

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI

SCRA 83 of 2025

DATE	ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGE(S)
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1. For orders on office objection.
2. For hearing of main case
3. For hearing of CMA No.751/2025.

20.05.2026

Mr. Khalid Mahmood Rajpar, advocate for applicant.

Per learned counsel, appeal before the Appellate Tribunal was 15 days' time barred, however, the same was not considered or appreciated by the forum and no importance was given to such aspect before the Appellate Tribunal. Learned counsel further states that in addition to the foregoing, respondent has not even appeared before the adjudicating officer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, learned counsel states that the impugned judgment has been rendered without any independent discussion deliberation and / reasoning and cannot be considered a speaking order. Learned counsel states that the Appellate Tribunal has rendered the judgment in a perfunctory manner and the same is not befitting the last fact finding forum in the statutory hierarchy.

Learned counsel states that the respondent has been continuously avoiding adjudication, therefore, pursuant to order for substituted service, the same has been effected through publication.

The Appellate Tribunal is the last fact finding forum in the statutory hierarchy, therefore, it is incumbent upon the same to render independent deliberations and findings on each issue. The manner in which the appeals in general are to be addressed to be emphasized by the Supreme Court in judgments reported as 2019 SCMR 1726. This High Court has consistently maintained that the Appellate Tribunal is required to possess independent reasons and findings and in the absence thereof a perfunctory order could not be sustained. Reliance is placed on judgment dated 02.10.2024 in SCRA 1113 of 2023 and judgment dated 27.08.2024 in SCRA 757 of 2015. Earlier Division Bench judgment has also maintained that if the impugned order is discrepant in the manner as aforesaid even grant to remand the matter for adjudication afresh. Reliance is placed on judgment dated 10.12.2024 in ITRA 342 of 2024.

We are of the considered view that the impugned judgment could not be treated to be a speaking order prima facie devoid of relevant discussion and deliberation. In view hereof, the impugned judgment is hereby set aside and the matter is remanded back to the Appellate Tribunal for adjudication afresh.

A copy of this decision may be sent under the seal of this Court and the signature of the Registrar to the learned Customs Appellate Tribunal, as required per section 196(5) of the Customs Act, 1969.

Judge

Judge