

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI

Present:
Muhammad Junaid Ghaffar, J.
Agha Faisal, J.

C P D 3291 of 2022 : Aftab Hussain vs. National Accountability Bureau & Others

For the Petitioner : Mr. Shumail Sikandar, Advocate

For the Respondents : Mr. Shahbaz Sahutra
Special Prosecutor NAB

Date/s of hearing : 12.09.2022

Date of announcement : 12.09.2022

ORDER

Agha Faisal, J. The petitioner, alleged by NAB to be a front man of Mr. Awais Muzzafar Tappi (“Tappi”), is aggrieved by the pendency of an inquiry there against and seeks for the same to be quashed. NAB’s letter dated 17.03.2022 (“Impugned Letter”) has also been impugned in the petition, however, during the course of the hearing the petitioner’s counsel has foregone such relief and not pressed prayer clauses IV and V of the memorandum of petition.

2. Per petitioner’s counsel, since the particular inquiry under consideration is not directed at Tappi, hence, there is no rationale for the same to be conducted against any alleged front man. On the contrary, Special Prosecutor NAB has submitted that petitioner’s contention is naïve as Tappi is the primary focus of NAB’s probe, however, the present inquiry is ancillary to determine whether any ill gotten assets have been concealed in the custody of *inter alia* the petitioner.

3. Heard and perused. The inquiry *prima facie* appears to be directed at determining the existence, if any, of ill gotten gains and no case has been set forth before us to interfere in the same. However, it is also borne in mind that such an exercise ought not to pend indefinitely.

4. In view hereof, we do hereby direct NAB to conduct its inquiry expeditiously and conclude the same no later than within six months from the date hereof. During tenancy of the inquiry, benefit of the amended National

Accountability Ordinance 1999, including without limitation sections 18 and 24 thereof, shall inure to the benefit of the petitioner.

5. This petition, and all pending applications, are hereby disposed of in terms as aforesaid.

JUDGE

JUDGE