ORDER SHEET HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI

C.P. No.D-4721 of 2019

Date Order with signature of Judge

Present

Mr. Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar. Mr. Justice Agha Faisal.

Syed Mureed Ali ShahPetitioner

Versus

Province of Sindh & othersRespondents

Date of hearing 23.10.2019

Petitioner present in person.

Mr. Abdul Sattar Pirzada advocate for the respondent No.3

Mr. Jawad Dero, Adl. A.G.

Abdul Qayyum Rajput, Technical Officer, Cane Commissioner, Sindh.

Abdul Samad Shaikh, Focal Person, Agriculture Department, Government of Sindh.

Muhammad Ali Mazhar, J: The petitioner has prayed for the directions against the respondent No. 1 & 2 to notify the crushing season 2019-2020 in terms of Section 8 of Sugar Factories Control Act, 1950 and fix the minimum price of cane for the upcoming crushing season without any delay.

2. Learned counsel for the respondent No.3 as well as learned Addl. A.G. both pointed out that according to Section 8 of the Sugar Factories Control Act, 1950, the occupier shall start crushing by a date not later than 30th November each year. Learned counsel for the respondent No.3 submitted

before the court that crushing season will start according to the timeline mentioned in Section 8. This statement is taken on record.

3. In so far as fixation of minimum price is concerned, learned counsel for the petitioner pointed out Section 16 of the Sugar Factories Control Act, 1950, as amended by the Sindh Amendment Act X of 2009 dated 09.12.2009, whereby, the Government may on the recommendations of the Board or otherwise by notification determine minimum price of the cane having regard to the cost of production of sugarcane and return to the grower from alternative crops and the general, trend of prices of agricultural commodities.

In this regard, learned Addl. A.G. has shown us notice of meeting dated 15.10.2019, whereby, a meeting of sugarcane control board for fixation of minimum sugarcane price and commencement date of sugarcane crushing for the season 2019-2020 was convened. Abdul Samad Shaikh, Focal Person in legal matters, Agriculture Department submits meeting was convened on 18.10.2019 and very soon the next meeting will be convened and the sugarcane price will be notified before the start of the crushing season. This statement is also taken on record.

4. All parties present submit that the present petition may be disposed of in terms of the statements as aforesaid. Therefore, this petition, along with pending application/s, is

hereby disposed of in terms of the statements as recorded supra. Learned Addl. A.G. is directed to ensure compliance.

JUDGE

JUDGE

Aadil Arab