## ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI CP D 3650 of 2018

## Order with signature of Judge

Present: Muhammad Ali Mazhar & Agha Faisal, JJ.

## Junaid Akram vs. Federation of Pakistan and another

## 17.10.2019

Mr. Basil Nabi Malik, Advocate for the Petitioner.

Mr. Kashif Hanif, Advocate for respondent No.2. (PEMRA).

Mr. Hassan Bohra, Assistant Attorney General.

Muhammad Ali Mazhar J., In compliance of last order dated 19.09.2019, the learned counsel for respondent No.2 has submitted a statement for demonstrating programing mix of each category of T.V. Channels as provided in the PEMRA Rules and relevant Regulations. With the statement, he has attached percentage wise permissible limit in six categories of licenses such as "Agriculture", "Health", "Sports", "News & Current Affairs", "Regional Languages" and "Entertainment". Copy of statement with attachments has been supplied to the counsel for the petitioner.

- 2. The learned counsel for respondent No.2 argued that each such TV channel according to its category is bound to relay percentagewise mix contents in its specific category.
- 3. The petitioner approached this Court for the directions with regard to the disclosure of actual programing mix contents of T.V. channels licensed by PEMRA and for that particular purpose, also applied to PEMRA under the Right

to Access to Information Act, 2017, but it was not responded, therefore, he invoked the jurisdiction of this court for necessary directions to PEMRA. In exercise of powers conferred under Sub-Section (3) of Section 4 read with Section 19, 20 and other enabling provisions of PEMRA Ordinance, 2002, Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority notified Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Content) Regulations, 2012 for promoting the self-regulation by licensee while encouraging the licensee to ensure proper editorial control and policy of gate-keeping along with arrangement for the training of workers for the Electronic Media. According to Regulation 12, a licensee is required to show as per its license category and percentage wise content set-out in the terms and conditions of license and according to Regulation 18 of Pakistan Electronic Media Authority (Television Broadcast Station Regulatory Operations) Regulations, 2012, which pertains to general standard for programs, it is also obligatory on the licensee to provide a proportion of programs indigenous origin as per approved programs mix not being less than 90% of the total programming.

4. Since on directions of this court, counsel for the PEMRA has already provided percentage wise permissible content according to genera of television broadcast stations, therefore, the grievance of the petitioner is alleviated. If it is found by the petitioner that the Television Channel are violating the limit of permissible percentage and or any term and condition of license, he may move appropriate complaint to the PEMRA and council for complaints to take cognizance and decide the complaint in accordance with law. The petition is disposed of accordingly.

Judge

Judge