ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI C. P. NO. D-5608 / 2025

Date Order with signature of Judge

FRESH CASE

- 1) For orders on CMA No. 23462/2025.
- 2) For orders on office objection No. 1 to 5.
- 3) For orders on CMA No. 23463/2025.
- 4) For orders on CMA No. 23464/2025.
- 5) For hearing of main case.

19.11.2025.

M/s. Abdullah Azam Naqvi & Syed Ali Ahmed Zaidi, Advocates for Petitioner.

- 1) Urgency granted.
- 2) In reply to office objection No. 1, learned counsel submit that *vires* of an Ordinance can be examined under Article 199 of the Constitution of Pakistan. Reply accepted. Office objection No. 1 is overruled. Regards office objection No. 2, learned counsel shall satisfy the Court that the Governor can be arrayed as a party despite the bar in Article 248 of the Constitution. Office objection No. 3 is overruled as description of Respondent No.3 in the cause title is adequate. Office objection No. 4 is misconceived and overruled.
- 3) Exemption granted.
- 4 & 5) The petition is brought in the public interest by an Advocate to question the vires of the "Constitutional Benches of High Court of Sindh (Practice and Procedure) Ordinance, 2025" recently promulgated by the Acting Governor. It is submitted inter alia that Article 6 of the Ordinance, which declares that refusal by a Judge to accept nomination to the Constitutional Bench will "prima facie amount to misconduct", is beyond the legislative competence of the Provincial Assembly and consequently the Governor, so also ultra vires Articles 202-A and 209 of the Constitution of Pakistan. It is further submitted that Article 128 of the Constitution envisages that the power of the Governor to promulgate an Ordinance is not a substitute for an Act of the Provincial Assembly and is to be exercised in matters involving urgency as observed by the Supreme Court in Pakistan Medical and Dental Council v. Muhammad Fahad Malik (2018 SCMR 1956).

Points raised require consideration. Issue notice to Respondent 1 & 3 only and the Advocate General Sindh under Order XXVIII-A CPC for 27.11.2025.

JUDGE

JUDGE

Arshad/