

Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2022 -23

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA INFORMATION COMMISSION

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The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission (KPIC) was established through an Act of the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in November 2013. Under section 24 (2) of the Act, the Commission is an independent statutory body with an objective to ensure the access of citizens to information in government departments and thus create a transparent and corruption free environment, conducive for the growth of democracy i.e. Government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

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# ACRONYMS

KPIC	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission
CGPA	Centre for Governance and Public Accountability
CIC	Chief Information Commissioner
CPDI	Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives
CRA	Community Resilience Activity
CRTI	Coalition on Right to Information
DPC	Departmental Promotion Committee
ESTA	Establishment Code
ETEA	Educational Testing and Evaluation Agency
FOIA	Freedom of Information Advocates
FOI	Freedom of Information
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GPP	Governance and Policy Project
KK	Khwendo Kor
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LG	Local Government
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NMDs	Newly Merged Districts
OSU	Operational Support Unit
PATA	Provincially Administrated Tribal Areas
PCNA	Post-Crisis Needs Assessment
PILDAT	Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency
PIOs	Public Information Officers
PLG	Participatory Local Governance
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VC/NC	Village Council / Neighbourhood Council

# VISION

"To ensure good governance and eliminate corruption by ensuring transparency and openness of public services performed by public entities, through implementation of citizens' right to access information".



# **MISSION STATEMENT**

"To promote RTI as commonly understood term across the province, and ensure its effective implementation, to promote transparency, openness, and merit in public entities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa".



# FOREWORD

I am honored to introduce the Annual Report of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission (KPIC) for the fiscal year 2022-2023. It brings me great satisfaction to highlight the Commission's unwavering commitment to upholding the fundamental right of access to information for the people of Pakistan, especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), amid various challenges.

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission faced numerous challenges in its mission. The most important hurdles affecting the performance of the KPIC were the inordinate delay by the provincial government in filling the vacant positions of Commissioners and a lack of adequate funding.

We registered a total of 1335 new cases, successfully resolving 637 cases, leaving us with a remaining balance of 698 cases. A significant impediment we encountered was the backlog of cases, primarily due to delay in appointment of

Commissioners by the provincial government. To address the backlog, we established appellate courts/divisional offices at the divisional level, facilitating the expeditious provision of information to complainants. These offices, operating under the chairpersonship of the Chief Information Commissioner, resolved over 150 cases during the reporting period, providing much-needed relief to complainants.

Despite paucity of resources the Commission continued to organize multiple training sessions for Public Information Officers (PIOs) on the Right to Information (RTI) Act, aimed at ensuring the timely disposal of information requests.

In my role as Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), I am proud to report on the implementation of reforms, fostering ongoing RTI education in collaboration with various partners such as UNDP, GIZ, Khwendo Kor, CGPA, and other development agencies. Plans are underway to initiate RTI training sessions for honorable judges at the KP Judicial Academy, reflecting our commitment to promoting awareness and understanding of RTI principles.

The Commission has actively engaged in national forums, advocating for a unified voice to address challenges faced by information commissions in implementing RTI laws. I am pleased to note that our efforts have gained national recognition, earning praise from civil society organizations and stakeholders alike.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to every team member of KPIC for their hard work and dedication. I would also like to appreciate the efforts of all those involved in preparing this report which is a collective endeavor, with each member of the Commission contributing significantly. This report serves as a cornerstone in promoting transparency within public institutions, fostering public participation in government affairs, and ultimately contributing to the advancement of good governance in the province.

Farah Hamid Khan Chief Information Commissioner

# **1. EVOLUTION OF RTI LAWS IN PAKISTAN**

The original 1973 Constitution only recognised freedom of speech and expression. However, in 2010 the 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendment included an explicit right to information under Article 19-A, guaranteeing that "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."

The second generation RTI Laws were enacted in 2013 when KP and later Punjab legislated right to information laws in the same year. Subsequently in 2017, Sindh and the Federal Government repealed their old Freedom of Information Laws and implemented new laws similar to KP and Punjab.

The KP Right to Information Act 2013 establishes a legal framework for citizens to exercise their fundamental right of access to information held by the public entities in KP.

Over the past nine years, thousands of citizens have exercised their constitutional right of accessing information of public importance through the RTI law. The KP RTI Commission has been tasked to supervise the implementation of the law and is taking steps to ensure that the public entities are truly accountable to the citizens, thus fostering the essential trust between the state and its citizens. While doing so, the KP Information Commission is also mindful of the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal (16.10) which envisages public access to information in accordance with provincial legislation and international agreements.

The law places crucial responsibilities on the designated Public Information Officers (PIOs), to serve as the bridge between the public and their respective public bodies, for processing citizens requests for information sought under the RTI law.

While the public officials and the government have an important role to play, the onus now lies on the citizens to step up, comprehend and embrace this law, actively promoting its execution. Enhanced awareness of their rights under this legislation will shift the balance in favour of the ordinary citizens and cultivate a culture of good governance in the province.

The RTI Commission established under the RTI Law is an independent statutory body whose core responsibility is to decide the complaints of citizens who are denied information by the public entities. Simultaneously it is also responsible for creating awareness about the law and taking all the necessary measures for its effective enforcement.



# 2. KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA INFORMATION COMMISSION: A FORCE BEHIND THE FORCE



To guarantee citizens' right of access to information from the public entities and to foster an environment free of corruption and ensuring transparency, the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa took the lead to enact this RTI Act. This is a significant development in Pakistan's legislative history since it gives citizens the ability to hold public institutions accountable who, up till now, believed they were beyond the law. As after enactment of this act, a mechanism was needed to implement this sunshine law in the province. A statutory body, titled

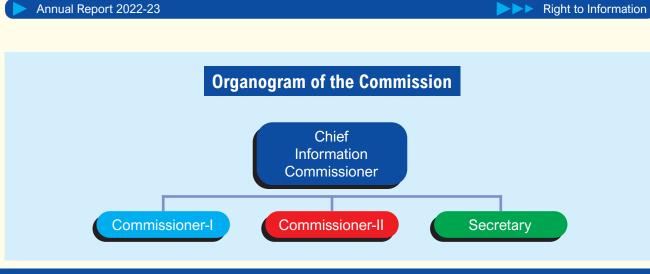
'KP Information Commission' was established as per section 24-1 of the KP RTI Act 2013. This Commission has operational and administrative autonomy from any other person or entity, including government and its agencies. The Commission's main role is to ensure that the citizens' requests are handled promptly by government departments. If a citizen complains about a public entity, the Commission conducts a hearing involving both the citizen and PIO before taking a decision. To facilitate the citizens, the Commission is also entrusted with raising awareness and making sure that public entities proactively display specific categories of information to benefit the citizens. As mandated by the Law the Commission submits an annual report to the Provincial Assembly which outlines the status of the RTI Law implementation in the province. Under the KP RTI Act, this commission comprises of a Chief Information Commissioner, two Commissioners with diverse backgrounds, and the necessary supporting staff, detailed below.

## The KP Information Commission has two main responsibilities:

- 1. To receive and dispose-off complaints from the complainants/citizens against the public entities.
- 2. Projection of the RTI Law.

## Manpower:

Sanctioned Posts:	68
Filled:	46
Vacant:	22



# 2.1 SETTING UP OF DIVISIONAL OFFICES

The Commission in collaboration with GPP (both Merged and Settled) launched a one-year project titled 'Strengthening of RTI Commission' in July 2020 (which was further extended till June 2023) which aimed at improving the accountability of the administration and strengthening the dialogue between the state and society. Besides this, the GPP announced joint support to KPIC in the intensive implementation of the RTI Law in KP by partnering with Public Information Officers (PIOs), the media, and the civil society through Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Planning and Development Department Governance & Policy Project (GPP) Operational Support Unit (OSU).

Due to the absence of field formations of the KP Information Commission, the monitoring of RTI Law especially in the remote areas of the province, was challenging. To assist the complainants in addressing their grievances KPIC has established divisional offices, eliminating the need to travel to Peshawar. This initiative aims to ensure the swift

need to travel to Peshawar. This initiative aims to ensure the swift resolution of complaints through video conference facilities available in these offices.

With the assistance of the GPP (both in settled and merged areas) the Commission hired 5 Assistant Registrars and other support staff from the market and stationed them in different divisions across the province to serve as focal persons of the Commission. These focal persons maintain constant liaison with PIOs of their respective districts for timely disposal of information requests of citizens and perform other functions as assigned by the Commission. Furthermore, appellate offices/benches are now operational in Swat, Abbottabad, Kohat and Bannu.

It is noteworthy that the GPP is actively supporting its local partners in improving service delivery, ensuring transparency and proper implementation of the law in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The project provides advisory services in areas of cooperation, including capacity building of 400 PIOs in 15 Districts, training on E-filing of requests for information, awareness campaigns at 7 divisional headquarters for civil servants, civil society organizations, academia and think tanks. It also supports the provincial and local administrations, the media and civil society with particular focus on addressing post-Covid-19 issues.

# 2.2 APPLYING THE LAW /KPIC PERFORMANCE

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa RTI Act 2013 defines information as 'material which communicates meaning and is held in record form. It includes books, memos, plans, contracts, orders, reports, letters, photographs, videos, information in electronic form etc.

The Commission periodically promotes awareness regarding the significance of RTI Law and encourages the exchange of ideas concerning its implementation. The Commission published a booklet titled 'Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Right to Information Commission Introductory Guide' for citizens. Every effort has been made to guide the citizens on how to file request before the public entities and to assist them in lodging a complaint before the Commission in case their request is denied by any public entity.

The KPIC also published a Handbook for PIOs to guide them about their roles and responsibilities under the KP RTI Act 2013. In addition, a brochure has also been developed and disseminated to PIOs outlining their roles and responsibilities when handling RTI requests.

The information obtained through RTI has enabled the citizens to hold public officials accountable for their actions, to comment on their performance, to conduct survey based on data received through RTI and to identify gaps and weaknesses within the public entities.

The government also benefitted from RTI by becoming aware of gaps and weaknesses within the public entities. RTI also facilitated public officials by making it easier for them to carry out their duties more efficiently.

## 2.2.1 OVERALL STATISTICAL DATA ANALYSIS (2022-23)

## Information Request filed by Citizens in KP Public entities (2022-23):

Total Information Requests	Solved	Pending/In Process	Converted to Complaints
3904	2411	1464	1339 (34%)

## Information Requests (Gender Segregation)

Male Requesters	Female Requesters
3415 (87%)	489 (13%)

## **Complaints filed by Citizens in KP Information Commission (2022-23):**

Total Complaints	Solved	Open/In Progress
1339	771 (58%)	568 (42%)

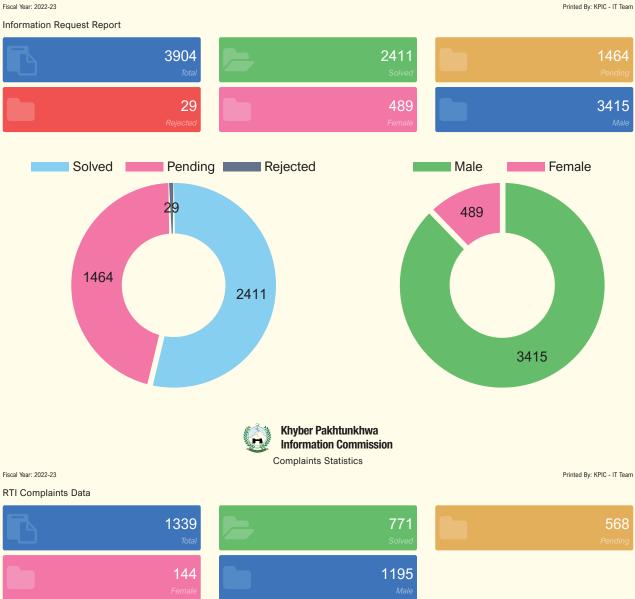
## **Complaints Statistics (Gender Segregation)**

Male Complainants	Female Complainants
1195 (89%)	144 (11 %)



Right to Information

Fiscal Year: 2022-23



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission Information Request Report

# 2.2.2 IMPORTANT CASES DISPOSED-OFF BY THE COMMISSION

- 1. A citizen named Mr. Taj Nabi (Complaint no: 2892) requested information from Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan regarding the recruitment process for various positions. The requested information was denied by the University's PIO. Mr. Taj Nabi then lodged complaint against the University, for non-provision of information with the Commission. After getting the required information through the intervention of the Commission, the complainant lodged a case in the Peshawar High Court, leading to the termination of more than 276 illegally appointed employees of the Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan
- 2. Citizens namely Mr. Kausar Ali Shah, Mr. Muhammad Akbar, Mr. Javed Hussain, and Mr. Syed Jamal hailing from Orakzai District, sought information from District Education Officer (DEO-Male) District Orakzai regarding details of various posts advertised by the Educa-

tion Department Orakzai. The requesters demanded final merit lists, test marks, academic marks, higher qualification marks, waiting lists, office order of the selected candidates, domicile certificates, attendance sheet of the interview, recruitment committee members name and designation along with the minutes of the meeting etc. The DEO failed to provide the requested information within stipulated time as mandated by the KP RTI Act 2013. Consequently, the requesters filed complaints with the Commission. They were allotted complaint numbers (8239, 8240, 8241 and 8242) respectively. Following the commission's intervention, it was observed that the DEO Office has disregarded merit in appointment of several candidates. As a result, after departmental inquiry, more than 50 candidates who were illegally selected, were terminated from service.

- 3. Dr. Anwar Khan Wazir (Complaint No-8682) applied for the position of Dean at Nowshera Medical College. Despite ranking at the top of merit list, he was not offered the job. Using his right to information, he requested information from the PIO of Nowshera Medical College regarding the post of Dean but was denied. Mr. Anwar Khan approached the Commission and after timely intervention of the Commission, he received the required data regarding the appointment procedure, eligibility criteria, merit list etc. He subsequently pursed his case in High Court, and the information he obtained proved instrumental in securing his appointment as the Dean of Nowshera Medical College.
- 4. Mr. Zia Ullah Afridi, a former MPA (Complaint No: 5857): The former MPA and Minister for Mines & Minerals Development KP, faced false allegations of illegal allotment of contracts during his tenure. In July 2015, he was arrested on charge of corruption by the Ehtisab Commission. His party membership was suspended by Pakistan Tehrik Insaf (PTI), and he was removed from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provincial cabinet. Mr. Ziaullah filed request to the PIO of the Establishment Department for provision of information regarding the allegations, but his request was denied. He approached the commission, which provided information through RTI that proved the allegations baseless. Subsequently, Mr. Zia Ullah Afridi was acquitted in the case.
- 5. Mr. Sardar Gulraiz (Complaint No:7944) hailing from district Abbottabad sought information under RTI Act 2013 from the PIO Public Health Department, Abbottabad, regarding a water supply scheme in the area called Nimli Maira. He requested tender documents, details of pipeline, policy for water supply scheme in hilly areas, details of work done and percentage of remaining work, inspection visits details, level of water in tanks etc., suspecting that the allocated budget is diverted to another scheme. After intervention of the Commission, the requested information was provided, and the work was carried out on merit and priority.
- 6. Mr. Bukhar Ali Shah, a journalist from district Kohat lodged a complaint against Tehsil Municipal Administration Kohat, seeking information regarding the installation of Hand Pumps in Union Council Togh Bala. The KPIC imposed a fine on Tehsil Municipal Officer, after obtaining information; it was revealed that Hand Pumps worth of 100 million rupees existed only on paper. On the recommendation of the worthy Chief Information Commissioner, Secretary to the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Local Government Department, dismissed the Assistant Director Local Government due to corruption, and directed the recovery of public funds from the culprit.
- 7. Mr. Gulzaib (Complaint no: 8023), hailing from Abbottabad requested information from the PIO Irrigation Department, Abbottabad, regarding details of civil work and budget allocation (union council wise) for protection walls/retaining walls (2014-2022) to safeguard agricultural land from floods. Besides this he also requested for the policy of construction of culverts and retaining walls in hilly areas. The PIO of Irrigation Department, did not fulfil this request, which led Mr. Gulzaib to file complaint at the Commission. After the intervention of the Commission, all the requested data was provided to Mr. Gulzaib, and the Irrigation Department, Abbottabad, rectified the identified deficiencies.

# 2.3 OVERVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

The establishment of RTI Commission had the primary goal of ensuring effective enforcement of the RTI law and its promotion to achieve the overarching objective of transparency and accountability. On July 16, 2022, Ms. Farah Hamid Khan assumed the charge of Chief Information Commissioner. However, the Commission faced challenges during the complaints' adjudication process including procedural issues and other shortcomings. These shortcomings prompted the commission to propose recommendations and guidelines for improvements, which were communicated to different departments for necessary rectification. Furthermore, these concerns were thoroughly discussed with the Information & Public Relations Department, the administrative department of the RTI Commission.

The Commission has not only prioritised the resolution of complaints but has equally focused on fostering coordination and forging connections amongst the line departments within the district government.

The Commission is also mandated to enhance the capacity of PIOs including the newly notified PIOs of the Local Government Department on disposal of requests, operation and preservation of proactive disclosure and maintenance of records by public entities. For this purpose, the KP RTI Commission imparted several trainings to the PIOs of various districts including the NMDs in the report under review. However, it has been repeatedly observed by the Commission, that most of the public entities have failed to maintain proper record in accordance with the Section 4 of the KP RTI Act. Similarly, there is a lack of systematic approach to disclosure of information on websites of district-level public entities.

To address the issue, the CIC has sent letters to heads of departments urging them to effectively implement the Section 4 and 5 of the RTI Act. Once these sections are fully enforced, there will be no need for individuals to visit the offices of PIOs to access information, as it will be readily available on website(s) and the well-organized record will facilitate timely provision of specific information to the requesters.



CIC participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Forum of Information Commissioners at Islamabad



VC, Bacha Khan University, Charsadda presenting shield to Deputy Director Communication of KPIC



KPIC imparting lecture on RTI in session for the Elected Representatives of Local Government, Peshawar

# 2.4 SECRETARIES OF VILLAGE/NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILS NOTIFIED AS PIOS

For facilitation of the public, the Local Government & Rural Development Department (LG&RD) notified the Tehsil Municipal Officers and Secretaries of Village/Neighbourhood Councils as PIOs on November 8, 2022, in accordance with the KP Right to Information Act 2013. As a result of this notification, the number of PIOs has increased from 1446 to 3011.

The need for designated PIOs at grass root level was to alleviate the difficulties being faced by citizens who were desirous of obtaining information of public importance from the public entities particularly the village and neighbourhood councils. Additionally, a handbook has also been prepared to offer guidance to the PIOs to efficiently address citizens' information requests. The PIOs not only provide public information to the citizens, but also maintain a formal record of all information requests in a specially designed register distributed amongst them. At the end of each month, the PIOs prepare a report using a standardized proforma which includes details of information requests received by the public entity during the month and submit it to the Information Commission. The performance of each PIO is assessed based on the monthly report received by the Commission.

The Governance and Public Policy (GPP) initiative is also supporting the KPIC to enhance transparency and ensure effective enforcement of the law in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. GPP has supported the KPIC for capacity building of the newly notified PIOs in some of the Newly Merged Districts including Bajaur, Khyber, South Waziristan, and Orakzai. This training supports encompassed understanding on E-Filing of information requests, conducting awareness raising campaigns at seven divisional headquarters for civil servants, Civil Society Organizations, academia, think tanks, and the media.

Moreover, GPP has also contributed by assisting in the creation and broadcasting of documentaries, radio segments and print media advertisements regarding the Commission.

# **3. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RTI LAWS IN PAKISTAN**

The first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century holds significance in Pakistan's legislative history, marking the emergence of freedom of information law. In 2002 Pakistan became the first country in the sub-continent to adopt the freedom of information law. The comparative analysis aims to provide an in-depth examination of various aspects of the law of information currently in effect in Pakistan.

The Right to Information regime represents a strong commitment to fostering good governance, which in turn upholds fairness in laws, rules, and regulations. In Pakistan, the RTI laws are enacted in all the provinces except Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Kashmir. An assessment study was conducted for assessing the extent to which the RTI laws of Pakistan have been successful in terms of proactively disclosing information and implementing institutional measures. The assessment primarily focused on two specific dimensions (a) proactive disclosure of information by the public entities and (b) institutional measures under clause 4 and 5 of Right to Information Laws in all the provinces.

The study conducted through desk review and telephonic discussions by CGPA, involves comparative assessment of randomly selected departments such as Elementary and Secondary Education, Health, and Local Government Department. Comparatively, in KP public entities are more actively engaged in proactively disclosing information. However, in line with the provision of RTI laws, the sampled websites of the public entities deviate from the international best practices in providing information.

The study highlights the need for information commission to take necessary measures and offer recommendations for enhancing effectiveness of the RTI Law regime in Pakistan. The study also reveals that these RTI Laws are enforced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh, as well as at the federal level. In Balochistan the RTI Law was passed on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2021, however the Commission is yet to be established.

Similarly, these laws face several operational challenges including absence of information commissions, insufficient budget allocation and a shortage of required staff to run the day-to-day operations. Additionally, the entrenched bureaucratic mind set and longstanding traditional culture of secrecy among public officials pose significant external challenges in the way of effective and meaningful implementation of these laws.



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# 4. KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA INFORMATION COMMISSION (KPIC) UNVEILING NEW LOGO

The KP RTI Law has been in effect for nine years and has achieved several milestones that have benefited the public. As the commission is mandated to publicize the requirements of the RTI Law and the rights of individual under it, it was decided to create a logo for KPIC for correspondence with government departments and other stakeholders.

As per the directions of the worthy CIC, the Fine Arts Department, University of Peshawar was engaged to organize a competition among the students from the said department for the designing of logo. Thirty different designs were prepared and presented to a jury which included two members from the commission and two members from the Fine Arts Department. The unveiling of all the logos took place in the presence of the students and faculty members of the Fine Arts Department, followed by an awareness session on KP RTI Act.

It is worth mentioning that the CIC awarded cash prizes of Rs. 15000, Rs. 10000, and Rs. 5000 to the students who secured first, second and third positions respectively in the competition.



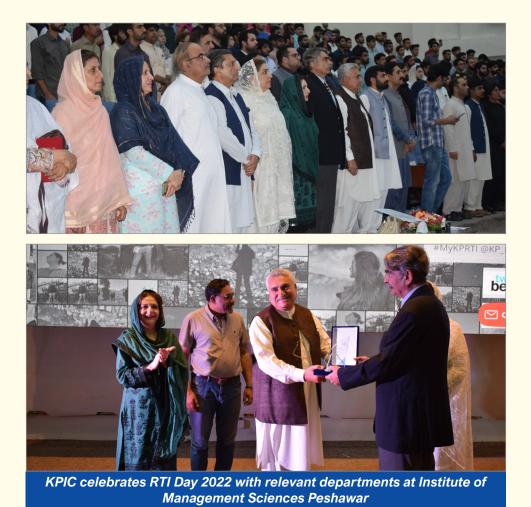
Group Photo of KPIC Staff with Faculty members and students of Fine Arts Department, University of Peshawar (on the occasion of Logo Competition)

# 5. RTI DAY 2022, CELEBRATION

On September 28, 2002, in Sofia, Bulgaria, representatives of Freedom of Information organizations from countries around the world came together to create a global network known as 'Freedom of Information Advocates (FOIA) Network'. The network agreed to work together in advancing the right of individuals to access information and advocate for open and transparent governance. The FOIA Network suggested that the 28<sup>th</sup> of September should be observed as international ''Right to Know Day'' to symbolize the global movement for promoting the right to information.

The purpose of "Right to Know Day" is to raise awareness of citizen's right to access government information, while promoting freedom of information as essential to both democracy and good governance.

Since 2014, the Coalition on Right to Information (CRTI), has been giving away honorary RTI Champion awards to journalists and citizens for their exemplary use of RTI laws. The KPIC organized a mega event in Institute of Management Sciences, featuring panel discussion, and the presentation of awards in recognition of those who actively support right of access to information. In order to maintain a balance, the event was attended by both the demand side, including citizens, journalists, and civil society, and the delivery side which comprises of Public Information Officers (PIOs) within the public entities and information commissioners, which oversee the process. The participants reflected upon the significance of this day and public access to information.



# 6. RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS ON THE RTI LAW

The Commission's legal mandate encompasses addressing complaints and launching awareness campaigns about the rights it grants to individuals. To raise public awareness, the commission drafted various educational materials including brochures and wall calendars. Extensive efforts were undertaken to inform the public about the RTI Law, and these resources were made accessible on the commission's official website. In addition, short documentaries/success stories were produced to highlight the significance of right to information and its application, which are available on the commission's website at http://www.kprti.gov.pk.

During the period under review, the commission executed the following key activities for raising public awareness on RTI Law that are outlined in the 2022-23 work plan.





Awareness Session on RTI at Govt Girls Degree College, Dabgari, Peshawar



Syed Saadat Jahan, Deputy Director Communication, KPIC imparting lecture on RTI at Govt Girls Degree College, Dabgari, Peshawar



Syed Saadat Jahan, Deputy Director Communication, KPIC imparting lecture on RTI to the students Journalism and Mass Communication at University of Peshawar



Mrs. Farah Hamid Khan addressing a session on RTI at Bacha Khan University Charsadda



Students during a lecture on RTI at Bacha Khan University Charsadda



Awareness Session on RTI at FATA University

# 6.1 THE COMMISSION IN MEDIA

To make RTI a commonly understood term for every individual citizen in the province, the Commission collaborated with stakeholders and other organizations working in the field. KPIC consulted educational institutions, GPP, merged and settled Areas, GIZ, CGPA, Khwendo Kor, Community Resilience Activity-North (CRA-N) to educate various segments of the society regarding RTI as their fundamental constitutional right.

To promote and encourage women as information requesters and complainants, RTI awareness sessions were conducted at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, Khwendo Kor, and Government Girls Degree College Dabgari Peshawar. In addition, KPIC's representatives participated in a Women's Day program conveying the Chief Commissioner, KPIC's message on empowering women through RTI.

The Commission leverages various forms of media to achieve both citizen awareness and to showcase its activities. Different media segments are used accordingly, depending on the content and intended audience.



- 1. **Print Media:** KPIC shares reports with newspapers both English and Urdu for the coverage of its activities such as seminars, trainings, and meetings etc. The communication wing at the Commission liaisons with news reporters and bureau chiefs to ensure the developments in the Commission are reported timely. Additionally, the Information Commission publishes informative content about RTI to keep the public aware about their fundamental right to access information.
- 2. Electronic Media: Radio and television are prominent means of mass communication. KPIC maintains a positive relationship with representatives of the electronic media. The Commission invites reporters to cover its events, and shares reports and data related to RTI with them.

The KPIC also conducts talk shows to discuss about RTI for public awareness. Recently, an interview with Chief Information Commissioner was aired on Hum Pashto 1, and a detailed report was broadcast on Hum News.

Apart from television, FM Radio is an important segment of mass media with a substantial audience particularly among the working class and rural households. Keeping in view the importance of radio, the Commission conducted various talk shows on RTI Act, which were aired on Radio Meezan, FM 92.2, and Abaseen Radio Peshawar.



Talk Show on RTI, on Radio Meezan



Pasho-1 Channel of Hum TV Network

- 3. **Social Media:** Social media exerts considerable influence on information dissemination and exchange, offering two-way communication with feedback mechanism and a broad reach upon posting a message. KPIC has effectively maintained its presence on various social media platforms as outlined below:
  - 1. **Facebook Page:** The KP Information Commission operates a Facebook page of about 25,000 followers. Additionally, strategies such as tagging are employed to expand outreach to a large number of audiences. The page is regularly utilized to share KPIC's activities with the public and to raise awareness regarding RTI.

https://www.facebook.com/kprti/

2. YouTube: KPIC maintains an active YouTube channel regularly posting, its events' videos, informative documentaries, and awareness material regarding KP RTI. A total of 47 videos regarding awareness and covering KPIC's events have been uploaded on

this platform. Dyoutube.com/@KPInformationCommission

3. Twitter (Now rebranded as 'X'): Among social media platforms, X is considered as a reliable and authentic source of information. It offers good reach and facilitate news linkages. KP Information Commission has 8530 followers on X, including stakeholders, organizations, journalists, and prominent individuals from different walks of life. KPIC has been using this social media platform for awareness content and news updates regarding its activities. X https://twitter.com/KP\_RTI

The Commission developed content for its website and subsequently requested the KP IT Directorate for its development, completion, and hosting. The website contains information, including details about the commission's functions, the right to information, the application procedure, list of PIOs and the complaint filing procedure.

Moreover, it not only updates and maintains the list of PIOs, but also liaise with them to obtain the updated status of requests on a regular basis.

Further, press talks were held at Kurram Press Club on September 04, 2022, and at Peshawar Press Club on December 10, 2022. During these talks members of the press club were apprised of the achievements of the commission. Furthermore, advertisements were periodically published in several prominent newspapers to disseminate messages from the RTI Commission. Additionally, advertisements regarding the extension of RTI Law to PATA was also published in local newspapers of DI Khan. During the reporting period, the Communication Section efficiently maintained the commission's visibility by issuing press releases to various media houses.

## 6.2 IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

- a) Printing and distribution of 1000 table calendars.
- b) Printing and distribution of 1000 copies of RTI Act.
- c) Printing and distribution of 3000 pamphlets relating to RTI Act.
- d) Airing of radio programs on extension of RTI Law to NMDs on Pakhtunkhwa Radio FM 92.2.
- e) Airing of talk shows on Radio Meezan, KP Judicial Academy for Honourable Judges and Lawyers community.
- f) Awareness sessions held at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, University of Peshawar, FATA University, Bacha Khan University Charsadda, and various government girls' colleges.
- **g)** Visits/training sessions arranged for the newly notified PIOs of the Local Government Department in the NMDs excluding Kurram District where law and order situation has worsened until filing of this report.



# 7. STRENGTHENING OF THE COMMISSION

## 7.1 Posting of Secretary KPIC

In March 2023, Mr. Anees-Ur-Rehman BS-18 (Accounts Group) was posted as Secretary of the Commission for a period of three years. His appointment was made to oversee the Commission's administrative operations and to provide support to the Chief Commissioner in ensuring smooth management of the office functions. Additionally, the secretary is tasked on engaging with stakeholders, maintaining records, and ensuring that the Commission's staff fulfils their responsibilities properly.

## 7.2 Appointment of Other Staff Members

The Commission had several vacant posts for an extended period, which they advertised through Educational Testing & Evaluation Agency (ETEA) on October 18, 2021. ETEA conducted a written, typing and shorthand test for the post of one Communication Assistant (BPS: 16) and three Junior Scale Stenographers (BPS: 14), and provided the list of qualified candidates on April 04, 2022. Furthermore, the post of sweeper was advertised in print media through Directorate General of Information, on August 24, 2022. After detailed scrutiny of all these posts, thirteen candidates were found eligible while four were rejected due to having irrelevant qualifications for the post of Communication Assistant. For the post of Stenographer all the eligible candidates were shortlisted, while based on local domicile of Peshawar, sixteen candidates were shortlisted for the post of sweeper.

After careful consideration, the selection and promotion committee comprising of the Press Registrar, Directorate General, Information and Public Relations Department, Deputy Secretary, Establishment Department, Civil Secretariat, Peshawar, and Administrative Officer of the Commission recommended Mr. Shuaib Ahmad against the vacant post of Communication Assistant and Mr. Muhammad Faheem, Mr. Sajjad Ali and Mr. Salman were selected as Junior Scale Stenographers. Similarly, Mr. Sunny Pervaiz was appointed to the vacant post of Sweeper (BPS-03). It is expected that the new employees will bring fresh perspective and innovative thinking, contributing to team building productivity, and overall workplace morale.

## 7.3 Implementation of Service Rules

The Government of KP in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 32 of the KP RTI Act 2013, notified KPIC Terms and Conditions of Service Rules 2020 on June 29, 2021, via notification no SO. Estt: (INF) 2-6/2020/Service Rules RTI.

The Chief Commissioner being the competent authority under Rule-3 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission Terms and Conditions of Service Rules, 2020, applied the provisions of rules ibid mutatis mutandis to all employees of the KP Information Commission appointed before the enactment of these rules with effect from June 29, 2021.

These established rules have facilitated the Commission's employees to perform their duties seamlessly and in accordance with the prescribed protocols. The implementation of these service rules has not only quelled dissatisfaction amongst the employees of the Commission, but has also fostered discipline and commitment among them, leading to increased productivity.

## 7.4 **Promotions/Career Advancement of Staff**

Employees are the most valuable resource within any organization. They possess the potential to significantly impact the organization's reputation and can either enhance or harm its integrity. Career advancement opportunities are essential within workplace. Since its inception, the KP Information Commission has regularly recruited staff across various positions following all the

formalities of ESTACODE, conducting test through ETEA, and interviews by competent authority. The implementation of services rules has improved the employment status. However, the existing employees cannot benefit from these rules unless promotions and career advancement opportunities are extended to them.

A meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) was convened under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Commissioner, KPIC, in her office on May 24, 2023. The Chief Commissioner being the competent authority under Rule-3 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission (Terms & Conditions of Service) Rules, 2020, approved promotions for several staff members (who met the criteria for promotion). Details regarding the promoted staff members are given below:

<b>S</b> .	Name	Promotion		Date of
No	Name	From	То	Promotion
1.	Mr. Muhammad Tahir	Assistant Director (IT)	Deputy Director (IT)	24-5-2023
2.	Mr. Waqar Ali	Data Processing Assistant	Assistant Director (IT)	Do
3.	Mr. Niqab Ud Din	Senior Clerk	Office Assistant	Do
4.	Mr. Muhammad Nadeem	Junior Clerk	Senior Clerk	Do

The expectation is that these promotions will boost the employees' performance.

# 8. NATIONAL FORUM OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS

The National Forum of Information Commissioners was established in 2019 by a civil society organization called Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) in Islamabad. Its primary purpose is to facilitate regular meetings among current and former Information Commissioners in Pakistan. The forum's aim is to foster mutual learning by sharing experiences and best practices amongst its members.



At this forum, all Information commissioners convene to discuss at length the issues and impediments in implementing Right to Information (RTI) laws in their respective areas. They assess the performances of all the Commissions and agree to mutually coordinate for the nationwide implementation of RTI Laws by sharing their knowledge and experience. Furthermore, a consensus has also been reached on establishing synergies and collaboration (inter-provincial) to utilize the best practices for making decisions. These meetings include an open forum attended by renowned professionals from diverse background and students from various universities and colleges. All the Commissioners have pledged to ensure access to information in the service of people without any bias, and they have mutually decided to continue these meetings biannually, each with a specific theme.

Addressing the 4th meeting of the information commissioners at Islamabad on May 08, 2023, Ms. Farah Hamid Khan, the Chief Information Commissioner, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission (KPIC) stated, "Despite challenges, the Commission is set to achieve the objective of in-time disposal of complaints and sensitizing the public regarding the benefits of RTI Law".

# 9. PARTICIPATORY LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME (PLG)

KP RTI Law has reached its 10th year since its enactment, during which it has achieved several milestones that have benefited the public. The Commission with its mandate to promote awareness on RTI Law and the right of individuals under this act, has entered in memorandum of understanding (MOU) with various civil society organizations and partners, including GIZ to ensure smooth operations of its activities.

Following the 25th constitutional amendment that abolished PATA, and extended RTI Law to all new merged districts, the KPIC's scope of work has expanded significantly.

GIZ has provided support to the Commission in two projects which were successfully concluded within their specified timeline. LoGo-I (2017-2019) focused on the supply side of information, including training of PIOs, development of training manuals, and the printing and distribution of educational and communication materials during the training sessions in the 17 selected districts of the province, excluding the NMDs. Support to Local Governance, LoGo-II (2020-2022) on the other hand focused on the demand side of the information aiming to raise awareness amongst the public about the KP RTI Law in districts of KP i.e. Kohat, Swat, Nowshera, and Abbottabad with particular focus on female citizens.

The third project titled Participatory Local Governance (PLG) is an ongoing GIZ programme spanning 3.5 years from July 2022 to December 2025. A concept note on the new activities and avenues for partner collaboration and support was developed and shared with GIZ. A planning workshop was conducted on 7th March 2023 at Serena Hotel Peshawar to chalk out execution strategy of the PLG Project. Further developments of the project will be provided in the upcoming annual report which also includes the details of 'Institutional Assessment Study by a private firm', supported by GIZ.



GIZ Handing over IT Equipment to the Commissioner KPIC

# 10. SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF GOVERNANCE AND POLICY PROJECT (GPP)

The Governance and Policy Project (GPP) for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was established in July 2016 following a formal agreement signed between the World Bank and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government on May 23, 2017. The Governance Support Project was aimed to support the reforms and other interventions identified under the Post Crises Needs Assessment conducted in 2009, particularly in response to the 2009 crises in Pakistan, especially in Swat, Malakand. The World Bank administered GPP, while its implementation is carried out by the Planning and Development Department Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

After the completion of Round-I of the Governance Support Project in June 2016, Round-II named GPP was launched in 2016 with new goals and priorities set by KP Government. Consultative sessions were held with the provincial government to identify key reforms priorities for Round II. The strategic objective of the GPP was to "Enhance the responsiveness and effectiveness of the State". The cross-cutting themes identified were gender, strategic communications, monitoring and evaluation, conflict sensitivity and state-citizen trust.

KPIC achieved all the set targets within the specified timeline envisaged in the GPP concept. These achievements were showcased during the closing seminar of Round-II of the Governance Support Project, held at a local hotel in Islamabad.

The project interventions have contributed to improving citizens' access to information, especially in NMDs. Additionally, to improve public investment management by ensuring that public resources are being utilized efficiently, effectively, equitably, and in a coordinated and coherent manner. Some of the Key initiatives launched under the GPP include:

- Imparting training to PIOs for provision of information to the requesters
- Awareness Sessions on RTI for VC/NC secretaries and elected councillors of the Local Government Department, and students at colleges and universities.
- Establishing/evolving the Online Complaint Mechanism of KPIC.
- Establishing of Divisional Offices in Swat, Abbotabad, Kohat, Bannu, and Peshawar and recruitment of staff.



Group Photo of the CIC Ms. Farah Hamid along with the KPIC team and GPP Team on the occassion of Closing Ceremony of the project

# 11. DEVELOPMENT OF ONLINE COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CMS)

The Commission has developed an online complaint management system (CMS). This system is designed to efficiently handle, manage, respond, and report on complainants' grievances. It is a well-structured approach to continuously monitor and ensure prompt resolution of grievances. This system has not only resulted in time saving of both the complainants and the commission but has also optimized effort and enhanced productivity through intuitive automation.

The idea of introducing this system was presented by the incumbent Chief Commissioner with the aim of facilitating the rapid and convenient provision of information. It also aligns with the provincial government's agenda to promote a paperless office environment.

CLICK FOR ONLINE COMPLAINT	Instructions	New Complaint	Track Complaint
یک افلہ میں المرکز بعر وی المرکز میں دیں پیک افلہ میں المرکز بعروف کے معرف میں این میں حدیث کی معرف میں مرکز ک اور سیام میں مالو کی معرف المالو میں المرکز المرکز میں میں مرکز کی (Official Email addresses changed) افغار میشن کمیشن کے ای میل تبدیل	& Name	nant Details ندم : Gender / مند *	
Info@kprti.gov.pk Complaints@kprti.gov.pk	Nothing	selected t Number / رابطہ نمبن *	
VIEW ON GOOGLE MAPS	CNIC	* شنامت كى دسكاريز / ee * شنامتى كارڈ ئمبر / Number	
Online complaint	registra	tion form	

# **12. FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

- a) Launching of new Projects: Through continuous monitoring of the implementation of the RTI, the Commission has taken visible steps to address ambiguities and enhance the accessibility and efficiency of information delivery to the citizens. A significant step in this direction was the launch of a programme titled "Participatory Local Governance" by GIZ in July 2020. One of the interventions of the program is state-citizen dialogue, which includes providing institutional support to PIOs by focusing on their training and enhancement of RTI framework. Initially, this support will be extended in six districts of KP, with plans for gradual roll out to other districts in KP. Likewise, the Commission also signed an MOU with Khwendo Kor, an NGO working for the women at grassroots, to sensitize the female community regarding the benefits of RTI law.
- b) Unnecessary delay in response: The Commission has observed that most complaints it has received were due to unnecessary delay in response to the applicant by the PIO. Often, the PIOs do not respond to the requests immediately as this responsibility is assigned to them as an additional charge without remuneration. To streamline the provision of information under the KP RTI Act, it is recommended that the administrative secretary/head of the public entity be designated as PIO, to ensure the smooth supply of information under the KP RTI Act to the requester.
- c) Improving the Pro-Active Disclosure: The Commission is in the process of preparing a plan in collaboration with the provincial government, to improve pro-active disclosure. The plan inter-alia focuses on developing standards for public entities for preserving and provision of information, both upon request and proactive measures.
- d) Inclusion of Chapter on RTI: The KP RTI law may be included in the curricula of educational

institutions at the matriculation, intermediate or bachelor's level. The Commission will send a recommendation to the relevant authorities for the inclusion of a Chapter on KP RTI Law. Pakistan Provincial Services Academy (PPSA) and Staff Teaching Institute (STI) have already included the KP RTI Law as a subject in their training curricula on the suggestion of the Commission.

- e) Amendments in the KP RTI Act, 2013: This case has already been taken up with the Provincial Govt. and approved by the Proincial Cabinet in its 63rd meeting. The same will be tabled before the Provincial Assembly when in place.
- f) Study regarding Implementation and Comparative Analysis of RTI Laws of Pakistan: The commission intends to collaborate with organizations such as CPDI, PILDAT and other civil society organizations for a new study to assess the implementation status of RTI Laws in Pakistan. A comparative analysis of existing RTI Laws in Pakistan will also be conducted, building upon the study conducted in 2019.
- **g)** Updation of Service Rules: As per Section 32 of the RTI Act, 2013 the Commission will take up the following cases with the Govt:
  - 1. Framing of medical rules for the Commission's employees.
  - 2. Framing of CP fund and gratuity rules for the employees.
  - 3. Amendments in KP Rules of Bussiness and Disposal of Complaints Rule, 2013 in line with RTI Act & Service Rules of the Commission.

# **13. CONCLUSION**

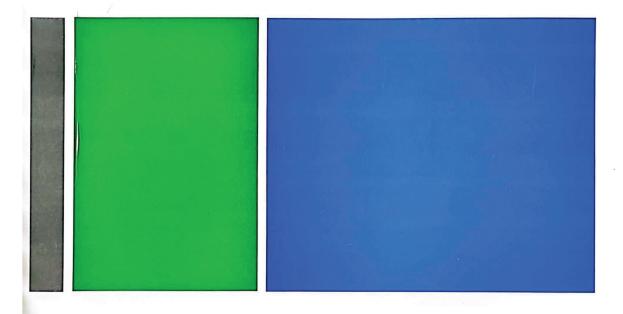
The KP RTI law is now in its 10th year of implementation. It has enabled the provision of information to 85% of citizens indicating a positive outcome despite the challenges mentioned in the report. The Commission is committed to making continuous efforts to further improve the enforcement of the law and promoting transparency within provincial government entities. This entails that the public office holders make necessary information related to their functions freely accessible to the citizens. While achieving this objective may seem challenging it is certainly attainable. A lesson learnt from public administration is that to achieve any objectives, the need must be identified, obstacles removed, and progress maintained.

Despite the challenges and weaknesses, the progress can be described as highly encouraging. The Commission has made significant inroads into previously closed government offices. Majority of the public sector officials have now realized that the RTI law is here to stay, and they must fulfil their obligations to the citizens, as they are funded by the taxpayers. Even those who may not be motivated to adopt the law, are complying with it out of fear of retribution.

It will be pertinent to mention that the PCNA report which was prepared by the government in 2010 with the involvement of World Bank and other agencies, aimed to identify the root causes of high levels of terrorism and militancy in KP and FATA over the past decades. The report besides highlighting other conflicts drives like socio economic deficits in the society, poor dispensation of justice, weak public service delivery, also highlighted the absence of communication between the government and people as contributing factor. To address this issue, the provincial government enacted the RTI Law in 2013, establishing a formal channel of communication between the state and its citizens. The people are now using the law not only for personal benefits but also for bringing improvements in operations, particularly in public services delivery.



# 14. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF KPIC



RIGHT TO INFORMATION GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING





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#### Opinion

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

peshawar@rsmpakistan.pk ww.rsmpakistan.pk

We have audited the financial statements of Right to Information Commission Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (the Commission) which comprise balance sheet as at June 30, 2023, statement of receipts and expenditure and cash flow statement (here-in- after referred to as the financial statements) for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Commission, in accordance with the statement of receipts and expenditure basis of accounting described in note 2 to the financial statements.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Commission in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The financial statements have been prepared on the receipt and expenditure basis, as described in note 2 to the financial statements, which is comprehensive basis of accounting.

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with receipts and expenditure basis of accounting described in note 2 to the financial statements, and for such internal control as the Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD AUDIT I TAX I CONSULTING Vener unities at: Lahore : 92 (42) 35872731-31 Karachi : 92 (21) 3565 5975-6 Faisalabad : 92 (41) 854 1165/854 1965 Islamabad : 92 (51) 2340490 Rawalpindi : 92 (51) 2340490 Quetta : 92 (81) 282 9809 Kabul : 93 (799) 058155

RSM Avails Llaguat Nauman is member of the RSM network and traders as RSM, RSM is the trading name used Uading name used by the members of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and consulting firm which practices in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity in any jurisdiction.



In preparing the financial statements, the management is responsible for assessing the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Management either intends to liquidate the Commission or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Commission's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness
  of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

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Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Commission to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Place: Peshawar Date: November 27, 2023

UDIN: AR202310513vbApcX6os

RSM Avais Hyder Liaquat Nauman Chartered Accountants Engagement Partner: Muhammad Arif Saeed

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## RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JUNE 30, 2023

	2023	2022
NOTE	RUPEES	RUPEES
	702,030	25,696
3	341,966	1,568,395
	1,043,996	1,594,091
4	(246,622)	(144,024)
	797,374	1,450,067
	1,450,067	353,110
	(652,693)	1,096,957
	797,374	1,450,067
	3	702,030         3       341,966         1,043,996         4       (246,622)         797,374         1,450,067         (652,693)

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

AOFFICER B&

SECRETARY

or

CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

FOR THE FEAR ENDED JONE 30, 2023		2023	2022
	NOTE	RUPEES	RUPEES
RECEIPTS	NOTE	NOPELO	NOT ELO
RECEIP 15			
Grant in aid		51,000,000	47,000,000
Other receipts	5	777,505	163,789
	-	51,777,505	47,163,789
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries and allowances	6	40,666,447	36,014,034
Purchase of assets	7	470,150	174,040
Repair and maintenance	8	694,134	432,688
Remuneration/Honoraria		784,560	-
Rent, rates and taxes		3,042,900	2,898,000
Conveyance charges		242,470	36,740
T.D/D.A charges		701,390	1,026,986
Medical expenses reimbursed		170,061	57,018
News paper, books and periodicals		121,285	96,250
Payment for other services		e 279,203	1,084,683
Printing and stationery		494,572	487,665
Telephone charges		246,181	212,080
Internet service charges		256,310	149,048
Postage and courier charges		640,012	429,011
Utilities		951,560	732,966
Training, seminars and workshop		30,000	29,200
Fuel charges		1,641,465	930,789
Entertainment		63,842	144,797
Advertisement expenses			387,804
Shifting charges		18,489	-
Audit fee		70,000	80,000
Bank charges			2,575
Payment of interest on PLS account to governme	ent	459,283	209,076
Miscellaneous expenses		385,884	451,382
		52,430,198	46,066,832
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(652,693)	1,096,957

## RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**B&AOFFICER** 

SECRETARY

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CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

#### RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FOR THE TEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023		
sector sector sector sector	2023 RUPEES	2022 RUPEES
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(652,693)	1,096,957
Operating surplus before working capital changes	(652,693)	1,096,957
Increase / decrease Working Capital Changes		
Accrued and other payables	102,598	14,667
Advance to employees	(676,334)	(25,696) (11,029)
Cash Generated from operations	(1,226,429)	1,085,928
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	(1,226,429)	1,085,928
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,568,395	482,467
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	341,966	1,568,395

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

FICER B

SECRETARY

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CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

#### RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

#### 1 THE COMMISSION AND ITS OPERATIONS

The Right to Information Commission of Govt of KP (the Commission) was established through an Act of the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in November 2013. Under section 24 (2) of the Act, the Commission is an Independent Statutory body enjoying operational and administrative autonomy from any other person or entity, including Government and any of its agencies, except as specifically provided for by law. This Commission is headed by the Chief Information Commissioner. The primary responsibility of the Commission is to receive and decide the complaints of the citizen, if not providing information by a particular department.

#### 2 BASIS OF PREPARATION

#### 2.1 Statement of Compliance

The receipt and expenditure has been prepared in accordance with approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan. Approved accounting standards comprised on the Modified Cash Accounting Model and Accounting Policies and Procedure Model. Under the Modified Cash and Accounting Model all payment relating to acquisition, construction and improvement of fixed assets are recognized on cash basis.

### 2.2 Functional and presentation currency

The receipt and expenditure account is presented in Pakistan Rupees, which is also the Commission's functional currency.

#### **3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:**

Following accounting policies are applied in the preparation of this account:

#### 3.1 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant & equipment purchased during the year are charged to expenditure account at cost of purchase. Repair and maintenance to property, plant and equipment are charged to statement of receipts and expenditure.

#### 3.2 Revenue recognition

Grant and other receipts are accounted for on receipts basis.

## 3.3 Expenses recognition

All expenses are recognized when outflow of resource is confirmed.

## 3.4 Accrued and other Liabilities

Accrued and other liabilities are stated at cost which is fair value of the consideration to be paid in future.

#### 3.5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the balance sheet at cost. For the purposes of cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalent comprises of cash in hand, balance with banks and short term investments realizable within three months.

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			2023	2022
		NOTE	RUPEES	RUPEES
3	BANK BALANCES			
5				
	Current Account - The Bank of Khyber		4,500	4,500
	Deposit Account - The Bank of Khyber	3.1	337,466	1,563,895
		0.1	341,966	1,568,395
			0111000	1,000,000
	3.1 These are subject to profit at the rate ranging from 11	50% to 21 2	5% ner annum (2	2022 6 25% to
	12.25% per annum).	1.50 /0 10 2 1.2		.022. 0.2070 10
			2023	2022
			RUPEES	RUPEES
			RUFEES	RUPEES
4	ACCRUED AND OTHER LIABILITIES			
			190,139	140,258
	Income tax payables Sale tax payables		3,129	3,766
	Other payales		53,354	0,700
	Other payales		246,622	144,024
			210,022	
5	OTHER RECEIPTS			
5	officiente officients			
	Copying fee		-	200
	Profit from PLS account		459,284	156,089
	Miscellaneous receipts		179,000	-
	Other receipts		139,221	7,500
			777,505	163,789
6	SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES			
0	SALANIES AND ALLOWANCES			
	Pay of officers		9,511,610	10,786,090
	Pay of staff (Basic)		12,550,526	8,513,323
	House rent		4,168,397	4,668,759
	Housing subsidy		561,079	556,572
	Conveyance Allowance		1,569,132	1,553,055
	Washing Allowance		275,871	297,985
	Adhoc Relief 2013		206,655	201,860
	Adhoc Relief 2015		140,580	137,623
	Adhoc Relief 2016		-	675,040
	Adhoc Relief 2017		-	998,501
	Adhoc Relief 2018		-	998,501
	Adhoc Relief 2019 Adhoc Relief 2021		-	874,416
	Adhoc Relief 2021		1 505 640	991,763
	Medical allowance		1,595,640 830,979	806,733
	Dress allowance		275,871	298,735
	Integrated allowance		165,523	176,087
	Computer allowance		52,500	54,000
	Utility allowance		228,750	286,880
	I.T Professional allowance		402,790	364,440
	Information Commission allowance@20%		3,247,569	2,091,171
	Special allowance (Fixed Rs. 3500/-)		681,425	682,500
	Special allowance (BPS-17 and above)		607,400	
	Disperity allowance		2,104,630	•
	Deputation allowance		48,000	
	Audit and account allowance		24,320	
	Qualification allowance		4,800	•
	Gratuity		1,412,400	
			40,666,447	36,014,034

.7	PURCHASE OF ASSETS	NOTE	2023 RUPEES	2022 RUPEES
	Purchase of vehicle Furniture and fixtures Computer equipment Machinery and equipment Consumable items- Stock		17,500 68,700 160,900 223,050 470,150	90,900 83,140 - - - 174,040
	REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE			
	Motor vehicles Machinery and equipment		575,964 118,170 694,134	336,849 95,839 432,688

9 DATE OF AUTHORIZATION FOR ISSUE

9.1 This account has been authorized for issuance on 27/11/2023 by the management.

9.2 Figures have been rounded off to the nearest rupee.

OFFICER B &

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SECRETARY

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CHIEF INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

### Address

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission Near Abdara BRT Station, behind Jabar flats, Arbab Colony, University Road, Peshawar, Pakistan T +92 91 9216557 / +91 91 9216567