

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH KARACHI

Const: Petition No. D-2816 of 2014

Date	Order with signature(s) of Judge(s)
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Priority.
1.For hearing of CMA No. 13548/2014
2.For hearing of main case.

18th September, 2026.

Mr. Saalim Salam Ansari, Advocate holding brief for
Mr. Mian Raza Rabbani, Advocate for petitioner.

Ms. Shazia Hanjrah, Deputy Attorney General.

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Mr. Saalim Salam Ansari, Advocate, holding brief for Mr. Mian Raza Rabbani, learned Advocate for the Petitioner, seeks adjournment on the ground that latter is out of the country.

Perusal of record, however, reveals that an interim order was passed by this Court on 26.05.2014, whereafter the matter was fixed on 13.06.2014. Thereafter, for reasons which are not forthcoming from the record, the matter remained unattended and has been placed before the Court today after an extraordinary lapse of almost twelve years. No justification or explanation has been furnished by the Office as to why the matter was not placed before the Court during all these years.

The delay is all the more serious and disturbing for the reason that an interim order has remained operative throughout the intervening period. The failure of the concerned Branch to ensure that the matter was brought before the Court within a reasonable time, particularly in the presence of an operative interim order, prima facie reflects negligence, lethargy and lack of due diligence in discharge of official duties. Such conduct on the part of the concerned Branch cannot be lightly ignored. The judicial process requires that matters, especially those in which interim orders are operating, are placed before the Court without undue delay and are not allowed to remain dormant for years together.

Administrative inaction resulting in prolonged pendency of a matter undermines the orderly administration of justice and warrants appropriate accountability. Accordingly, let explanation be called from the concerned Incharge of the Branch as to why appropriate disciplinary action should not be recommended/initiated against him for aforesaid negligence, lethargy and apathy in the discharge of official duties, particularly in allowing the matter to remain pending for almost twelve years despite the interim order dated 26.05.2014. The concerned Incharge shall submit written explanation within one week, positively. The concerned Incharge is further directed to ensure that henceforth matters in which interim orders are operating are appropriately flagged and periodically brought to the notice of the Court in accordance with the applicable rules and administrative instructions, so that no matter remains dormant for an unduly prolonged period merely on account of administrative omission. The Registrar of this Court is directed to communicate the copy of this order to the Branches and shall ensure compliance. A copy of this order shall be communicated to the Registrar of this court for compliance.

To come up on 01.10.2026, till then interim order passed earlier shall remain in force.

Judge
Head of Const. Benches

Aamir/PS

Judge