ORDER SHEET

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, CIRCUIT COURT, LARKANA.

Constitutional Petition No.D- 683 of 2024.

(Ziauddin & another v. Regional Head EOBI & Ors)

DATEOFHEARING

ORDERWITH SIGNATRUEOFHON'BLE JUDGE

Present:

Mr.Justice Muhammad Saleem Jessar. Mr.Justice Adnan ul Karim Memon.

28.02.2025

Mr. Javed Ahmed Soomro, advocate a/w the petitioner.

Mr. Abdul Rehman Bhutto, advocate for the respondents No.1.

Mr. Abid Hussain Qadri, advocate for the respondents No.3 to 6 assisted by Arslan Harjah, Deputy Manager, Legal (L&EM) SSGCL Regional office, Larkana.

Mr. Oshaque Ali Sangi, Assistant Attorney General

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ORDER

ADNAN UL KARIM MEMON-J.:- Petitioners claim that Petitioner 1 began employment with Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGCL) as a Management Trainee on November 6, 1994, and retired on May 9, 2022. Petitioner 2 joined SSGCL as a Junior Clerk on June 30, 1996, and retired on February 28, 2022. Their services were terminated on May 26, 2000, but they were reinstated from their initial employment dates by a Supreme Court judgment on May 2, 2003. They assert entitlement to all retirement benefits and EOBI pension, having met the 15-year service requirement. However, SSGCL has denied them these benefits and the EOBI pension. Their appeal (No. HYD-003 of 2023) to the EOBI Appellate Authority in Hyderabad was also rejected on August 6, 2024, leading them to file this petition.

2. The petitioners' counsel submitted a copy of the Employees Old Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) Board of Trustees' Appellate Authority order dated March 8, 2024, along with a statement dated February 28, 2025, which was placed on record. Highlighting page 35 (specifically page 37, item 6) of the court file, the counsel pointed out the respondents' admission of the petitioners' claim. He requested that the petition be granted and the case be remanded for a fresh decision, guided by the Supreme Court of Pakistan's ruling in <u>Managing</u>

<u>Director, Sui Southem Gas Company Ltd. Karachi v. Ghulam Abbas and others</u> (PLD 2003 SC 724).

- 3. Counsel for respondents 3-6, along with the Assistant Attorney General and an SSGCL representative, stated that SSGCL has settled all dues and has no outstanding obligations. They consented to remanding the case to EOBI for a fresh decision on the EOBI pension, with SSGCL agreeing to contribute the necessary funds for the intervening period if permissible under the law. Advocate Abdul Rehman Bhutto, for respondent 1, did not object to this proposal however added that this is subject to all just exceptions as provided under the law.
- 4. The respondents are directed to re-evaluate the petitioners' case, including their intervening service period and contributions thereof, within one month of receiving this order. A faxed copy will be sent today for immediate compliance.
- 5. Accordingly and in view of above, instant petition is hereby disposed of in terms stated above.