



Government of Pakistan
PAKISTAN TELECOMMUNICATION AUTHORITY
Headquarter F-5/1 Islamabad
Tel: 051-9224433 Fax: 051-2878132 <http://www.pta.gov.pk>

No. PTA/G&EA/WAC/07/2014

15 April, 2014

Subject: Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman)'s Secretariat Case No. HQR/ 0002454 /14 Filled by Mr. Usama Khilji - Non Provision of Information

Reference: Complaint No HQR/0002454/14 dated 02 April 2014.

1. It is respectfully submitted that Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), is established under Section 3 of the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-organization) Act, 1996 (the "Act"), and is mandated to regulate the establishment, maintenance and operation of telecommunication system and provision of telecommunication services in Pakistan. The functions, powers and responsibilities are enshrined in Section 4, 5 and 6 of the Act. It is further submitted that PTA under section 4(1)(m) of the Act is mandated to regulate competition in the telecom sector and protect consumer rights. Furthermore, Section 6(f) of the Act provides that the interests of users of telecommunication services are duly safeguarded and protected and that PTA under Section 5, read with Section 21, grants and renews licenses for establishment, maintenance of telecommunication system and provision of telecommunication services in Pakistan.

2. It is submitted that Ministry of Information and Technology/Federal Government, as defined under Section 2(fa) of the Act, has been mandated, under Section 8 of the Act, to issue policy directives on the matters relating to telecommunications and the PTA is to implement the same. The mandate of blocking is with Inter-Ministerial Committee which was constituted by Prime Minister of Pakistan in 2006. The Committee was notified vide Ministry of Information Technology (MoIT)

Heating

Notification No 5-1/2005-DFU dated 29th August 2006 (Copy enclosed). By virtue of Section 8 of the Telecom Act, MoIT issued a policy directive on 31st May 2012 to PTA for effective monitoring & control of obnoxious content (Blasphemous & Pornographic) over internet in Pakistan. This Policy mandated PTA for blocking blasphemous and pornographic content (Copy enclosed).

3. PTA considers this data to be critical in nature and it has social/religious impact which can result into a law and order situation since the data can be misused. Therefore the matter has been referred to Inter-Ministerial Committee to proceed under Section 8, subsection (i) of Freedom of Information Ordinance 2002.

4. Reply has been provided to the requester Mr. Usman Khilji (copy enclosed).
5. Submitted as desired please.

Abdul Batin
Abdul Batin
Director (Web Analysis)

✓ To: **Mr. Hafiz M. Ziauddin**