ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI C.P No. D-3534 of 2021

Date Order with signature(s) of Judge(s).

For orders as to maintainability of Petition.

23.06.2021.

Mr. Munawar Alam Khan, Advocate for the Petitioner. Mr. Zafar Ahmed Khan, Additional Prosecutor General, Sindh. Ms. Naushaba Haq Solangi, Assistant Advocate General, Sindh.

The Petition has been listed today for orders as to maintainability, with a question having been raised in that regard on the preceding date. A perusal of the Petition reflects that the Petitioner described himself to be an investigative journalist and Bureau Chief of a news channel, and professed to have come forward in the public interest so as to unveil and challenge the preferential treatment allegedly being extended to a particular under-trial prisoner confined at Central Prison, Karachi, namely the Respondent No.6.

On query posed, as to the *locus standi* of the Petitioner and how he qualifies as aggrieved person in the matter, learned counsel has merely reiterated that the Petitioner has come forward in the public interest. However, it is well settled that in order to satisfy the requirements of an 'aggrieved person' in public interest litigation under Article 199 of the Constitution, a petitioner is to at least disclose a personal interest in the performance of a legal duty owed to him, which if not performed would result in the loss of some personal benefit or advantage or curtailment of a privilege in liberty or franchise. That element is conspicuously absent in the instant case. As such, it is apparent that the Petition is not maintainable, which stands dismissed accordingly.

JUDGE