

15. **Fee for requests.**—Prescribed fee may be charged for the cost of reproducing information and sending it to the applicant.

16. **Information exempt from disclosure.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act

(a) a public body shall not be required to disclose exempt information,—

- (i) provided that where only part of a record or the information falls within the scope of the exceptions provided for in this Act, that part shall be severed and the residual record or information shall be provided to the applicant;
- (ii) if its disclosure is likely to cause damage to the interests of Pakistan in the conduct of international relations.

*Explanation.*—In this section, “international relations” means relations between Pakistan and—

- (i) the government of any other foreign State; and
- (ii) organisation of which only States are members.

(b) information may be exempt if its disclosure is likely to—

- (i) result in the commission of an offence;
- (ii) harm the detection, prevention, investigation or inquiry in a particular case;
- (iii) reveal the identity of a confidential source of information;
- (iv) facilitate an escape from legal custody; or
- (v) harm the security of any property or system, including a building, a vehicle, a computer system or a communication system;

(c) information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would involve invasion of privacy of an identifiable individual, including a deceased individual, other than the applicant. This exception shall not apply where—

- (i) the third party has consented to the disclosure of the information;
- (ii) the person making the request is the guardian of the third party or the next of kin or the executor of the will of a deceased third party; or
- (iii) the third party is or was an official of a public body and the information relates to his functions as a public official;