dated 29.12.2014.
- Pursuant to said notification the then Commission drafted Service Rules in 2015.
- Service Rules were withdrawn in August 2018 and Service Regulations were approved by the Commission in Dec 2018 and notified in Feb 2019.
- Before the recruitment, the Cabinet Committee on Fin & Dev reduced the sanctioned posts from 43 to 33 on 22.08.2019.
- Thus 03 Commissioners have to perform gigantic task of dealing with huge number of RTI Appeals, training of countless PIOs and conduct awareness campaign throughout the length and breadth of Punjab with the help of only 30 staff members.
- The Punjab Information Commission could start recruitment process in the end of year 2019 after getting relaxation of ban from GOP.
- Applications were invited through NTS by publishing advertisement in newspapers in end of year 2019. NTS took 2/3 months to shortlist the candidates. Thereafter recruitment process with the Commission was adversely affected with covid-19 pandemic, lockdowns, therefore, the Commission could fill only 19 positions out of 30 vacant positions. The non-availability of suitable stuff also contributed for low number of recruitments.
- The list showing finally recruited 19 posts (3 Information Commissioners already in place) and 11 vacant posts is reflected on next page.
- Although each staff member contributed with full dedication to make the Punjab Information Commission functional which was a dead horse uptil May 2018, when we assumed the charge, Mr. Qadeer Ahmad, a law graduate, in-charge Complaint Management Cell, played a pivotal role to do so. He has through-out been a great support for the Commission because of his infinite passion for Right to Information. He has gradually become an asset of the Punjab Information Commission and an institutional memory.

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HUMAN RESOURCE/RECRUITMETS

(Rationalized by Cabinet Committee on Financed Department)

Sr. No.	Name of post	Scale	No of Posts	Filled/Vacant
1.	Chief Information Commissioner	(MP-1)	1	Filled
2.	Information Commissioners	(MP-1)	2	Filled
3.	Executive Director	(BS-19)	1	Vacant
4.	Deputy Director (Admin & Finance)	(BS-18)	1	Vacant
5.	Assistant Director (A&T)	(BS-17)	1	Filled
6.	Assistant Director (Law & Complaint)	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
7.	Assistant Director R&P	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
8.	Private Secretary	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
9.	Superintendent	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
10.	Network Administrator	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
11.	Web Master	(BS-17)	1	Vacant
12.	Assistant	(BS-16)	5	Filled
13.	Stenographer	(BS-14)	3	Vacant
14.	Data Entry Operator	(BS-12)	1	Filled
15.	Junior Clerk	(BS-11)	1	Filled
16.	Driver	(BS-04)	3	Filled
17.	Dispatch Rider	(BS-04)	1	Filled
18.	Naib Qasid	(BS-01)	4	Filled
19.	Chowkidar	(BS-01)	1	Filled
20.	Sweeper	(BS-01)	1	Filled
	Total		**33**	

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SERVICE REGULATIONS

History

Our predecessor Commissioners did prepare draft Service Rules and forwarded to the Government in the year 2015 for approval and for publishing in the Gazette of Punjab. The said draft rules remained a point of contention between the Commission and the Government for about 3 years, therefore, were never approved. This fact prevented the Commission to make recruitments of only 19 staff members uptil May/June 2020, against 30 reduced and sanctioned posts.

We, the incumbent Commissioners on assuming the charge in May 2018 reviewed all aspects of the issue and decided to withdraw Service Rules already forwarded by our predecessors to the Government and to proceed for preparation of fresh Service Regulations without intervention of Government. That is how we could avoid the Government's stand to effect recruitments under the Punjab Civil Servant Act, 1974 with intervention of Government of Punjab which was a view, contrary, to the spirit of RTI Act, 2013. The Commission throughout remained stuck to its point of view that the Punjab Information Commission is an independent body in respect of recruitments and setting up of its Secretariat by itself determining the propriety of number of staff is its own prerogative and the Punjab Civil Servants Act, 1974 is irrelevant for recruitments in the Commission.

Chief Information Commissioner with the support of a private legal consultant arranged by CPDI and with the support of Law Department finally prepared Service Regulations in Dec 2018 which were unanimously approved in quarterly meeting of the Commission dated 31.12.2018. The approved Service Regulations were forwarded to the Government for publishing in the gazette of Punjab which were accordingly published vide Notification No. PIC-1-60/2020 dated 08.02.2019. The Service Regulation can be seen on next pages.

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THE PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION EMPLOYEES (APPOINTMENT AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) REGULATIONS, 2018

Notification No. AD (A&C) PIC 1-60/2018, dated: 21.12.2012, issued by Government of the Punjab, Punjab Information Commission, hereby published in official Gazette for general information on 08th February, 2019.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 20 of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 (XXV of 2013), and Rule 10 (1) (a) of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Rules, 2014, the Punjab Information Commission is pleased to make the following regulations.

1. Short title, extent and commencement.- (1) These regulations shall be called the Punjab Information Commission Employees (Appointment and Conditions of Service) Regulations, 2018.

(2) These regulations shall be applicable to the employees of the Punjab information Commission.

2. Definitions.- (1) In the regulations:

(a) "Act" means the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013 (XXV of 2013);

(b) "appointing authority" means the mentioned in column 4 of the Schedule; authority

(c) "Commission" means the Punjab Commission; information

(d) "Committee" means a Committee constituted under regulation 5,

(c) "employee" means an employee of the Commission;

(f) "Government" means Government of the Punjab;

(g) "post" means a post of the Commission approved by the Government; or by the Commission from time to time.

(h) "Regulations" means the Punjab Information Commission Employees (Appointment and Conditions of Service) Regulations, 2018; "Rules" means the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Rules 2014; and

(i) "Schedule" means a Schedule appended to the regulations.

(2) An expression used but not defined in the regulations, shall have the meanings as assigned to it in the Act and the Rules made there-under.

(3) Where the provisions of these Regulations clash with the provisions of Act or Rules, the provisions of Act and Rules shall prevail. . 3. Method of recruitment.- The method of recruitment, minimum qualification, age and other incidental matters for a post shall be such as given in the Schedule.

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4. **Procedure for selection.-** (1) If Commission opts to process 'for selection of a candidate against the post mentioned in the Schedule, the Commission shall invite applications from the general public through an advertisement, published in at least two leading national newspapers, one in Urdu and one in English as well as on the website of the Commission.

(2) The closing date shall not be less than fifteen days after the publication.

(3) Incomplete applications shall be rejected.

(4) The committee shall process the applications and hold written examination and interviews of the candidates.

(5) The Committee, if considers necessary, may engage its staff for administrative support in the selection process.

(6) The Commission may opt to entrust the selection process to the Punjab Public Service Commission to make recommendations of suitable candidates.

(7) The Commission may opt to assign to a reputable and recognized private organization for holding selection process and recommending the suitable candidates securing minimum sixty percent marks in written examination to the Commission for holding interviews and final selection against a post.

(8) In any case, the Commission reserves the right to withhold the process of recruitment at any stage without assigning any reason.

5. **Selection committees.-** (1) Except under sub-regulation (6) of regulation 4, the selection for a post in BS-11 and above shall be made by the committee comprising the Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners.

(2) The Chief Commissioner shall be the Chairman of the Committee and Information Commissioners shall be the members of the Committee.

(3) The selection for a post below BS-11 shall be made by the committee comprising the Executive Director, Deputy Director (Admn & Finance) and the officer concerned. The Commission may modify the committee as per the requirement of the posts and their qualifications.

(4) The Committee, If considers necessary, may co-opt a technical member.

6. **Appointment by deputation.-** (1) The Commission may, in public interest, appoint a person on deputation to a post meant for initial recruitment subject to the conditions that the incumbent possesses the qualification and experience prescribed for initial recruitment.

(2) The Commission may hire the services of an incumbent serving with the Government, autonomous bodies, semi-autonomous bodies or company owned by the Government on deputation for a

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period of three years on such terms and conditions as may be settled between the Commission and the lending body.

7. Verification of educational degrees.- (1) The appointment of all incumbents shall be subject to verification of the educational degrees and testimonials from the concerned boards, institutions or universities, as the case may be.

(2) The appointment shall be liable to be terminated in case any educational degree or testimonial is found bogus.

(3) The employee whose educational degrees have already been verified in his previous service under a Government Department or body or organization, a copy of the same shall be obtained from his previous employer and kept in his service records. However, the Commission, if considers necessary, reserves the right to opt to direct verification.

(4) Appointment shall also be subject to good character verification.

8. Termination from service.- (1) The appointing authority may at any time, after giving one months' prior notice in writing or on payment of one month's' salary in lieu thereof, terminate the services of an employee.

(2) The employee, during the notice period mentioned under sub-regulation (1), shall:

(a) hold domicile of the province of Punjab.

(b) continue to serve the Commission; and

(c) not absent himself from duty without prior approval of the appointing authority.

(3) In case a post is abolished, the junior most employee in that category shall be terminated on one months' prior notice in writing or one month's pay in lieu thereof.

9. Resignation.- An employee may resign from his service by giving one month's prior notice in writing addressed to the appointing authority or payment of one month's pay in lieu thereof.

10. Miscellaneous.- (1) If any matter not provided in the Regulations, the provisions of the Government rules for the time being in force, in so far as they are not inconsistent with these regulations shall mutatis mutandis apply, unless the Commission formulates its own regulations.

(2) If any difficulty arises in the implementation or interpretation of these regulations, the Commission may give appropriate directions to remove such difficulty.

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BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR YEARS 2018-19& 2019-20

Head of Account	Year 2018/19	Year 2019/20
Basic Pay/AO-1101	27,869,000/-	28,270,000/-
Basic Pay/AO-1151	2,062,000/-	2,272,000/-
House Rent Allowance/AO-1202	2,533,000/-	2,533,000/-
Conveyance Allowance/AO-1203	1,800,000/-	1,800,000/-
Washing Allowance/AO-1201	5,000/-	5,000/-
Medical Allowance AO-1217	942,000/-	942,000/-
Computer Allowance/AO-1226	220,000/-	222,000/-
Other/AO1270	1,673,000/-	1,673,000/-
Overtime allowance AO1271	50,000/-	50,000/-
Medical Allowance AO 1274	633,000/-	6,33,000/-
Contingent Paid Staff/AO1277	150,000/-	160,000/-
Postage & Telegraph/AO 3201	72,000/-	66,000/-
Telephone & Trunk AO 3202	500,000/-	450,000/-
Gas/AO3301	50,000/-	45,000/-
Water AO3302	20,000/-	18,000/-
Electricity AO 3303	1,500,000/-	1,800,000/-
Rent for office building AO 3402	6,000,000/-	5,940,000/-
Rates & Taxes AO 3407	220,000/-	198,000/-
Travelling allowance AO 3805	100,000/-	90,000/-

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POL charges AO 3807	550,000/-	4,95,000/-
Stationary AO 3901	350,000/-	331,000/-
Printing & publication AO 3902	600,000/-	567,000/-
Conference/Seminar AO 3903	600,000/-	567,000/-
Newspaper periodical AO 3905	60,000/-	54,000/-
Uniforms & protect AO 3906	20,000/-	18,000/-
Advertising and publication AO 3907	1,200,000/-	1,34,000/-
Unforeseen Exp. AO 3921	200,000/-	180,000/-
Cost of others stores AO 3942	30,000/-	28,000/-
Computer stationary AO 3955	500,000/-	472,000/-
Others AO 3970	70,000/-	66,000/-
Purchase of Transport AO 9501	2,000,000/-	--------
Purchase of Furniture AO 9701	60,000/-	50,000/-
Transport A13001	100,000/-	90,000/-
R&M of Machinery A13101	120,000/-	113,000/-
Furniture & fixture A13201	6,000/-	6,000/-
IT equipment A13703	----------	9,000/-
Conveyance allowance AO1203	----------	1,800,000/-
Grand Total	**54,538,000/-**	**51,356,000/-**

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ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC BODIES

Sec-9 of RTI Act, 2013 provides that a public body shall publish its Annual Report of its activities during the previous financial year by 31st August each year and make the report available for public inspection. The strict compliance of this provision ensures the effective & efficient implementation of RTI law facilitating access to information. Punjab Information Commission first time took the initiative in the end of year 2018 to call for Annual Reports but unfortunately none else except the Punjab Assembly Secretariat forwarded the Annual Report to the Commission.

It was with strenuous efforts of the Commission during the year 2018/19 that about 50 public bodies forwarded their Annual Reports to the Commission by the end of year 2019. The Commission kept on pursuing the public bodies to prepare their Annual Reports as part of their statutory liabilities and our efforts led to filling of about 100 Annual Reports of different public bodies by the end of year 2020 which is a great success, if compared with the circumstances prevailing before June 2018. It is pertinent to mention that in our bid to ensure preparation of Annual Reports by public bodies, each year a dedicated workshop of Chief PIOs of all public bodies for capacity building to prepare Annual Reports is held by the Commission.

It is also note-worthy that Punjab Information Commission is distinguished among all Information Commissions of Pakistan to enforce this vital requirement of RTI law.

The list of Annual Reports of 100 public bodies received by the end of year 2020 is as follows;-

Sr. No	Name of Department	List of Designated PIOs	No. of RTI Request Received	NO. RTI Appeals for Hearing
01	UET, Lahore	01	53	03
02	UHS, Lahore	01	01	01
03	Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
04	Nishter Medical University, Multan	01	Nil	Nil
05	King Edward Medical University, Lahore	05	2	Nil
06	Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad	01	Nil	Nil
07	Allama Iqbal Medical University, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
08	Sargodha Medical University, Sargodha	02	Nil	Nil

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04	Nishter Medical University, Multan	01	Nil	Nil
05	King Edward Medical University, Lahore	05	2	Nil
06	Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad	01	Nil	Nil
07	Allama Iqbal Medical University, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
08	Sargodha Medical University, Sargodha	02	Nil	Nil

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09	Khwaja Safdar Medical College, Sialkot	Nil	Nil	Nil
10	Gujranwala Medical College, Gujranwala	Nil	Nil	Nil
11	Punjab Institute of Cardiology, Lahore	3	1	1
12	Children Hospital, Lahore	02	17	01
13	Punjab Institute of Neurosciences, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
14	Lady walington Hospital, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
15	Government Mian Munshi Teaching Hospital, Lahore	02	Nil	Nil
16	Govt. Kot Khawaja saeed Hospital, Lahore	01	37	Nil
17	Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi	01	01	Nil
18	Benzir Bhutto Hospital, Rawalpindi	01	01	Nil
19	Ch. Pervez Elahi Hospital Institute of Cardiology, Multan.	02	Nil	Nil
20	Aziz Bhatti shaheed Teaching Hospital, Gujrat.	01	06	Nil
21	BVH Hospital, Bahawlapur	01	01	01
22	Civil Hospital Bahwalpur	01	Nil	Nil
23	Allied Hospital, Faisalabad	01	02	02
24	Children Hospital, Faisalabad	01	Nil	Nil

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25	DHQ Teaching Hospital, Sahiwal.	01	02	Nil
26	Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology, Rawalpindi	02	Nil	Nil
27	Punjab Assembly , Lahore	01	16	Nil
28	Director General of Labour Welfare, Punjab	01	05	01
29	LG&CD, Department, Lahore	01	06	Nil
30	Government General Hospital, Faisalabad	01	Nil	Nil
31	PCTB, Lahore	01	20	02
32	MPDD, Lahore	02	Nil	Nil
33	Auqaf and Religious Affairs Department, Lahore	13	06	01
34	Punjab Labour Appellate Tribunal, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
35	PITB, Lahore	01	26	Nil
36	Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department, Lahore	01	09	Nil
37	Government of Punjab, Bureau of Statistics	Nil	Nil	Nil
38	DHQ Hospital, Rawalpindi	01	Nil	Nil
39	Zakat & Usher Department, Lahore	49 Field 01 Head Office	13 Field 04 Head Office	Nil
40	University of Education, Lahore	01	03	Nil

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41	Jinnah Hospital, Lahore	01	01	01
42	Faisalabad Institute of cardiology,	01	01	Nil
43	Children Hospital, Multan	01	Nil	Nil
44	Sahiwal Medical College, sahiwal.	02	3	Nil
45	Allama Iqbal Memorial Teaching Hospital, Sialkot	Nil	Nil	Nil
46	Literacy & NFBE, Department, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
47	Punjab Food Authority, Lahore	01	08	06
48	Lahore Museum, Lahore	01	02	02
49	Finance Department, Lahore	04	21	01
50	WASA, Lahore	10	48	12
51	ET&NC, Lahore	42	09	01
52	DPO, Attock	01	08	Nil
53	Services Hospital, Lahore	Nil	01	Nil
54	DG, Narcotics, Lahore	Nil	Nil	Nil
55	DPO, Pakpattan	01	31	Nil
56	University of the Punjab, Lahore	01	164	02
57	S&GAD, I&C Wing Lahore	01	05	Nil

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58	RPO, Sargodha	05	478	Nil
59	Punjab Dental Hospital, Lahore	02	Nil	Nil
60	Human Rights & Minorities Affairs Department, Lahore	02	13	01
61	Overseas Pakistanis Commission, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
62	S&GAD, Services Wing, Lahore	02	02	01
63	College of Ophthalmology and allied Health Sciences, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
64	Anti-Corruption Establishment, Lahore Region-B	01	Nil	Nil
65	CMIT, Punjab, Lahore	01	6	01
66	MC, Lahore	01	22	06
67	Govt. Nawaz Sharif Yakki Gate Hospital, Lahore	01	01	01
68	RPO, Police Office, Bahawalpur	21	125	01
69	RPO, Sahiwal	04	321	Nil
70	Environment Protection Department, Lahore	01	13	06
71	Public Prosecution Department, Lahore	03	Nil	Nil
72	P&D, Lahore	10	07	Nil

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73	Quaid-e-Azam Library, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
74	PKLI, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
75	P&SH Department, Lahore	01	04	01
76	E&T, Region-D, Lahore	01	03	Nil
77	Irrigation Department, Lahore	01	45	Nil
78	Forestry & Wildlife Department, Lahore	01	88	Nil
79	LWMC, Lahore	01	08	Nil
80	Labour Human Resource Department, Lahore	01	04	01
81	Punjab Council of Arts, Lahore	10	01	Nil
82	PPRA, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
83	Governor Secretariat, Lahore	02	35	04
84	DPO, Toba Tek singh	04	02	01
85	ACE, Lahore HQ	01	15	02
86	Ganga Ram Hospital, Lahore	03	Nil	Nil
87	Special Education department, Lahore	02	06	03
88	Teaching hospital, Gujranwala	06	Nil	Nil

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89	Punjab Human Organ Transplant Authority, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
90	CCPO, Lahore	01	37	Nil
91	Mian Munshi Teaching Hospital, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
92	DGHS, Lahore	01	Nil	Nil
93	E&T, Region-C, Lahore	01	18	05
94	Lahore College for women University, Lahore	01	1	1
95	DPO Vehari	01	02	01
96	XEN 5TH Building Division	01	05	02
97	RPO Multan	01	01	Nil
98	CEO Health Jhang	01	05	01
99	CEO DEA Multan	01	10	04
100	SE Building Department Lahore	05	15	3



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CHALLENGES FOR PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION

(i) Lack of Political Will to Enforce RTI law

Lack of political and bureaucratic will is the main challenge in the way of ultimate enforcement of Right to Information Law. Although strenuous efforts of Punjab Information Commission during past 2-1/2 years have considerably changed the culture and anti-disclosures mindset in Punjab, yet the access to information within stipulated period of 14 days after filing of RTI Applications is still a great challenge. We believe that only 10% citizens get requisite information within 14 days after filling of RTI Applications directly to public bodies. It is only on the intervention of Punjab Information Commission that provision of information in 100% cases is ensured. This is not a heathy state of affairs that 90% load of work is shifted to the shoulders of Commission. It is only due to the poor state of responsibility and lack of understanding of RTI law by public bodies particularly on the part of Administrative Secretaries or HODs.

(ii) Lack of financial autonomy

It is provided under section 14 of the Act that the government shall allocate adequate funds to Commission to enable the establishment of its Secretariat, hire the requisite staff, conduct its business properly and promote access to information among the public servants and civil society. Thus, under the law the Commission has complete financial autonomy but practically it is deprived by the rigors of allocation of budgetary amounts through AG office in the shape of quarterly releases. Thus, the limited staff of Commission keep running to AG Office for encashment of even petty amounts against day to day bills. It not only hampers the efficiency of Commission already working with just 19 supporting staff members while dealing with whole of the Province of Punjab for implementation of RTI Act, 2013.

KPK Information Commission has also similar provisions of financial autonomy and only one liner amount of budget is directly transferred in its account with no

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intervention of finance department for quarterly releases and of AG Office for day to day encashment of bills. KPK Information Commission gets the utilization audited by hiring the services of independent auditor.

RTI Act, 2013 envisages delivery of service by PIOs and the Commission in real time and that too in pro-active manner. It is not possible without making the Commission truly independent even for its financials in accordance with the spirit of law.

(iii) Non-Provision of Proper Budget

In order to ensure mass RTI awareness campaign throughout the Punjab and to impart trainings to all PIOs of all offices of the Punjab, which run into thousands and thousands, obviously require adequate funds. The awareness and training campaign involves frequent inter-districts movement by holding seminars coupled with massive publications of RTI awareness material. According to an assessment the number of PIOs in Punjab is in lacs but the funds provided for the said purposes are far below the requirement.

(iv) Lack of Human Resource

Even if the Commission is provided with adequate funds, it cannot discharge its functions without the support of proper number of staff to launch RTI campaign and impart trainings in every nook and corner of the Province of Punjab while conducting gigantic business of disposal of RTI Appeals at headquarters. As submitted in pervious chapters, the Commission was originally sanctioned 43 posts of supporting staff but later reduced by the Government to 30 posts, which was a death blow for the Commission.

I would not mince words to point out that sanctioning of posts by the Government is in-conflict with the independence of Commission reflected from Sec. 14 of the Act, which empowers the Commission to itself determine the number of staff for its proper functioning. Therefore, the acts of sanctioning of posts by the

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Government followed by arbitrary reduction, contrary to the spirit of law is a great challenge for the Commission.

(v) Mindset of Secrecy

The Commission while disposing of RTI Appeals has noted the general resistance from public functionaries against disclosure of public information not only due to fear of some irregularity but also for nothing for a typical mindset of keeping public matters secret just considering it their personal property. In fact the hangovers of Official Secret Act, 1923 (though annulled under RTI Act, 2013) and considering public information as a source of nuisance or power, lead to such general resistance. This anti public information disclosure mindset can be understood with reference to feudal values of our society and our colonial background. The Commission alone cannot bring change of hearts unless full support of media, parliamentarians and civil society is behind the Commission.

(vi) Inhuman Values of Class Society

We are living in a class society which is divided among rich and poor, ruler and ruled, feudal and serfs, landlords and agriculture labour, have and have nots etc. In such societies there is general disregard for human rights and a destitute is not considered even a human being. In most of cases senior officers question the entitlement of an ordinary citizen with contempt for his demand of information in matters of public importance. This smacks of the values generated by class society. In order to enforce revolutionary RTI law in its letter and spirit a mass awareness campaign is required by all stake-holders. However till the elimination of such inhuman values, it will remain a big challenge for the dream of open government.

(vii) RTI Requests not relating to matters of public importance

It was a sore point during our early days as Information Commissioners that most of RTI requests were based on personal grievances and vendettas. I as Chief

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Information Commissioner has throughout been advocating in RTI Seminars and in my discourses in print and electronic media to motivate citizens to file RTI requests which pertain to matters of public matters.

In fact the real object of RTI law is institutional reforms in addition to elimination of corruption through public participation by exercising their right to information. I am thankful to God that with our hard labour and propagation for a period more two years, we have succeeded to know receive at least 50% RTI requests relating to matters of public importance. RTI Applications based on personal grievances and aim at blackmailing and harassment shall however remain a big challenge for the Commission for quite some time.



CIC & Delegation of SMU of CM Secretariat

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SOME PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN RTI ACT, 2013

The Commission is of the considered view that following amendments in the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013 are imperative to remove the anomalies and to achieve the objective of RTI Act, 2013.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN RTI ACT 2013

(i) Laying of Annual Report to the Punjab Assembly

Sec-6 (6) of the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013 enjoins upon the Commission to prepare Annual Report based on the activities of financial year and then to submit to the Government. Thereafter Government is to lay the Annual Report before Punjab Assembly. This arrangement is in conflict with independence of the Punjab Information Commission and the experience has shown that this procedure causes huge delay in laying of Annual Reports. It was due to the same fact that Annual Reports for the years 2014/15 and 2015/16 duly submitted to the Government well and time could get the approval of cabinet Nov 2020 and are being laid to the Assembly in February 2021. It is, therefore, requested that the said impediment of submitting Annual Report to government may be removed by way of necessary amendment in Section 6(6) of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013.

(ii) Distribution of Work among Information Commissioners

There is an anomaly in RTI Act, 2013 that Chief Information Commissioner cannot distribute the work among Information Commissioners for the conduct of inquiry into Complaint/Appeal, though the Commission may authorize any person other than a Information Commissioner to examine any matter on the spot vide sub clause (6) of section 6. The inquiry by Commission, therefore, means the proceedings by all three Information Commissioners jointly. On the other hand the work of Commission is increasing on daily basis and the rigor of joint inquiry by

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all three Information Commissioners is creating a great hardship to dispose of RTI Complaints/Appeals within stipulated period of 30 days.

It is proposed that Sub Clause 6 of Sec-6 of RTI Act, 2013 may be amended in a way that an Information Commissioner may also be individually competent (like any other authorized person) to conduct an inquiry into a Complaint/Appeal subject to distribution of work by the Chief Information Commissioner, though the prerogative of final decision may rest with the Commission as before. Consequently, Sub Clause (6) of Sec-6 may kindly be amended as follows;

> *"while inquiring into a complaint, any Commissioner subject to distribution of work by Chief Information Commissioner or any other person authorized by the Commission, may examine any information on the spot".*

The Commission will not be able to cope with ever increasing load of work if the above proposed amendment is not carried out by the Provincial Assembly of Punjab.

(iii) <u>Vexatious RTI Application</u>

Good laws always take care of misuse of law to curb vexatious and frivolous Applications/Cases. Section 35 of Civil Procedure Code and Section-10 (d) of KPK Information Act, 2013, provide for award of compensatory cost or rejection of applications in case of frivolous and vexatious causes. However, the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013 does not equip a PIO with the powers to reject vexatious and frivolous RTI Application. At present at-least 25% RTI Appeals pending with the Commission are vexatious and aimed at blackmailing or harassment of some official out of personal vendetta or aimed at harassment of working women.

PIOs are not sufficiently equipped to handle such RTI Applications though the Commission while considering such matters from the perspective of public interest or public policy u/s 13 (2) of the Act can disallow such disclosures. We therefore,

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consider the necessity for amendment of section 13(1) by adding an exemption clause for refusal of information by a PIO in respect of frivolous and vexatious application subject to recording of reasons by him.

(iv) Designation of PIOs

Section-7 of the Act provides only "designation" of a PIO in each administrative unit or office of each public body. The "designation" does not means regular appointment rather it envisages assigning the RTI work as an additional charge to an officer who is already holding some other regular post with different duties. This arrangement obviously means that public information officer (PIO) is not a substantive post to discharge only RTI business. As such the officer so designated as PIO has to spare some time for the conduct of RTI business from his regular duties, hence he cannot do justice with RTI work. Secondly with the transfer of officer so designated, the office of PIO automatically gets vacated and fresh designation is not made in most of cases until some RTI request is filed. Even if fresh designation is made, the PIO freshly designated takes a long time to learn the procedure under RTI Act 2013. In addition no monetary incentive is attached with the additional work of being designated as PIO. The cumulative effect of lack of continuity, pressure of regular work, no support of HOD for RTI work and lack of monetary incentive for doing RTI business are that generally conduct of RTI business is not satisfactory.

It is proposed to ensure professional conduct of RTI business that regular posts of PIOs, instead of the arrangement of mere designation, may be created at least for public bodies with heavy load of RTI business like Health, Education, Police, LG&CD etc.

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PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURE BY GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB

Creation of RTI Monitoring Wing in S&GAD

It is proposed that RTI Monitoring Wing should be created in S&GAD to oversee and monitor the overall working of RTI in all departments of Govt of Punjab in the light of RTI Act, 2013 and to ensure the compliance of orders of Punjab Information Commission.

Although Provincial RTI Implementation Committee has already agreed in its meeting dated 12.01.2021 with this proposal of Chief Information Commissioner but its implementation in letter and spirit is still a question mark.

Training of Chief PIOs & PIOs

Mere appointment of Chief PIOs and PIOs is not enough. The desired results can be achieved only subject to their regular trainings in an academy. MPDD can be the best seat for their regular trainings in collaboration with Punjab Information Commission.

Pro-active Disclosure

It is unfortunate that so far public bodies have not seriously taken RTI law as well as the directions of Punjab Information Commission to establish their web-sites and to disclose all their basic information in proactive manner as envisaged under Section 4 of the Act. It amounts to serious violation of law as well as the directions of Chief Secretary, Punjab dated 12.02.2019 & 13.05.2019 as well as frequent directions of the Punjab Information Commission. The Commission is going to conduct a Social Audit of compliance of RTI mechanism by public bodies particularly of proactive disclosure arrangements in the month of February 2021. The Provincial RTI Implementation Committee headed by Addl. Chief Secretary needs to take it more seriously.

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PROPOSED RTI SOCIAL AUDIT OF ALL PUBLIC BODIES

The Commission issued a letter dated 20th Jan, 2021 to heads of all Public Bodies/HODs issuing a final warning to implement following crucial elements of RTI mechanism provided under the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013:-

(i) Appointment of Chief PIOs
(ii) Appointment of PIOs for all offices
(iii) Establishment of RTI Web-sites
(iv) Proactive disclosure through Web-sites
(v) Imparting Training & equipping PIOs

The Commission declared the conduct of RTI Social Audit of all public bodies in Feb 2021 for implementation of above-mentioned basic elements of RTI mechanism. It shall be conducted in Feb 2021 and its report indicating the level of implementation of RTI mechanism of each public body shall be issued in the end of March 2021. The report shall be forwarded to the Government with recommendation to take actions against the defaulting public bodies and to also forward the report to the Punjab Assembly.

The RTI Social Audit shall be based upon objective analysis and public perception about the implementation of six pronged RTI mechanism and the commitment/ability of PIO to conduct RTI business in efficient & effective manner. Five most crucial elements of RTI mechanism including the preparation of Annual Report by the public body were envisaged by RTI Act, 2013 to put in place within 60 days after promulgation of RTI Act, 2013.

The letter dated 20th Feb 2021 issued to Registrar LHC, all Administrative Secretaries/HODs, all Commissioners, all DCs, IGP, DIGs, DPOs etc can be seen on next pages.

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No. 2-222-/2021
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION
64-Nursery Lane, Lawrence Road, Lahore
Tel: 042-99205794
Lahore, the 20 January, 2021
MOST URGENT/TIME LIMIT

To,

The Registrar, LHC, Lahore;
All Administrative Secretaries/HODs;
All Commissioners & DCs;
IGP Punjab/CCPOs/RPOs/CPOs/DPOs;
The Secretary Provincial Assembly of the Punjab;
All Administrators of LG&CD Bodies;

SUBJECT: RTI (RIGHT TO INFORMATION) FOR *TRANSPARENCY, GOOD-GOVERNANCE& ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION*

السلام علیکم

Imran Khan as Prime Minister made a historic statement at very outset that "**RTI***(Right to Information*) **is future of Pakistan**", reflecting his unflinching faith in Transparency as key to eliminate corruption. The question arises whether heads of public bodies have also the same conviction as enshrined under Article 19/A of the Constitution and have further ensured the administrative arrangements as envisaged under the Punjab Transparency & Right to Information Act, 2013?

2. The landmark judgments of Hon'ble Lahore High Court, Lahore, by Mr. Justice Abid Aziz Sheikh in ICA No. 77437/ 17&by Mr. Justice Mujahid Mustaqeem Ahmad in WP No. 9315/2019respectively, followed by the constitution of Provincial RTI Implementation Committee, headed by ACS Punjab, are no doubt unprecedented achievements during the nation's journey towards RTI & Transparency, but still the public perception as to the efficacy of RTI regime is not encouraging and most of public

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bodies have yet to manifest their conviction for "transparency" by implementing mandatory actions provided under RTI Act, 2013.

3. The Punjab Information Commission being a Regulatory Body has many a time drawn the attention of all Administrative Authorities of Punjab to fulfill statutory obligations(administrative arrangements) facilitating the citizens to exercise right to information. These were to be implemented within 60 days of the promulgation of RTI Act, on 16.12.2013. The Commission makes a **final call** to take following basic & mandatory actions within stipulated time-frame, before the conduct of **Social Audit**;

Sr. #	Actions	Time-Frame
1.	Appointments of Chief PIOs (vide CS directives dated 12.02.2019 & 13.05.2019)	UPTIL 1st February, 2021
2.	Appointments of PIOs for all offices (vide Sec-7 of RTI Act, 2013)	UPTIL 15th February, 2021
3.	Establishment of RTI Websites (vide Sec-8 of RTI Act, 2013)-	UPTIL 22nd February, 2021
4.	Proactive Disclosures through websites(vide Sec-4 of RTI Act, 2013)	UPTIL 28th February, 2021
5.	Imparting Training & Equipping PIOs (mandatory U/S 6 (5) (e) of RTI Act, 2013)	UPTIL 28th February, 2021

4. It is warned that SOCIAL AUDIT of each department as to implementation of above-mentioned basic and mandatory provisions of RTI Act 2013, shall be got conducted in March 2021. The report would be made public and would also be presented to Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, the Chief Minister Punjab and worthy Prime Minister of Pakistan.

-Sd-
(Mahboob Qadir Shah)
Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab

CC to;

1. **Principal Secretary** to Prime Minister of Pakistan;
2. **Principal Secretary** to Chief Minister Punjab;
3. **PSO** to Chief Secretary Punjab;
4. **PSO** to Chairperson Provincial RTI Implementation Committee.

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NATIONAL FORUM OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS OF PAKISTAN

Federal & Provincial Information Commissions were established to act as appellate bodies, to raise awareness among citizens about fundamental right to information, to raise capacity building of public bodies through trainings and to periodically advise public bodies and the governments to improve access to information. Information Commissioners while performing said roles, experience in their respective areas and jurisdictions, both good and bad experiences. It was first time during the meeting of Information Commissioners organized by GIZ at Islamabad on 18.12.2018, that Chief Information Commissioner Punjab floated a proposal to establish a platform of all Information Commissioners of Pakistan to share their knowledge and experiences. This suggestion was translated into reality by CPDI by sponsoring the conduct of National Forum of Information Commissioners to be hosted by all Commissions one by one.

First Meeting

In this regard first meeting of National Forum of Information Commissioners was held under the auspicious of Pakistan Information Commission on 19th and 20th Sep 2019 at Islamabad. All three Information Commissioners of Punjab participated the meeting and took maximum benefit through sharing of views and experiences and thereby learning from each other. The significant feature of this meeting was a "Declaration of Information Commissioners 2019" presented by Chief Information Commissioner Punjab and approved/adopted by all Information Commissioners. The text of the Declaration is as follows;-

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DECLARATION OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS 2020

We the Commissioner of Federal Information Commission, Punjab Information Commission, KP Information Commission and Sindh Information Commission pay tributes to all those RTI and Human Right Activist, Parliamentarian and Media persons who struggled for Freedom of Information in Pakistan and their efforts ultimately led to insertion of Article 19A in the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the year 2010 acknowledging the ***right to information*** as fundamental rights of citizens of Pakistan.

We Considered the said provision of Constitution and right to information legislation at federal and provincial levels as ushering in the era from the people of Pakistan marked with respect for human right, inclusive values, participatory democracy, accountability and good governance in matters of public importance of Municipal, Provincial and Federal public bodies of Pakistan.

We beseech upon all tiers of government's to put their weight behind the implementation of right to information laws eliminating the culture and mindset of secrecy as one of the vestige of colonial era and to further empower the Information Commissions to come to the expectation of beleaguered and down trodden people of Pakistan by prevailing transparency and maximum disclosure.

We the Commissioners hold and reaffirm over unwavering faith in right to information which is inalienable, inherent and fundamental right of citizens of Pakistan, duly acknowledge by the creator of mankind as follows;

"Say, "Can those (individual & nations) who know can be equal to those who do not know?" only those will be remembered [who are] people of understanding and knowledge"

(Al Quran 39:9)

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We the information Commissioners of Pakistan hereby undertake and solemnly declare that we perform the sacred duty of access to information without nay fear or favour, leaving aside any personal interest with a missionary zeal and taking it a sacred task in the service of people of Pakistan in particular for humanity in general.

(Presented by CIC, Punjab)

20.09.2019

-Sd-	-Sd-	-Sd-
Mr. Zahid Abdullah	**Ch. Muhammad Azam**	**Mr. Fawad Malik**
-Sd-	-Sd-	-Sd-
Mr. Riaz Khan Daudzai	**Chief Information Commissioner**	**Ms. Mah Talat**
-Sd-	-Sd-	-Sd-
Syed Gul Munir Shah	**Ch. Gulzar Sheikh**	**Mr. Sikander Ali Hulio**
-Sd-	-Sd-	-Sd-
Mr. Saeed Akhtar Ansari	**Mr. Mehboob Qadir Shah**	**Mr. Hassan Iqbal**



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Second Meeting

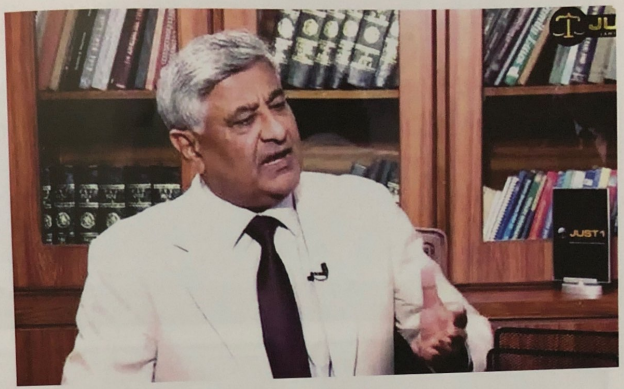
The second meeting of National Forum of Information Commissioners of Pakistan was hosted by Punjab Information Commission on 6th to 7th Feb 2020. The Information Commissioners from all over Pakistan participated and deliberated upon all issues for effective and efficient implementation of RTI regime. The meeting was arranged in Gym-Khana Club followed by lunch for all participants.

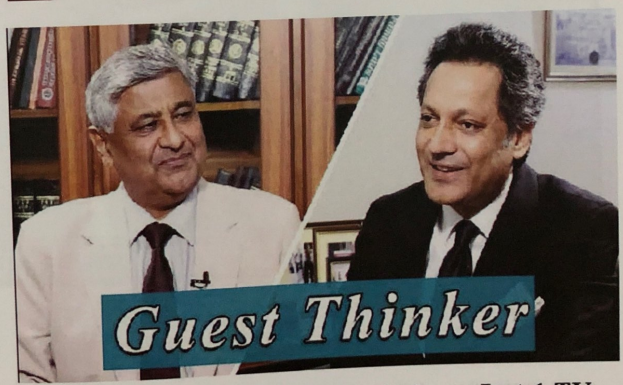
On second day of meeting an interactive session of all Information Commissioners with almost 250 members of civil society was held in Al-Humra Hall on 7.02.2020. A large number of judges, advocates, journalists, academicians, students of mass communication and RTI activists participated in the event. The Commissioners not only expressed their views in the shape of mutual dialog but also responded to the questions of participants. Mr. Almas Ali Jovindah, a renowned lawyer, played the role of moderator. The event was a great attraction for the civil society and was conspicuously covered by the print and electronic media. It immensely helped to make citizens aware about the importance of right to information and the vital role of Punjab Information Commission for its implementation.



سی پی ڈی آئی کے زیرِ اہتمام نیشنل فورم آف انفارمیشن کمشنرز کی دوسری میٹنگ کا منظر

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An interview by Almas Ali Jovinda on Just-1 TV

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Interview on City-42

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Address by CIC in Kasur



Group Photo with Toby Mendal and all Information Commissions

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Training of Chief PIOs in Civil Secretariat



CIC Addressed Rotary Club

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Group photo with Justice ® Fakhar un Nisa



CIC decorated by Secty Excise & Taxation

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National Forum of Information Commissioners







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RTI Seminar in Bahawalpur



CIC is Addressing PIOs



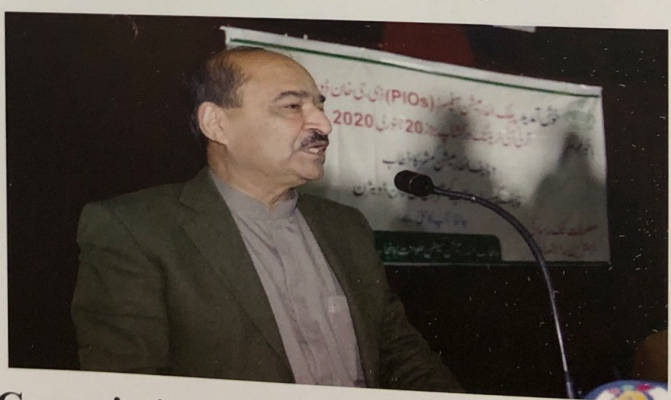
Commissioner BWP is Addressing

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RTI Seminar in DG Khan



CIC is Addressing



Commissioner DG Khan is Addressing

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Paris Peace Forum



CIC in Pak Embassy Paris



CIC IN UNESCO HEAD OFFICE

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National Forum of Information Commissioners







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CIC Addressing in UVAS University

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1st Provincial RTI Imp. Committee Meeting





ایڈیشنل چیف سیکرٹری پنجاب ارم بخاری پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہی ہیں سیکرٹری انفارمیشن راجہ جہانگیر اور چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر محبوب قادر اور دیگر متعلقہ افسران بھی موجود ہیں (لاہور 13 جنوری 2021ء)

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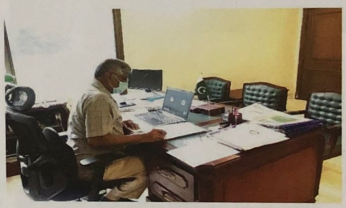
RTI Partners Planning WorkShop-2019





Online Coordination meeting with GIZ on Citizen engagements for improvement of municipal service linking it to RTI in Punjab





Webinar on Advocacy Initiatives for Strong Right to Information Law in Balochistan





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Visit of IPA Delegation













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RTI Study tour of Assistant Director and Incharge CMC






An Orientation Session with Civil Society Organization








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پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے زیر اہتمام منعقدہ تقریب میں چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر پنجاب محبوب قادر شاہ، جسٹس (ر) انور الحق جسٹس (ر) شیخ احمد فاروق آر ٹی آئی کے ماہر قانون دان و آزادی انفارمیشن بل کے بانی جسٹس (ر) افضل حیدر کو شیلڈ پیش کر رہے ہیں

International RTI Day



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MOU with PITB for Compliant Management System

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CIC with Distt. Judiciary Sheikhupura





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RTI & Good Governance Seminar Rawalpindi









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CIC with Distt. Judiciary Gujranwala







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Certificates Distribution among internees on 29-01-2021










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CIC Addresses Media Houses in Press Club Lhr on 09-02-2021





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PRESS CLIPPINGS

سرکاری افسران عوام کو مطلوبہ معلومات دینے کے پابند ہیں: محبوب قادر

دیر و کرپشن خود کو بادشاہ سمجھ کر عوام کی مداخلت پسند نہیں کرتے: چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر

قانون کی اردو/مقامی زبان میں ترویج کرائی جائے: نسیم صادق دو دیگر کا تربیتی پروگرام سے خطاب

-زبیر خان خٹک (بیورو رپورٹ، وقائع نگار) چیف انفارمیشن کمیشنر محبوب قادر نے کہا ہے کہ رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن کا قانون کے تحت جولائی 2019 کے بعد کسی بھی مدت میں پبلک

باقی صفحہ 5 بقیہ نمبر 29



کمشنر نسیم صادق، چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر محبوب قادر، راضی الحق، کمیل نسیم کھوکھر، شبنم جعفری، حسنین وحید کتاب سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

پس ایکارسمیت 11 افراد زخمی ہو گئے، رکشہ تیزی سے خیبر روڈ کی جانب جا رہا تھا، حادثہ سے درجنوں

پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کا آر ٹی آئی رپورٹس جمع نہ کرانے والے محکموں افسران کیخلاف قانونی کارروائی کا فیصلہ

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن

صفحہ 11 بقیہ نمبر 114

بقیہ | پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن | 114

نے آر ٹی آئی کی سالانہ رپورٹس جمع نہ کروانے والے محکموں اور افسران کے خلاف قانونی کارروائی کا فیصلہ کر لیا۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن کی طرف سے جاری احکامات کے مطابق 2018-19 کی رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ رپورٹس اور شکایات کے ازالے کے حوالے سے اپنی کارکردگی نہ بھیجنے والے افسران کے خلاف حکومت پنجاب سے کارروائی کی سفارش کی جائے گی۔

جنگ

انفارمیشن کمیشن، گمراہ کن جواب پر DG ماحولیات پیر کو طلب

NOC کیلئے 2208 درخواستیں زیر التوا ہونے کا انکشاف، ویب سائٹ پر معلومات نہ دینے پر چیف کمشنر برہم

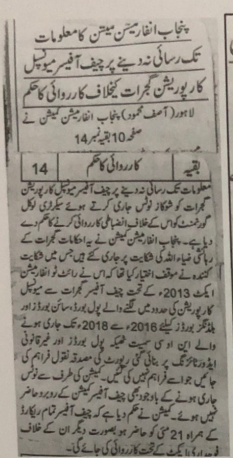
لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے قانون کے مطابق صنعتوں کو این او سی جاری کرنے کی مدت پر گمراہ کن جواب دینے پر ڈائریکٹر جنرل ماحولیات کو 20 جولائی کو طلب کر لیا ہے۔ پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں شعبہ عرفان بیام ڈی جی ماحولیات کیس میں محکمہ کی طرف سے دی گئی معلومات میں انکشاف ہوا کہ گذشتہ 2 سال کے دوران صوبے میں صرف بڑی صنعتیں لگانے کے حوالے سے این او سی کی 2 ہزار 208 درخواستیں زیر التوا ہیں۔ چیف کمشنر محبوب قادر شاہ نے اپنے حکم نامے میں کہا کہ بڑی چھوٹی صنعتوں کو جاری لائسنس اور اس حوالے سے ہزاروں درخواستوں کے زیر التوا ہونے سے متعلق محکمہ کی ویب سائٹ پر معلومات موجود نہ ہونا رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013ء کے سیکشن 4 کی خلاف ورزی ہے۔ محکمہ ماحولیات کا آر ٹی آئی قانون پر مطمئن نہ ہونے پر چیف کمشنر برہم رویہ سامنے آیا ہے۔ ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر مس عظمت ناز نے اپنی جگہ اپنے اسسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر کو بھیجا ہے کیس اور قانون کا علم رکھتا ہو تاکہ ہم کوئی نہ کوئی وجہ سماعت کے دوران کمیشن کی کسی خواہش کی جانب سے کوئی مدد کر سکے۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر تمام معلومات پبلک کر دی جائیں گی۔

جنگ

پٹرول اور مرمت کے اخراجات میں اضافہ، گورنر نے اپنے زیر استعمال دو بلٹ پروف گاڑیوں کو استعمال نہ کرنے کا حکم دیکر ان کو چھوڑ دیا

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر گورنر پنجاب تنکر تیرمذ کی طرف سے پبلک کی جانے والی معلومات میں انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ پٹرول اور مرمت کے اخراجات زیادہ ہونے کی وجہ سے گورنر نے اپنے زیر استعمال دو بلٹ پروف مرسیڈیز کاروں کو استعمال نہ کرنے کا حکم دے کر ان پر سفر کرنا چھوڑ دیا ہے۔ گورنر پنجاب اپنے آئینی فرائض سرانجام دینے کے لئے دو سرکاری گاڑیاں استعمال کر رہے ہیں۔ راضی ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013 کے تحت جاری معلومات میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ گورنر تنکر تیرمذ کو پٹرول کی مد میں مالی سال (2018-19، 2019-20) کے دوران 91 لاکھ 20 ہزار روپے خرچ کئے گئے۔ یکم جنوری 2019 سے 30 جون 2020 تک 55 لاکھ 61 ہزار 222 روپے کا پٹرول خرچ ہوا۔ پٹرول پر خرچ کی گئی یہ رقم بیٹا آئی، اکاؤنٹ نمبر A03807 سے خرچ کی گئی۔ گورنر تنکر تیرمذ کی دیگر ذیلی ہیڈز کے پٹرول کے لئے گزشتہ دو سال کے دوران بیٹا آئی اکاؤنٹ A13001 سے 34 لاکھ 20 ہزار روپے خرچ کئے گئے جس میں سے گزشتہ ڈیڑھ سال کے دوران 29 لاکھ 7 ہزار 891 روپے کا پٹرول خرچ ہوا۔ پبلک کی جانے والی معلومات میں یہ بھی بتایا گیا ہے کہ یکم جنوری 2019 سے اب تک گورنر ہاؤس میں 4 ٹوائلٹ، ہیوڈ کنسرٹ اور دیگر اہم تنصیبات کے فلٹس منصوبے ہوئے جو سیلف کانٹینڈ تھے۔ ان پر گورنر ہاؤس کا کوئی سرکاری خرچ نہیں ہوا۔

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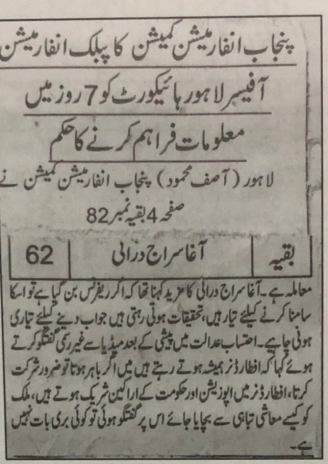


پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کا معلومات تک رسائی نہ دینے پر چیف آفیسر میونسپل کارپوریشن گجرات کیخلاف کارروائی کا حکم

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے صفحہ 10 نقیہ نمبر 14

نقیہ	کارروائی کا حکم	14

معلومات تک رسائی نہ دینے پر چیف آفیسر میونسپل کارپوریشن گجرات کو شوکاز نوٹس جاری کرتے ہوئے سیکرٹری نکل گجرخٹ کو اس کے خلاف انضباطی کارروائی کرنے کا حکم دے دیا ہے۔ پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے یہ احکامات گجرات کے رہائشی ضیاء اللہ کی شکایت پر جاری کئے ہیں جس میں شکایت کنندہ نے موقف اختیار کیا تھا کہ اس نے راحت فو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013ء کے تحت چیف آفیسر گجرات سے میونسپل کارپوریشن کی حدود میں گلف ۔ اے پولی بورڈ، سائن بورڈز اور بلڈنگ بورڈز کیلئے 2016ء سے 2018ء تک جاری ہونے والے این او سی سمیت تمام پول بورڈز اور غیر قانونی ایڈورٹائزنگ پر مبنی کی رپورٹ کی مصدقہ نقول فراہم کی جائیں جو اسے فراہم نہیں کی گئیں۔ کمیشن کی طرف سے نوٹس جاری ہونے کے باوجود چیف آفیسر کمیشن کے روبرو حاضر نہیں ہوئے۔ کمیشن نے حکم دیا ہے کہ چیف آفیسر تمام ریکارڈ کے ہمراہ 21 مئی کو حاضر ہو بصورت دیگر ان کے خلاف قانون کے تحت کارروائی کی جائے گی۔

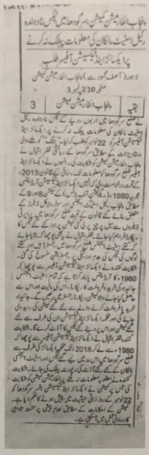


پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کا پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر لاہور ہائیکورٹ کو 7 روز میں معلومات فراہم کرنے کا حکم

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے صفحہ 4 نقیہ نمبر 82

نقیہ	آغا سراج درانی	62

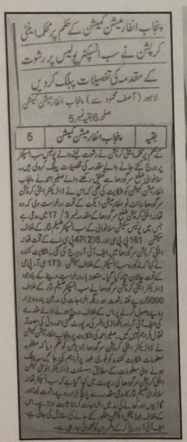
معاملہ ہے۔ آغا سراج درانی کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ اگر ریگولیٹرس بن گیا ہے تو اسکا سامنا کرنے کیلئے تیار ہیں، تحقیقات ہوتی رہتی ہیں جواب دینے کیلئے تیاری ہونی چاہیے۔ احتساب عدالت میں پیشی کے بعد میڈیا سے غیر رسمی گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ اظہارڈنر ہمیشہ ہوتے رہتے ہیں میں اگر باہر ہوتا تو ضرور شرکت کرتا، اظہارڈنر میں اپوزیشن اور حکومت کے ارکان شریک ہوتے ہیں، ملک کو کیسے معاشی تباہی سے بچایا جائے اس پر گفتگو ہوئی تو کوئی بری بات نہیں ہے۔



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر پوسٹس ہونے والے ڈی ایم جز پنڈ گنڈ میں پرانے نقیہ کے 2 کروڑ روپے خرچ کئے تخصیصات پبلک کردیں، انفارمیشن کمیشن کا تاریخی فیصلہ 54 کروڑ روپے کی تاتیوں کی خریداری کی تفصیلات دینے سے کریز میں

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن صفحہ 1 نقیہ نمبر 58

نقیہ	پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن	58



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر محکمہ اینٹی کرپشن کے سب انسپکٹر پولیس پر رشوت کے مقدمہ کی تفصیلات پبلک کردیں

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن صفحہ 1 نقیہ نمبر 5

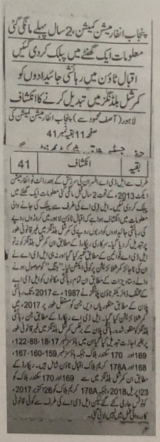
نقیہ	پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن	5



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر ڈی ایل ڈی آر آفیسر میں آکنسٹروکی سے چلنے والے ریکارڈ کی تحقیقات کیلئے کمیٹی قائم

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن صفحہ 18 نقیہ نمبر 23

نقیہ	کمیٹی قائم	23



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن 2 سال پہلے مانگی گئی معلومات ایک گھنٹے میں پبلک کردی گئیں

اقبال ٹاؤن میں رہائشی جائیدادوں کو کمرشل پلازہ میں تبدیل کرنے کا انکشاف

لاہور (آصف محمود) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کی صفحہ 11 نقیہ نمبر 41

نقیہ	انکشاف	41



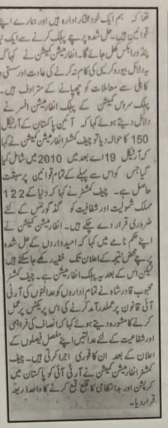
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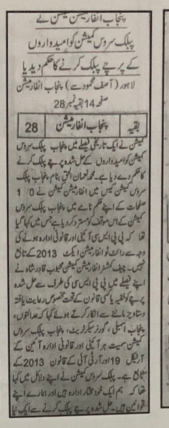
جنگ

نیلمی آباد میں 6 گھنٹے کے دوران شراب کی 35 دکانیں 22 بند کرنے کا حکم

ایکسائز کی ڈپٹی کمشنر نیلمی آباد کی طرف سے جاری کئے گئے حکم نامے کے مطابق نیلمی آباد میں 6 گھنٹے کے دوران شراب کی 35 دکانیں 22 بند کرنے کا حکم دیا گیا ہے۔ حکم نامے کے مطابق شراب کی دکانیں 2019ء سے 2021ء تک نیلمی آباد میں بند رہیں گی۔ حکم نامے کے مطابق شراب کی دکانیں 2019ء سے 2021ء تک نیلمی آباد میں بند رہیں گی۔ حکم نامے کے مطابق شراب کی دکانیں 2019ء سے 2021ء تک نیلمی آباد میں بند رہیں گی۔



ثنا کہ ہم ایک خودمختار ادارہ ہیں اور ہمارے اسے قوانین ہیں۔ حل شدہ پبلک کیسز سے ایک پبلک پلیٹ فارم بنائیں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پبلک سروس کمیشن کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسر نے دوران سماعت بتایا کہ آج تک پاکستان کے آرٹیکل 150 کا حوالہ دیا ہوا ہے کیا کہ آج تک پاکستان کے آرٹیکل کر آرٹیکل 19 کے تحت 2010ء میں شامل کیا گیا جس کو اس سے پہلے کے قوانین میں شامل کیا حاصل ہے۔ چیف کمشنر نے کہا کہ دیانتدار 122 محکمہ ثبوت اور شفافیت کو یقینی بنانے کے ضروری قرار دے چکے ہیں۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن نے اپنے حکم نامے میں کہا کہ امیدواروں کے عمل شدہ پبلک کیسز کی تفصیلات 2 ہفتوں کے اندر پبلک کمیشن اس کے بعد پبلک انفارمیشن ہے۔ چیف کمشنر محبوب قادر شاہ نے تمام اداروں کو ہدایت کی کہ آئی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد کرتے ہوئے کہ اس پر عمل کرتے ہوئے معلومات تک رسائی کو یقینی بنائیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ انصاف کی فراہمی اور شفافیت کے بعد ہی ان کا فوری اجرا کرائی ہیں۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن نے آر ٹی آئی کو پاکستان میں کریشن اور بدانتظامی کا منع کرنے کا ہتھیار اور ایک قرار دیا۔



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے

پبلک سروس کمیشن کو امیدواروں

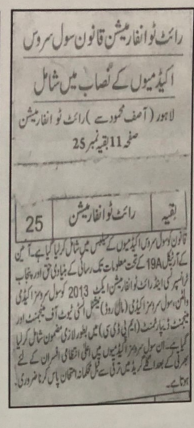
کے پر سے پبلک کرنے کا حکم دیدیا

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) پنجاب انفارمیشن

صفحہ 14 نمبر 28

نمبر	پنجاب انفارمیشن	28

کمیشن نے ایک تاریخی فیصلے میں پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کو امیدواروں کے کل شدہ پبلک کرنے کا حکم دیدیا ہے۔ پبلک کمیشن نے حکم دیا ہے کہ امیدواروں کے کل شدہ پبلک کیسز کو 2 ہفتوں کے اندر اندر پبلک کیا جائے۔ پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کے انفارمیشن افسر نے کمیشن کو بتایا تھا کہ پبلک سروس کمیشن کے پاس 150 کا حوالہ دیا ہوا ہے کیا کہ آج تک پاکستان کے آرٹیکل 19 کے تحت 2010ء میں شامل کیا گیا جس کو اس سے پہلے کے قوانین میں شامل کیا حاصل ہے۔ چیف کمشنر نے کہا کہ دیانتدار 122 محکمہ ثبوت اور شفافیت کو یقینی بنانے کے ضروری قرار دے چکے ہیں۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن نے اپنے حکم نامے میں کہا کہ امیدواروں کے عمل شدہ پبلک کیسز کی تفصیلات 2 ہفتوں کے اندر پبلک کمیشن اس کے بعد پبلک انفارمیشن ہے۔ چیف کمشنر محبوب قادر شاہ نے تمام اداروں کو ہدایت کی کہ آئی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد کرتے ہوئے کہ اس پر عمل کرتے ہوئے معلومات تک رسائی کو یقینی بنائیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ انصاف کی فراہمی اور شفافیت کے بعد ہی ان کا فوری اجرا کرائی ہیں۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن نے آر ٹی آئی کو پاکستان میں کریشن اور بدانتظامی کا منع کرنے کا ہتھیار اور ایک قرار دیا۔



رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن قانون سول سروس

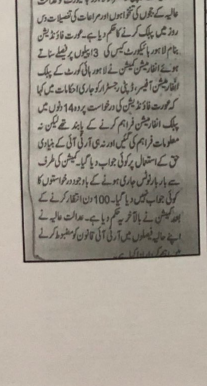
اکیڈمیوں کے نصاب میں شامل

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن

صفحہ 11 نمبر 25

نمبر	رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن	25

قانون سول سروس اکیڈمیوں کے نصاب میں شامل کر لیا گیا ہے۔ آئین کے آرٹیکل 19A کے تحت معلومات تک رسائی کو بنیادی حق اور پنجاب رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013 کو سول سروس اکیڈمی (ماڈل ہوا) بیچلر آئی بی ایٹ آف گورنمنٹ اور پبلک پالیسی (ایم پی اے پی اے) کے نصاب میں شامل کر لیا گیا ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں پہلی کلاس سے اکیڈمیوں میں باقی انتظامی افسران کے لئے کورسز کا آغاز ہو گیا ہے۔ کورس مکمل کرنے کے بعد امتحان بھی کرنا ضروری ہوتا ہے۔



انفارمیشن کمیشن کا لاہور ہائیکورٹ کے ججوں کی تنخواہوں اور مراعات کی تفصیل 10 روز میں پبلک کرنے کا حکم

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) پنجاب انفارمیشن

صفحہ 10 نمبر 1

نمبر	حکم	1

کمیشن نے ڈپٹی رجسٹرار لاہور ہائیکورٹ کو عدالت عالیہ کے ججوں کی تنخواہوں اور مراعات کی تفصیلات دس روز میں پبلک کرنے کا حکم دیا ہے۔ عورت فاؤنڈیشن بنام لاہور ہائیکورٹ کیس کی 3 دنیوں پر فیصلے سناتے ہوئے انفارمیشن کمیشن نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسر ڈپٹی رجسٹرار کو ہدایت کی کہ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی درخواست پر 14 دنوں میں پبلک انفارمیشن فراہم کرنے کے پابند نہ ہوں معلومات فراہم کی گئیں اور نہ ہی آر ٹی آئی کے بنیادی حق کے استعمال پر کوئی جواب دیا گیا۔ کمیشن کی طرف سے بار بار فراہم ہدایات جاری ہونے کے باوجود درخواستوں کا کوئی جواب نہیں دیا گیا۔ 100 دن اکثر کے بعد کمیشن نے بالآخر حکم دیا ہے۔ عدالت عالیہ نے ایسے حالیہ فیصلوں میں آر ٹی آئی قانون استعمال کرتے



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن: ڈی پی او

نوبپلک سنگھ کو شکایت فرقی میں

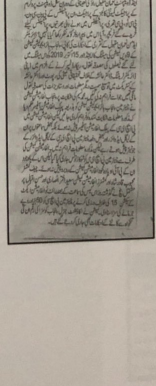
سزا یافتہ ایک پولیس ملازمین کی

معلومات آن میں پبلک کرنے کا حکم

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) پنجاب انفارمیشن

صفحہ 11 نمبر 6

نمبر	پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن	6



رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ کی خلاف

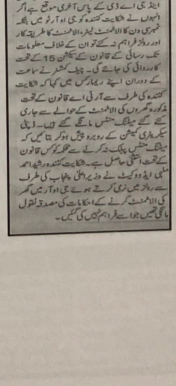
ورزی، ہیڈ مین پنجاب مارکیٹنگ

کمیشن 50 ہزار روپے جرمانے کی سزا

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) پنجاب انفارمیشن

صفحہ 11 نمبر 73

نمبر	73



پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن S&GAD کو

کوچی او آر مین الاٹمنٹ کا طریقہ کار

رولز اور دیگر معلومات پبلک کرنے

کیلئے ایک ہفتے کی ڈیڈ لائن

لاہور (آصف محمود ہے) پنجاب انفارمیشن

کمیشن نے اس ایڈ ای اسے ای کو ای او آر مین

صفحہ 5 نمبر 4

نمبر	ڈیڈ لائن	4

الاٹمنٹ کا طریقہ کار، رولز اور دیگر معلومات

پبلک کرنے کیلئے ایک ہفتے کی ڈیڈ لائن دے دی

ہے۔ رضیہ اصغر بنام اس ایڈ ای اسے ای

کمیشن کی سماعت کے دوران چیف کمشنر

محبوب قادر شاہ نے حکم دیا کہ پبلک بکز اس

ایڈ کی سے ای کے پاس آوری مرتبہ ہے اگر

ڈیڈ لائن سے 14 یوم تک تعمیل نہ کی گئی تو

شہری کی الاٹمنٹ لیٹر الاٹمنٹ کا طریقہ کار

اور رولز فراہم نہ کرنے کو ان کے خلاف معلومات

تک رسائی کے قانون کے سیکشن 15 کے تحت

کارروائی کی جائے گی۔ چیف کمشنر نے سماعت

کے دوران اپنے ریمارکس میں کہا کہ 60 کے

عشرے کی طرف سے آر ٹی اے قانون کے تحت

پلاٹوں کو شہریوں کی الاٹمنٹ کے حوالے سے جاری

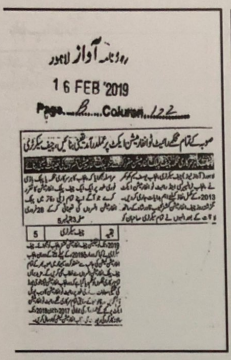
کئے گئے پبلک نوٹس مانگے گئے تھے۔ ڈپٹی

کمشنر بکز کے دوران چیف کمشنر نے کہا کہ

پبلک نوٹس مانگے گئے تھے۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر بکز کے

دوران چیف کمشنر نے کہا کہ

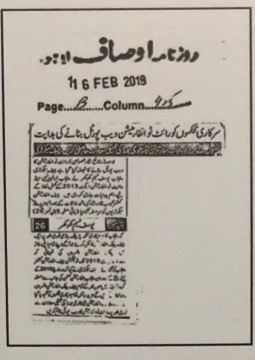
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روزنامہ آواز لاہور

16 FEB 2019

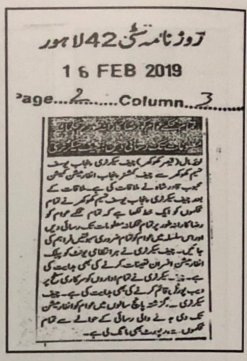
Page 2 Column 2



روزنامہ اوصاف لاہور

16 FEB 2019

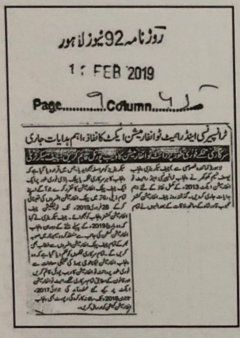
Page 2 Column 4



روزنامہ 92 نیوز لاہور

16 FEB 2019

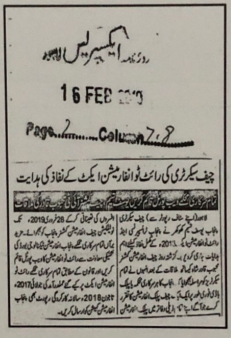
Page 6 Column 6



روزنامہ ایکسپریس لاہور

16 FEB 2019

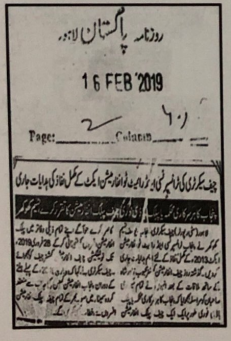
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روزنامہ پاکستان لاہور

16 FEB 2019

Page 2 Column 6



Daily DAWN Lahore

17 FEB 2019

Punjab to fully implement right to info act

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to fully implement the Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013 to guard against wrongdoing in public sector, asking all departments to immediately appoint Chief Public Information Officers (CPIOs).

They were asked to make these officers notify the Public Information Officers (PIOs) by Feb 28.

In a direction, the government has asked all departments to notify the CPIOs for a liaison with the Punjab Information Commission on their behalf. Each one of the departments should notify at least one PIO, arrange their training through the PIC and give them proper facilities required for the performance of their duties.

The chief secretary will address the PIOs in a seminar to be held in the PIC in the first week of next month.

The direction reminded the departments that proactive disclosure of information sought by people through PIOs was their duty under the law.

A performa has also been attached to the directive, asking all departments to prepare annual reports showing implementation status of the PTI&TI Act during the period from July 2017 to June 2018. These annual reports will be sent to the PIC accordingly.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary Yousaf Nasim Khokhar has announced full implementation of the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013 across the province.

Speaking at a meeting [illegible] Chief

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بقیہ | پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن | 114

نے آر ٹی آئی کی سالانہ رپورٹس جمع نہ کروانے والے محکموں اور افسران کے خلاف قانونی کارروائی کا فیصلہ کرلیا۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن کی طرف سے جاری احکامات کے مطابق 2018-19ء کی رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ رپورٹس اور شکایات کے ازالے کے حوالے سے اپنی کارکردگی نہ بھیجنے والے افسران کے خلاف حکومت پنجاب سے کارروائی کی سفارش کی جائے گی۔

جنگ

پٹرول اور مرمت کے اخراجات میں اضافہ، گورنر نے اپنے زیر استعمال دو بلٹ پروف گاڑیوں کو استعمال نہ کرنے کا حکم دیکر اپنا سفر کرنا چھوڑ دیا

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر گورنر پنجاب سیکرٹریٹ کی طرف سے پبلک کی جانے والی معلومات میں انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ پٹرول اور مرمت کے اخراجات زیادہ ہونے کی وجہ سے گورنر نے اپنے زیر استعمال دو بلٹ پروف مرسیڈیز کاروں کو استعمال نہ کرنے کا حکم دے کر ان پر سفر کرنا چھوڑ دیا ہے۔ گورنر پنجاب اپنے دفتر آنے جانے کیلئے فراٹس پر اہم ہونے کے لئے دو سرکاری گاڑیاں استعمال کر رہے ہیں۔ رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013ء کے تحت جاری معلومات میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ گورنر سیکرٹریٹ کو پٹرول کی مد میں مالی سال (2018ء-19ء 20) کے دوران 191 کنال 30 ہزار روپے مختص کئے گئے۔ یکم جنوری 2019ء سے 30 جون 2020ء تک 155 کنال 61 ہزار 222 روپے کا پٹرول خرچ ہوا۔ پٹرول پر خرچ کی گئی یہ رقم ہیڈ آف اکاؤنٹ نمبر A03807 سے خرچ کی گئی۔ گورنر سیکرٹریٹ کی دیگر اخراجات کے پٹرول کے لئے گزشتہ دو سال کے دوران ہیڈ آف اکاؤنٹ A13001 سے 34 لاکھ 20 ہزار روپے مختص کئے گئے جس میں سے گزشتہ ایک سال کے دوران

انفارمیشن کمیشن: ڈی جی محکمہ ماحولیات کو حکم عدولی اور عدم پیشی پر شوکاز نوٹس جاری، 27 جولائی کو پیش ہونے کا حکم

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے ڈائریکٹر جنرل محکمہ ماحولیات کو حکم عدولی اور عدم پیشی پر شوکاز نوٹس جاری کرتے ہوئے 27 جولائی کو تحریری وضاحت کے ساتھ پیش ہونے کا حکم دے دیا ہے۔

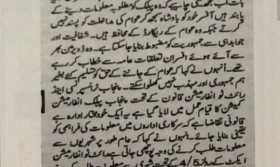
کاشانہ انکوائری رپورٹ میں وزیر اعلیٰ الیکشن ٹیم کی جانب سے سابق ڈی جی افشاں کرن کیخلاف بھی محکمانہ کارروائی کی سفارش کا انکشاف

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) کاشانہ سکینڈل کی انکوائری رپورٹ میں وزیر اعلیٰ الیکشن ٹیم نے انتظامی محکمہ کو سابق ڈائریکٹر جنرل سوشل ویلفیئر افشاں کرن کیخلاف بھی محکمانہ کارروائی کی سفارش کی تھی۔ یہ انکشاف پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر محکمہ سوشل ویلفیئر و بیت المال کی طرف سے کاشانہ سکینڈل پر وزیر اعلیٰ الیکشن ٹیم کی پبلک کی جانیوالی انکوائری رپورٹ میں ہوا ہے۔ ''جنگ'' کو حاصل دستاویزات کے مطابق پنجاب میں یتیم اور بے سہارا بچیوں کے تحفظ کیلئے بنائے گئے کاشانہ لاہور سکینڈل انکوائری رپورٹ میں وزیر اعلیٰ الیکشن ٹیم نے کہا کہ صوبے میں کاشانہ ہو کر چلانے کیلئے محکمہ سوشل ویلفیئر کی

سرکاری افسران عوام کو مطلوبہ معلومات دینے کے پابند ہیں: محبوب قادر

پیرو رکریشن خود بااپنا شناختی کارڈ دکھا کر عوام کو معلومات پبلک کرنے کی درخواستیں کرتے ہیں: چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر

قانون کی اردو متبادل زبان میں ترجمہ کر لی جائے، تعلیم سابق وزیر اعلیٰ پرویز الٰہی کے دور میں پاس ہوا تھا

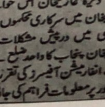


کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن محبوب قادر، ڈائریکٹر جنرل پبلک انفارمیشن کمیشن محمد شفیق اعوان اور دیگر شرکاء ورکشاپ سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں تمام محکموں کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسروں کی ٹریننگ ورکشاپ

لاہور (اپنے نامہ نگار سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں صوبے کے تمام سرکاری محکموں کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسروں کی دو روزہ ٹریننگ ورکشاپ کا آغاز ہو گیا، ٹریننگ کا مقصد رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013ء کے تحت سالانہ رپورٹ کی تیاری ہے۔

چیف کمشنر پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن محبوب قادر شاہ 20 جنوری کو ڈیرہ کا دورہ کریں گے



ڈیرہ غازیخان (وقائع نگار) چیف کمشنر پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن محبوب قادر شاہ 20 جنوری کو ڈیرہ غازیخان کا دورہ کریں گے۔ رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ کے حوالے سے آگاہی اور تربیتی ورکشاپ میں شرکت کے ساتھ ڈسٹرکٹ بار سے بھی خطاب کریں گے۔ ڈیرہ غازیخان کے کمرشنر ڈیسٹرکٹ کے ہیڈ اور نامزد کردہ پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر و کثیر تعداد میں شرکت کریں گے۔ محبوب قادر شاہ چیف کمشنر پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کا دورہ ڈیرہ غازیخان اس حوالے سے اہم ہے کہ ڈیرہ غازیخان میں سرکاری محکموں میں شہریوں کو معلومات کی فراہمی میں درپیش مشکلات کو کم کیا جائے گا۔ ڈیرہ غازیخان پنجاب کا واحد ضلع ہے جہاں سرکاری افسر سی پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر کی تقرری نہیں اور نہ ہی شہریوں کو عام طور پر معلومات فراہم کی جاتی ہیں۔

بقیہ نمبر 29 | محبوب قادر

انفارمیشن آفیسر کی عدم تقرری یا پبلک بالادی کی (آر ٹی آئی) کی ویب سائٹ پر پبلک معلومات اپلوڈ نہ کرنے پر ہیڈ آف ڈیپارٹمنٹ جرمانہ عائد اور سزا دی جاسکتی ہے۔ افسران کو یہ بات اب سمجھ لینی چاہیے کہ وہ پبلک کو طلب معلومات دینے کے پابند ہیں اگر خود کو بادشاہ سمجھ کر عوام کی ماما فٹ پر گھمانے کی کوشش کی تو جرمانہ عائد ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم نے ہر ضلع میں جا جا کر ڈی سی او، ڈی پی او، ڈی او ہیلتھ، ڈی او ایجوکیشن سے ملاقاتیں کیں اور ان کو بتایا کہ آپ کو ہر ضلع میں ایک پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسر کی تعیناتی کرنی ہے۔ ہم نے ان کو بتایا کہ ہم نے ایک ٹریننگ ورکشاپ کا آغاز کیا ہے جس میں ایک ہی دن میں 100 افسران کو تربیت دی جائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم نے ان کو بتایا کہ ہم نے ایک ٹریننگ ورکشاپ کا آغاز کیا ہے جس میں ایک ہی دن میں 100 افسران کو تربیت دی جائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم نے ان کو بتایا کہ ہم نے ایک ٹریننگ ورکشاپ کا آغاز کیا ہے جس میں ایک ہی دن میں 100 افسران کو تربیت دی جائے گی۔

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جنگ

بچوں اور عورتوں سے متعلق جرائم کی معلومات فراہم نہ کرنے پر پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے 31 اضلاع کی پولیس کے پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسرز کو طلب کر لیا

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے لاہور سمیت 31 اضلاع کے سی پی اوز اور ڈی پی اوز کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسران کو بچوں اور عورتوں سے متعلق جرائم کے بارے میں معلومات فراہم نہ کرنے پر طلب کر لیا ہے۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن نے یہ احکامات [illegible] کی طرف سے پنجاب پولیس کے رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن درخواستوں پر عملدرآمد نہ کرنے کی شکایات پر جاری کئے ہیں۔ سی پی اوز اور ڈی پی اوز کو جاری حکم نامے میں کہا گیا ہے کہ ان کے نمائندے (پبلک انفارمیشن افسر) کمیشن کے روبرو پیش ہو کر بتائیں کہ شکایت کنندگان کی درخواستوں پر بچوں سے جبری مشقت، غیرت کے نام پر قتل، عورتوں کے اغوا، زیادتی اور بچوں سے جنسی زیادتی کے گزشتہ ایک سال میں ہونے والے واقعات کے حوالے سے جوابات فراہم کیوں نہیں کئے گئے۔ [illegible] فیصل آباد [illegible] ملتان، [illegible] گجرات اور جہلم اضلاع کے سی پی اوز اور ڈی پی اوز کے نمائندوں کو 28 جنوری کو طلب کیا گیا ہے۔ [illegible] جھنگ، بہاولنگر، پاکپتن [illegible] بہاولپور [illegible] سرگودھا، مظفر گڑھ، رحیم یار خان، میانوالی [illegible] پولیس کے پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسرز کو 6، 8، 16 اور 18 فروری کو طلب کیا گیا ہے۔

جنگ

پنجاب میں 9832 پرائیویٹ سکول محکمہ تعلیم سے رجسٹریشن کے بغیر چل رہے ہیں، 577 سکولوں کی فیس 4 ہزار سے زیادہ ہے، پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں پیش کی گئی رپورٹ میں انکشاف

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں پیش کی جانے والی ایک رپورٹ میں انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ صوبے کے کل 46 ہزار 279 پرائیویٹ سکولوں میں 9 ہزار 832 محکمہ تعلیم کے ساتھ رجسٹرڈ ہی نہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق 577 پرائیویٹ سکول ایسے ہیں جن کی ماہانہ فیسیں 4 ہزار روپے سے زیادہ ہیں۔ 2 لاکھ 96 ہزار 337 طالبعلم 4 ہزار سے زائد فیس ادا کر رہے ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق سب سے زیادہ غیر رجسٹرڈ پرائیویٹ سکول لاہور میں ہیں جن کی تعداد 2 ہزار 295 ہے۔ دوسرے نمبر پر غیر رجسٹرڈ شدہ پرائیویٹ سکول گوجرانوالہ میں 1 ہزار 17 اور تیسرے نمبر پر فیصل آباد میں 723 ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق راولپنڈی میں 602، سیالکوٹ میں 591، ملتان میں 505، سرگودھا میں 441، نارووال میں 411، وہاڑی میں 336، منڈی بہاؤالدین میں 273، جھنگ میں 169، گجرات میں 276، شیخوپورہ میں 228، مظفر گڑھ میں 150، بہاولنگر میں 228، خانیوال میں 85، لیہ میں 80، چکوال 91 میں، حافظ آباد 98، ساہیوال 76، اوکاڑہ 76، 117، چنیوٹ 52، بھکر 40، رحیم یار خان 264، ڈی جی خان 48، پاکپتن 43، ٹوبہ ٹیک سنگھ 34، اٹک 29، جہلم 28، میانوالی 17 اور ملتان میں 505 ان رجسٹرڈ پرائیویٹ سکولز چل رہے ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق لاہور میں 1 لاکھ 12 ہزار 705، راولپنڈی میں 36 ہزار 2 سو 25، فیصل آباد میں 31 ہزار 7 سو بائیس، گوجرانوالہ 17 ہزار 6 سو 81، سیالکوٹ میں 20 ہزار ایک سو 72، سرگودھا میں 18 ہزار 2 سو 25، ملتان میں 17 ہزار 4 سو 7، گجرات میں 8 ہزار 92، بہاولپور میں 4 ہزار 3 سو اور ڈی جی خان میں 2 ہزار 101 طالبعلم پرائیویٹ سکولوں کو چار ہزار روپے سے زیادہ ماہانہ فیس ادا کر رہے ہیں۔

جنگ

لاہور میں کھربوں کی شہری زمینیں سالانہ لیز چند ہزار روپے، سرکاری رپورٹ

ریس کورس پارک کی 438 کنال 12 مرلہ اور 38 فٹ زمین کا کرایہ 1 روپیہ سالانہ لیز کی کوئی معلومات نہیں

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے حکم پر پبلک ہونے والی بورڈ آف ریونیو کی رپورٹ میں انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ لاہور میں حکومت کی ملکیتی کھربوں روپے کی شہری زمینیں چند ہزار سالانہ کرایوں پر لیز پر دی گئی ہیں۔ [illegible] 48 کنال زمین 1981 میں 99 سال لیز پر دی گئی جس کا سالانہ کرایہ 8 ہزار روپے ہے۔ [illegible] 11 کنال 33 مرلے [illegible] 50 سال کیلئے 1960 میں لیز پر دی گئی جس کا کرایہ 5 ہزار روپے سالانہ ہے، یہ لیز 2000 میں [illegible] 2050 [illegible] ریس کورس پارک کی 405 کنال 12 مرلہ اور 8 3 فٹ 1984 میں لیز کی جانے والی زمین کا کرایہ 1 روپیہ سالانہ [illegible] 180 کنال 1 مرلہ زمین 40 سال لیز [illegible]

[illegible] 2 کنال 12 مرلے 24 مربع فٹ زمین 1 روپیہ سالانہ پر [illegible] 8 کنال جگہ 99 سال کیلئے 3 ہزار روپے سالانہ پر 1964 میں دی گئی جس کی میعاد 2063 میں ختم ہو گی۔ پاکستان [illegible] 2 کنال 6 مرلے 135 مربع فٹ زمین 30 روپے سالانہ کے حساب سے 30 سال کیلئے 1975 میں دی گئی جو 2005 میں ختم ہوئی [illegible] 33 سال کیلئے 2038 تک لیز [illegible] 4 کنال زمین 10 سال کیلئے 400 روپے [illegible] 1991 میں دی گئی [illegible] 2001 میں 10 سال کیلئے [illegible] 2011 [illegible] 1 کنال 12 مرلے 53 مربع فٹ [illegible] 30 سال کیلئے 200 روپے [illegible] 1999 میں لیز پر دی گئی جو 2029 [illegible]

جنگ

رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ، پنجاب حکومت نے اعلیٰ سطحی عملدرآمد کمیٹی بنا دی

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب حکومت نے رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013 پر تمام محکموں سے عملدرآمد اور چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن کے احکامات کی فوری تعمیل کروانے کے لئے اعلیٰ سطحی کمیٹی تشکیل دے دی ہے۔ [illegible]

جنگ

شوگر ملز کاشتکاروں کی 1 ارب 36 کروڑ 12 لاکھ سے زیادہ کی نادہندہ

20 شکایات ملیں، 5 شوگر ملز کو شوکاز نوٹس جاری کئے، کین کمشنر کی انفارمیشن کمیشن میں رپورٹ

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب کی شوگر ملوں کے خلاف 2019.20 کے دوران کین کمشنر کو صرف 20 شکایات کی گئیں جن میں 5 شوگر ملوں کو گنے کی قیمت کی ادائیگی میں تاخیر پر شوکاز نوٹس جاری کئے گئے۔ پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں کین کمشنر کی طرف سے پیش کی گئی رپورٹ کے مطابق پنجاب کی 41 شوگر ملوں نے 175 ارب 44 کروڑ 11 لاکھ 31 ہزار 600 روپے کا گنا خریدا، کاشتکاروں کو اس میں 174 ارب 7 کروڑ 98 لاکھ 64 ہزار 938 روپے ادائیگیاں کی جا چکی ہیں۔ مختلف شوگر ملوں کے ذمے 1 ارب 36 کروڑ 12 لاکھ 66 ہزار 662 روپے ابھی تک واجب الادا ہیں۔ کین کمشنر کی رپورٹ کے مطابق ادائیگی میں تاخیر پر شوگر ملوں کو شوکاز نوٹس جاری کئے گئے جن میں سے بیشتر نے اپنے ادائیگی کے نظام کو بہتر کر لیا ہے جبکہ باقی نادہندہ شوگر ملز کے خلاف پنجاب لینڈ ریونیو ایکٹ 1967 کے تحت قانونی کارروائی شروع کر دی گئی ہے۔

دنیا

گھریلو ناچاقی، جھگڑے: 1 سال میں 7758 جوڑے علیحدہ

لاہور میں 3912 خواتین نے خلع لی، 3846 مردوں نے اپنی بیویوں کو طلاق دی

خلع اور طلاق کی شرح میں علامہ اقبال ٹاؤن سرفہرست رہا، میٹروپولیٹن کارپوریشن

لاہور (نمائندہ دنیا) گھریلو ناچاقی، جھگڑوں اور دیگر وجوہات کی بنا پر ایک سال میں 7758 جوڑے ایک دوسرے سے جدا ہو گئے، پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن کی ہدایت پر لاہور میٹروپولیٹن کارپوریشن نے معلومات پبلک کر دیں۔ لاہور میں مجموعی طور پر ایک سال میں 3912 خواتین نے خلع لی جبکہ 3846 مردوں نے اپنی بیویوں کو طلاق دی۔ خلع اور طلاق کی شرح میں علامہ اقبال ٹاؤن سرفہرست رہا، مجموعی طور پر خلع اور طلاقوں کے کیسز لاہور میٹروپولیٹن کی مختلف ٹاؤنز میں جمع کروائے گئے، راوی ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 189 اور طلاق کے 199 کیسز ہوئے، شالیمار ٹاؤن میں خلع 307 اور طلاق 410، نشتر ٹاؤن میں 446 خواتین نے خلع جبکہ 573 مردوں نے اپنی بیویوں کو طلاق دی۔ گلبرگ ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 251 اور طلاق کے 327 کیسز ہوئے، داتا گنج بخش ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 371 اور طلاق کے 359، علامہ اقبال ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 1461 اور طلاق کے 977 کیسز ہوئے جبکہ واہگہ ٹاؤن میں 340 خواتین نے خلع لی اور 387 مردوں نے طلاق دی۔ سمن آباد ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 270 جبکہ طلاق کے 287 کیسز رجسٹرڈ ہوئے، عزیز بھٹی ٹاؤن میں خلع کے 277 اور طلاق کے 327 کیسز درج ہوئے۔

Scanned with CamScanner

مشرق



لاہور: چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر محبوب قادر شاہ ٹریننگ سیشن کے اختتام پر افسران کے ساتھ گروپ فوٹو، محبوب قادر شاہ شرکاء سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

سرکاری ملازمین کو میڈیا میں بیان سے روکنے پر چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر پنجاب کا ردعمل

سول سروس کنڈکٹ رولز 18 اور 22 بنیادی انسانی حقوق کی توہین ہیں

رولز میں آرٹیکل 19A اور RTI قانون کے مطابق ترامیم کی جائیں، محبوب قادر شاہ

پنجاب کے پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسرز نے خوف کے باعث کمیشن سے رجوع کیا ہے، جنگ سے گفتگو

[illegible] ... 1964 ... 18 اور 22 ... 2013 ... 24 ... 2010 ... 19A ... Efficiency and Discipline ... [illegible]

20 محکموں اور اداروں نے رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن کی سالانہ رپورٹس پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں جمع کرادیں

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) وزیر اعلیٰ اور گورنر سیکرٹیریٹ سمیت 20 محکموں اور اداروں نے رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن کی سالانہ رپورٹس پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن میں جمع کروا دی ہیں۔ پنجاب کے تمام محکموں کو 13 سوالات پر مشتمل پرفارما جاری کیا گیا تھا جس پر ان سے آر ٹی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد کے حوالے سے سالانہ رپورٹس طلب کی گئی تھیں۔ ان سے پوچھا گیا تھا کہ ان کو رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ کے تحت سال میں کتنی درخواستیں موصول ہوئیں، کتنی درخواستوں پر معلومات فراہم کی گئی کیا محکموں کے انتظامی سربراہوں نے اپنے تمام ونگز کو سرکلر جاری کئے کہ پبلک انفارمیشن افسران کے ساتھ قانون کے مطابق تمام معلومات کی فراہمی کے لئے مکمل تعاون کیا جائے، محکموں کو رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن قانون پر عملدرآمد کرنے کے حوالے سے کیا رکاوٹیں پیش آئیں، کیا محکموں نے ایک سال کے دوران پبلک انفارمیشن افسران کے لئے کوئی ٹریننگ سیشن منعقد کروائے، محکموں نے آر ٹی آئی قانون کے تحت اگر اپنی ویب سائٹس بنائیں تو ان کے ایڈریس کیا تھے، کیا محکموں نے ویب سائٹس پر اپنے بجٹ، اخراجات اور آڈٹ رپورٹس سمیت عوامی دلچسپی کی دیگر معلومات شائع کیں یا نہیں اور کیا چیف پی آئی اوز اور پی آئی اوز کی تقرریاں کی گئیں یا نہیں۔ پنجاب کے دیگر محکمے 25 اگست کی مقررہ تاریخ تک اپنی سالانہ رپورٹس انفارمیشن کمیشن میں جمع کروائیں گے۔

جنگ

پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے پبلک سروس کمیشن کو امیدواروں کے پرچے پبلک کرنے کا حکم دیدیا

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن نے ایک تاریخی فیصلے میں پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کو امیدواروں کے حل شدہ پرچے پبلک کرنے کا حکم دے دیا ہے۔ محمد نعمان الحق بنام پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کیس میں انفارمیشن کمیشن نے 10 صفحات کے اپنے حکم نامے میں پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن کے اس موقف کو مسترد کردیا ہے جس میں کہا گیا تھا کہ پی پی ایس سی آئینی اور قانونی ادارہ ہونے کی وجہ سے رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013 کے تابع نہیں۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن محبوب قادر شاہ نے اپنے فیصلے میں پی پی ایس سی کی طرف سے حل شدہ پرچے کو خفیہ یا کسی قانون کے تحت مخصوص رعایت یافتہ دستاویز ماننے سے انکار کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ عدالتوں، پنجاب اسمبلی، گورنر سیکرٹریٹ، پنجاب پبلک سروس کمیشن سمیت ہر آئینی اور قانونی ادارہ آئین کے آرٹیکل 19 اور آر ٹی آئی کے قانون 2013 کے تابع ہے۔ پبلک سروس کمیشن نے اپنے دلائل میں کہا تھا کہ ہم ایک خودمختار ادارہ ہیں اور ہمارے اپنے قوانین ہیں۔ حل شدہ پرچے پبلک کرنے سے ایک نیا پنڈورا بکس کھل جائے گا۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن نے کہا کہ یہ دلائل بیوروکریسی کی کام نہ کرنے کی عادت اور سستی و کاہلی سے معاملات کو چھپانے کے مترادف ہیں۔ پبلک سروس کمیشن کے پبلک انفارمیشن افسر نے دلائل دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ آئین پاکستان کے آرٹیکل 150 کا حوالہ دیا تو چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن نے کہا کہ آرٹیکل 19اے بعد میں 2010 میں شامل کیا گیا جس کو اس سے پہلے کے تمام قوانین پر سبقت حاصل ہے۔ چیف کمشنر نے کہا کہ دنیا کے 122 ممالک شمولیت اور شفافیت کو گڈ گورننس کے لئے ضروری قرار دے چکے ہیں۔ انفارمیشن کمیشن نے اپنے حکم نامے میں کہا کہ امیدواروں کے حل شدہ پرچے محض نتیجہ کے اعلان تک خفیہ رکھے جاسکتے ہیں لیکن اس کے بعد یہ پبلک انفارمیشن ہے۔ چیف کمشنر محبوب قادر شاہ نے تمام اداروں کو عدالتوں کی آر ٹی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد کرنے کی اس پریکٹس پر عمل کرنے کا مشورہ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ انصاف کی فراہمی اور شفافیت کے لئے عدالتیں اپنے مفصل فیصلوں کے اعلان کے بعد ان کا فوری اجرا کرتی ہیں۔ چیف کمشنر انفارمیشن کمیشن نے آر ٹی آئی کو پاکستان میں کرپشن اور بدانتظامی کا قلع قمع کرنے کا واحد ذریعہ قرار دیا۔

چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر پنجاب کا آر ٹی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد میں انتظامیہ کے کردار پر اظہار مایوسی، خط کی نقول وزیراعظم وزیراعلیٰ، چیف سیکریٹری کو بھی بھیج دیں

لاہور (آصف محمود سے) چیف کمشنر پنجاب انفارمیشن کمیشن محبوب قادر شاہ نے آر ٹی آئی قانون پر عملدرآمد کے حوالے سے صوبے کی اعلیٰ انتظامیہ کے کردار پر مایوسی ظاہر کی ہے۔ چیف کمشنر نے رجسٹرار لاہور ہائیکورٹ، تمام صوبائی سیکرٹریوں، آئی جی، کمشنروں، ڈپٹی کمشنروں، سی سی پی او، آر پی اوز، سی پی اوز، ڈی پی اوز اور لوکل گورنمنٹ کے ایڈمنسٹریٹروں کو بھیجے گئے خط میں سوال کیا ہے کہ کیا وہ دل پر ہاتھ رکھ کر اقرار کرتے ہیں کہ وہ شفافیت، گڈ گورننس اور کرپشن کے خاتمے کے عمران خان کے وژن پر یقین رکھتے ہیں؟ چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر نے محکموں میں چیف پبلک انفارمیشن آفیسرز، محکمہ کے ہر دفتر میں پبلک انفارمیشن افسر کی تعیناتی، ہر محکمہ کی آر ٹی آئی ویب سائٹ بنا کر اس محکمہ کی تمام بنیادی معلومات اپ لوڈ کرنا اور پی آئی اوز، چیف پی آئی اوز کی ٹریننگ مکمل کرنے کے لئے 28 فروری کی ڈیڈ لائن دے دی ہے۔ چیف کمشنر نے اپنے خط میں کہا ہے کہ رائٹ ٹو انفارمیشن ایکٹ 2013ء کا اطلاق ہوتے ہی مذکورہ 5 بنیادی ارکان پر 60 دن کے اندر عملدرآمد کرنا لازم تھا۔ کمیشن نے رجسٹرار ہائیکورٹ، تمام انتظامی سیکرٹریوں اور پولیس افسران کو عندیہ دیا ہے کہ مارچ 2021ء میں صوبے کے ہر محکمے کا سوشل آڈٹ کرایا جائے گا۔ رپورٹ نہ صرف میڈیا سے شیئر کی جائے گی بلکہ وزیراعظم، وزیراعلیٰ اور صوبائی اسمبلی پنجاب کو بھی پیش کی جائے گی۔ چیف کمشنر نے اپنے خط کی کاپیاں وزیراعظم، وزیراعلیٰ اور چیف سیکرٹری پنجاب کو بھی بھجوادی ہیں۔

PAKISTAN TODAY NEWS 05

PIC holds session to raise awareness about Right to Information Act

LAHORE

SHAHAB OMER

A two-day training session was organised at the Punjab Information Commission (PIC) to raise awareness about the Right to Information Act. The training session was attended by public information officers (PIO) of as many as 120 government departments, including Civil Secretariat, Chief Minister's Secretariat, Governor's House, Finance Department, Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control Department, Police Department and representatives of the Lahore High Court (LHC). Punjab Finance Department Public Information Officer Ali Bukhari told Pakistan Today that the training session was very informative. "We came to know through this session that a lot of work is being done in Punjab regarding Right to Information. Anyway, all the information in government offices is the trust of the common man and if anyone asks us for information, we should give them access without any hesitation. In the session conducted by the Commission, we have also been taught how to prepare and submit the annual report on time," he said. Nimra Khan, who is the section officer and PIO of S&GAD, said, "In this session, we have been taught the complete guidelines regarding public information. Capacity building of government officials was very important in terms of the right to information. Some people in our society also misuse information and that too needs to be stopped." Punjab Information Commission Chief Commissioner Mehboob Qadir Shah told Pakistan Today that the training organised by the commission was very informative.

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APPRECIATION LETTERS

Mohammad & Ahmad
(Constitutional, Corporate & Tax Counsel)

Ground Floor, Almas Tower,
Begum Salma Tassaduq Hussain Road,
Near E-Phaser Building,
26- The Mall, Lahore.

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judiciallaw@gmail.com

Ref: M&A/JAP/CIC/21/4359

Hon'ble Mr. Mahboob Qadir Shah
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab Information Commission,
Government of Punjab,
64 - Nursery Lane, Lawrence Road,
Near China Chowk, Lahore.

Dear Sir,

I would like to communicate my sincere gratitude for all exception efforts in the name of rule of law and transparency in the Province of Punjab since 30th day of May 2018.

2. A zillion thanks to your leadership during these difficult times. I am confident that I speak not only for myself but the entire Province of Punjab, while unique novel landmark verdict to promote transparency should provide a clear guideline for other functionaries regulating Right of Access to information in Islamic Republic of Pakistan provided through Article 19-A of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973.

3. Peoples of province of Punjab expressing sincere appreciation for the judicial outstanding bold efforts to keep the system, governance, peoples/citizens safe with the hope and believe that there would be transparency and rule of law in Punjab.

Mohammad & Ahmad
(Constitutional, Corporate & Tax Counsel)

Continuation Sheet: 001

4. It is heartening to know that our Judiciary is sensitive to the challenging circumstances we face as lawyers, including maintaining our commitments to our clients and our staff when there is some issue of seeking information relating the activities performed by the public office holder secretly. While other Court systems around the Country have virtually shut the doors to justice when someone asking about inside stories, our Judiciary has done everything in its power to keep cases moving forward but the exceptional role performed by your good honor to promote transparency is highly laudable.

5. I am confident that with the continued commitment of the Judiciary and the leadership of the NAYA PAKISTAN to promote transparency, fair play and openness, we will emerge from this crisis stronger and better able to serve those who continue to place their trust in NAYA Pakistan leadership.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

MOHAMMAD AZHAR SIDDIQUE
Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan
(Chairman Takaful Arbitrator Panel)

EXPRESSION PERTAINING TO PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION

We, advocates of Lahore High Court, visited the office of PIC on some compliance of necessary required information and we appreciate the work of PIC under the Chiefship of Mr. Mahboob Qadir Shah (Retd) District & Sessions Judge, with other learned member of the Commission whose hardship work, a providing the delivery of required information even in the resisting problems / atmosphere of the concerned departments and a suggestion for promotion the work of PIC, is being given by us that Department must be compelled to ensure the delivery of required information as dumped by the predecessor Government on its own wisdom.

We pray, in this regard to success for the PIC in its own work accordingly, please.

MALIK MUHAMMAD RIAZ KALWAL
Advocate High Court
Cell # 03004121846

MUHAMMAD SHAHKHAN RIZVI
Advocate High Court

CH.MUHAMMAD ASIF CANETH
Advocate High Court

RANA ABID HUSSAIN
Advocate

Registrar
Punjab Information Commission,
68-I-C, Model Town Lahore.

Date: 13-08-2018

Subject: Acknowledgement for receiving information on final notice to Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Toba Tek Singh.

Dear Sir,

On my complaint to Chief Information Commissioner under Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013, for non-provision of required information, Punjab Information Commission served final notice No. AD (A&C) PIC-2- 2752/2018 to Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Toba Tek Singh on 01-08-2018. I have received that required information No.883/F&P on 07/08/2018 from Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Toba Tek Singh.

I am thank full to Punjab Information Commission and Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Toba Tek Singh for provision of required information.

Regards,

Muhammad Shahid
Faiz Colony Street No. 7
Toba Tek Singh
Shahid_mbs@hotmail.com 0336-3666052

CC: Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Toba Tek Singh.

UMEED

To,
Punjab Information Commissioner
68-I-C, Model Town LAHORE
T: 042 99231507

25-08-2018

Subject: **Thank you letter reference your letter AD(A&C)PIC2-655/2018 sent to PIO, LDA One Window, LDA Plaza, Johar Town Lahore**

Respected information Commissioner

This is in reference to your letter to LDA PIO as per subject above, I am pleased to inform you that LDA PIO has responded to me and accommodated my request for "Change of Address for LDA Avenue Plot 767 / Arpi Assets Kaurer".

See enclosed communication received at my end from LDA PIO.

I am grateful for your timely action & swift communication sent to LDA. This act of yours will greatly help the citizens of Punjab to gather information and receive timely responses from Govt. departments & offices

I wish you very success for your endeavors providing right of information to masses

Dr Osamah Majeed Qureshi
ICD Hawaa, 207 Mamdot Block
Mustafa Town Wahdat Road,
LAHORE
T: 0300 8425011

D. No. 2526
Date: 27.8.18
DG
DA
PC-I
PDMRs
ADP&R
PC-II
PDMRs

03/11/2020
TO,
HONERABLE MAHBOOB QADIR SHAH
CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER
LAHORE, PUNJAB, PAKISTAN.

SUB: ENORMOUS COMPLIMENTS TO RTI, PUNJAB, PAKISTAN

Dear Honorable Mehboob Qadir Shah,
I am Chandan National, retired professor, and an author of 45 books regarding the analysis of laws for South Asian Countries like India, Pakistan, Sri-lanka and Bangladesh at the request of International organisation working for South Asian countries. (www.analysisoflaws.com)
I am also a resident of Chack no. 71 A.L. Tehsil Renala Khord, District Okara. and living abroad for the last 45 years.
It is also a part of my research to look into the workability of Public Of ices of dif erent South Asian Countries. The information and guidance provided by the Of ice of the RTI Punjab, Pakistan, are highly professional and drafted correctly.
The profiles, including the "Chief Information Commissioner", Commissioners are adversingly academics, as well as, its role to raise public awareness of the law, help public bodies comply with the law, to train public information of icers, to monitor their performance, to decide complaints and take action against those failing to comply, is highly professional and is accordance to International standards and levels.
I am very much satisfied about the response, the action taken within a specific time of my two complaints SR# 523 and 526. Personally, I appreciate the enchantism professionalism of ADR. NOMAN (Assistant Director RTI) for handling my complaints.

BEST WISHES
PROF. M ABID
MANCHESTER, ENGLAND (UK)

Association of Women for Awareness and Motivation

Mr. Mahboob Qadir Shah
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab Information Commission (PIC)
64 - Nursery Lane, Lawrence Road,
Near China Chowk,
Lahore.

30th November 2020
AWAM/Acknowledge/446/2020

Subject: **GRATITUDE**

Respected Sir,

Association of Women for Awareness and Motivation (AWAM) extends its gratitude for the positive gesture showing our delegation to visit your esteem office for formulating a joint collaboration between your esteem office and AWAM and we are overjoyed for delegation. The AWAM is fortunate that such a wonderful visit and interaction and exchange of valuable gesture could boost the way further smoothly in PIC and office.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the guidance and advisory services of the Punjab Information Commission and the Punjab Commission for Promotion of Rights to Information for under the Article 19-A and facilitating the general masses of women.

As a Women rights body, the AWAM is engaged to ensure right education, research, anti-police violence, preventing domestic violence, and connecting local groups with each other. Your kindness to be invited to the inaugural visit, the AWAM observed many valuable advisory guidance from your esteem office.

In this regard, the AWAM offers for relentless services and cooperation for issues pertaining to the enablement to ensure local groups trustworthy to your esteemed office/Commission.

Kind Regards

Nasreen Ashfaque
Founder / Director

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY LAHORE
Registered with the Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA) Govt. of the Punjab
Affiliated with the PUNJAB BOARD OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION LAHORE

Ref: 007/Imc/Lor-of/570

Date: 01-10-2018

Letter for Appreciation

It is submitted that I, Zahid Ali Khan as head of institute pay thanks to the respected chief information commissioner Mahboob Qadir Shah with information commissioners from the bottom of my heart, who on the request of the institute takes timely action to utilize the resources to provide the requested information/awareness.

I as citizen of Pakistan as well as head of institute applaud the chief commissioner and associate commissioner. By writing this letter of appreciation we acknowledge huge assistance provided by information commissions to citizens of Pakistan.

We will always feel proud of concerned commissioners for the timely provision of justice.

Regard
Zahid Ali Khan

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RTI LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

The Punjab Information Commission laid foundation of a tradition of acknowledgment of valuable services in the beginning Jan 2020 of living legends who contributed for the development and enforcement of RTI law and they were also symbol of transparency, integrity and rule of law while discharging public affairs. In this regard seven living legends have so far been awarded special shields during the period under report. The detail is as follows;-

(i) Justice (R) Syed Afzal Haider

He took part in independence movement as a member Muslim Students Federation, participated in the proceedings of boundary Commission along-with his father, remained Vice Chairman Pakistan Bar Council, remained Provincial & Federal Ministers, member Law Commission Pakistan, member Pakistan Mudarba Board and Senior member Islamic Ideology Council of Pakistan. He contributed for the establishment of Islamabad High Court and was mover of Baba-Nanak University Bill. He is author of more than 50 books including laws for prisoners and law report under Article 230 of the Constitution. He moved first ever bill for Freedom of Information in 1997 and thereby laid the foundation for present RTI laws and Information Commissions, therefore, he was decorated by Punjab Information Commission in acknowledgement of his valuable services.



وجناب انفارمیشن کمیشن کے زیر اہتمام منعقدہ تقریب میں چیف انفارمیشن کمشنر جناب محبوب قادر شاہ، جسٹس (ر) انوار الحق
جسٹس (ر) شیخ احمد فاروق آر ٹی آئی کے ماہر قانون دان و آزادی انفارمیشن بل کے بانی جسٹس (ر) فضل حیدر کو شیلڈ پیش کر رہے ہیں

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(ii) Mr. Parvaiz Elahi Speaker Punjab Assembly

He was first time elected as MPA in 1985, served as Provincial Minister LG & RD, remained Chief Minister Punjab from 2002 to 2007, remained Member National Assembly from 2008 to 2018, served as first ever and only Deputy Prime Minister of Pakistan, being a seasoned politician and statesman he always supported the cause of right to information for citizens of Punjab, hence was decorated by Punjab Information Commission in acknowledgement of his unprecedented services.



(iii) Mr. Justice (R) Ijaz Nisar

He rendered valuable service as Distt & Sessions Judge in a number of districts, as Secretary Law Punjab, as Chief Justice Lahore High Court, Lahore and as a Judge of Supreme Court of Pakistan. He also served as Chairman Red Crescent Society Punjab and as caretaker Chief Minister Punjab. Punjab Information Commission duly acknowledging his valuable services awarded him life time achievement shield.

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(iv) Mr. Justice (R) Sh Ahmad Farooq

He rendered valuable service as Distt & Sessions Judge in a number of districts, as Secretary Law Punjab, as a Judge of Lahore High Court, Lahore, as Chief Justice Federal Shariat Court. He is presently rendering humanitarian and charitable services as Chairman Red Crescent Society Punjab. Punjab Information Commission duly acknowledging his valuable services awarded him life time achievement shield.



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(v) Mr. Justice (R) Anwar-ul-Haq

He was a renowned human rights activist during his law practice and was elevated as Judge of Lahore High Court, Lahore for his outstanding abilities in Civil & Criminal law. He rose to the level of Chief Justice Lahore High Court, Lahore and earned the reputation as proponent of human rights and rule of law. Punjab Information Commission duly acknowledging his valuable services awarded him life time achievement shield.



(vi) Mr. Justice (R) Osaf Ali Khan

He served as Distt & Sessions Judge at a number of stations and solicitor GOP. In addition to his symbolic integrity he was known for strong dispensation for human rights and rule of law. He also served as Judge of High Court and is still remembered for his landmark judgments for human liberties and right to information. Punjab Information Commission duly acknowledging his valuable services awarded him life time achievement shield.

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(vii) Raja Jahangir Anwar, Secretary Information & Culture

Of all Secretaries of Govt of Punjab the personality of Raja Jahangir Anwar is distinguished for his politeness, hard work and ingeniousness. He has been instrumental in restructuring DGPR and Information & Culture Department according to the spirit of time. He is highly respected by the journalists due to his even handedness and fair play. The achievements of Punjab Information Commission during past two and half years would not have been possible without his unqualified support. Punjab Information Commission duly acknowledging his valuable services awarded him life time achievement shield.



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Closing Remarks

We are grateful to Punjab Assembly, Government of the Punjab and the sections of civil society accessing the Commission during past two and half years for providing us an opportunity to utilize each moment in the service of humanity. We have Alhamdulillah succeeded to establish a beacon-light of "transparency" and "access to information" without any fear of prevailing darkness with our "blood, sweat and tears";

مجھے ڈرا نہیں سکتی فضا کی تاریکی
مِری سرشت میں ہے پاکی و دَرخشانی
تُو اے مسافرِ شب ! خود چراغ بن اپنا
کر اپنی رات کو داغِ جگر سے نُورانی

What we sowed during past 73 years (secrecy of public matters), we are today reaping its thorns of "poor governance" and "massive corruption"!

What we will sow today in the shape of "transparency" & "access to information", our future generations will reap their fruits of "good governance" and "prosperity"!

Our Mission Statement

Punjab Information Commission is committed to empower citizens with RTI (public oversight) to achieve "good governance" and "elimination of corruption".We strive for an "informed society", as well as for an "informed government". We dream a prosperous Pakistan by promoting inclusive values with an un-flinching faith that RTI is the future of Pakistan.

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Commission's Manifesto for the year 2020/21

1. To ensure implementation of 6 pronged RTI mechanism by all public bodies;
2. To conduct Social Audit of implementation of RTI of all public bodies;
3. The inclusion of RTI in intermediate and bachelor's curriculum;
4. To raise the ratio of exercise of RTI by women from 5% to at least 20%;
5. To make RTI a tool of empowerment of marginalized classes including women, minorities, agricultural & Industrial labours;

SIX PRONGED RTI MECHANISM

Sr. #	Actions	Time-Frame
1.	Appointments of Chief PIOs (vide CS directives dated 12.02.2019 & 13.05.2019)	UPTIL 31st August, 2021
2.	Appointments of PIOs for all offices (vide Sec-7 of RTI Act, 2013)	-do-
3.	Establishment of RTI Websites (vide Sec-8 of RTI Act, 2013)-	-do-
4.	Proactive Disclosures through websites (vide Sec-4 of RTI Act, 2013)	-do-
5.	Imparting Training & Equipping PIOs (mandatory U/S 6 (5) (e) of RTI Act, 2013)	-do-
6.	Annual Reports of all public bodies (mandatory U/S-9 of RTI Act, 2013)	-do-

آر ٹی آئی زندہ باد

پاکستان پائندہ باد

Mahboob Qadir Shah
Chief Information Commissioner

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"آر ٹی آئی ترانہ"

میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں
جس میں مفادِ عامہ کا پہلو کوئی بھی ہو
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں
اِس ملک کے ہر فرد کا آگاہی کا حق ہو

آگاہی کا حق دینے سے انکار نہ کریں
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں
شفافیت ہر کام میں ہو جائے گر معیار
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں

ہوگی نہ بدعنوانی کی قوم پر یلغار
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں
مل کر اپنی قوم کو بامِ عروج دیں
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں

شفافیت انصاف کی جانب ہے اِک قدم
بدعنوانی کا رستہ ہم مل کر روک دیں
سب معلومات تک رسائی قوم کو دیں ہم
میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں

میرا حق ہے کہ میں جانوں، سب جھوٹ سچ پہچانوں (رخشندہ مرزا)

PUNJAB INFORMATION COMMISSION

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