

HIGH COURT OF SINDH CIRCUIT, COURT MIRPURKHAS

C.P. No.D-724 of 2025

Before:

JUSTICE ADNAN-UL-KARIM MEMON.
JUSTICE RIAZAT ALI SAHAR.

Petitioner: Muhammad Ishtiaque S/o Allah Din,
Through Mr. Karamullah Memon, advocate.

Respondents: Province of Sindh & 07 others,
Through Mr. Muhammad Shareef Solangi,
A.A.G Sindh a/w Secretary Market
Committee, Shahdadpur.

Date of hearing: 17.12.2025.

Date of decision: 17.12.2025.

ORDER

ADNAN-UL-KARIM MEMON, J. The matter pertains to the payment of pensionary benefits, which are the responsibility of the Market Committee concerned. Under Rule 14(7) of the Sindh Market Committee Unified Grade Service Rules, 1983, as amended on 04.06.2012, the Market Committee is solely responsible for disbursing post-retirement benefits to its employees. Rule 14 specifically provides that all outstanding payments of pension, gratuity, commutation, and other post-retirement benefits of retired members or, as the case may be, deceased members and their family members immediately prior to the commencement of this amendment, shall be the responsibility of the respective Market Committee.

2. Since the Market Committee has raised no objection to paying the pensionary benefits, and in compliance with the order dated 23.02.2021 passed by this Court at Sukkur, the Provincial Cabinet approved the release of Rs.410.838 million as a one-time grant-in-aid (treated as a loan) for the clearance of pending pension and retirement benefits of the employees and widows of employees of the Market Committees. Accordingly, the Finance Department, vide order dated 24.05.2021, released the funds subject to the conditions of pledging Market

Committee assets against the grant-in-aid, establishing a framework for disbursement, and ensuring a transparent mechanism for regular pension management in the future.

3. Since the issue has already been addressed by the Cabinet, the petitioner's case is to be dealt with by releasing the pensionary benefits in accordance with the law within one month. In case of non-compliance, contempt proceedings shall be initiated against the Secretary, Agriculture, Supply and Price Department, Government of Sindh, who is also responsible as the competent authority. The Cabinet had already directed the Finance Department to release the pensionary benefits in 2021, but no action has been taken so far.

4. The Chief Secretary Sindh is further directed to take action against those delinquent officials who have failed to perform their duties and to ensure the pensionary benefits are provided to the deserving pensioners. The entire exercise shall be completed within one month, and in case of failure, the delinquent officials shall appear before this Court.

5. The petition is disposed of in the above terms along with pending application(s).

6. This order shall be communicated to the Chief Secretary Sindh for immediate compliance.

JUDGE

JUDGE

Faisal