

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI
 CP D 7977 of 2019

Order with signature of Judge

Present: **Muhammad Ali Mazhar** and **Agha Faisal, JJ.**

Syed Mureed Ali Shah
 vs.
 Federation of Pakistan & Others

1. *For hearing of Misc. 35163 of 2019*
2. *For hearing of main case*

20.12.2019

Petitioner Syed Mureed Ali Shah, Advocate present in person.
 Mr. Moiuddin, Assistant Attorney General.
 Mr. Jawad Dero, Additional Advocate General Sindh.
 Mr. Hidayatullah Chajro, Director General, Agriculture Extension, Sindh is present.
 Mr. Abdul Samad Sheikh, Focal Person for Legal, Agriculture Department.

Muhammad Ali Mazhar J.- The petitioner has approached this Court for directions against the respondents to start an active campaign against locusts attacks. According to the petitioner the first report of locusts invasion emerged in early May and in the past locusts infestations have occurred several times and locusts caused huge amount of damage to the agriculture crops. The petitioner sought the directions against the respondents to carry out the survey of the affected areas and to provide relief to the affected farmers. On notice, the Secretary, Agriculture, Supply and Price Department, Government of Sindh has filed comments. Mr. Hidayatullah Chajro, Director General, Agriculture Extension Sindh is also present. They have also submitted a table annexure IV, attached to their comments with regard to the progress of control spray operations against locusts outbreak. According to this report the affected areas were Sukkur (Saleh Pat Desert), Ghotki Desert, Khairur Nara Desert, Tharparkar, Umerkot Desert Area, Sanghar (Achro Thar Desert), Shaheed Benazirabad, Naushero Feroze, Shikarpur, Mirpurkhas, Larkana and Badin. It is further stated in this report that the spray was conducted at 6546 acres of land and 57 teams

of Agriculture Extension Sindh are working in all locust affected districts and 22 vehicles alongwith spray machines and pesticides are available in the field. Total cropped area sprayed is 60112 including 6546 acres sprayed on 19th December, 2019. The desert area was sprayed through aerial and ground operation regularly. The field teams are also carrying out spray operation on crops as well as on desert area. It is further stated in the comments that the Chief Secretary has constituted an “Implementation and Oversee Committee” on 24.07.2019 to implement precautionary and combat measures against locust attack in districts of Sindh and the Government of Sindh has released funds in the sum of Rs.16.00 million to the Deputy Commissioners of the affected districts of Sindh Province. The Chief Secretary Sindh continuously holding meetings and getting follow up by daily reporting mechanism through the Secretary, Agriculture, Supply and Price Department. The Ministry of Agriculture has also declared “Emergency of Desert Locusts Threat in Sindh” and the Government of Sindh has also released Rs.319.695 million for locusts surveillance and control operations. In the nutshell, the comments disclosed that all efforts are in process to fight the locusts invasion and the Government is taking all necessary actions with sincere efforts to combat the locusts infestations. The petition is disposed of with the directions to the Government of Sindh and the Agriculture Department Government of Sindh to ensure that all best possible combat measures to continue against locusts attack and invasion in Sindh.

J U D G E

J U D G E