

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI

C. P. No. D-4549 / 2025
(Rafiq Ahmed Vs. Federation of Pakistan & Others)

Present:

Mr. Justice Adnan-ul-Karim Memon
Mr. Justice Muhammad Jaffer Raza

Date of hearing and order:- 25.08.2026.

Mr. Usman Farooq, Advocate for Petitioner.
Ms. Wajiha Mehdi, Deputy Attorney General.
Ms. Samina Maqsood, Assistant Director (Legal), NADRA.

Adnan-ul-Karim Memon, J. The Petitioner has filed this Petition under Article 199 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan seeking the following reliefs: -

- “a) *Declare the Respondents to immediately issue the CNIC of the Petitioner in accordance with law.*
- b) *Declare the Respondents to issue CNICs to Petitioner without any discrimination.*
- c) *Declare the conduct of NADRA as illegal, discriminatory, and violate of the Petitioners' fundamental rights.”*

2. The Petitioner filed this constitutional petition under Article 199 of the Constitution seeking issuance of his CNIC and challenging the alleged discriminatory and unlawful conduct of NADRA. Learned counsel for NADRA submitted that the Petitioner, being a CRC holder whose record was digitally impounded, had applied for conversion of his CRC into a CNIC. However, during verification, he failed to produce documentary evidence before 1971 as required under Section 16-A and Rule 13-A of the Pakistan Citizenship Act, 1951. Consequently, his case was referred to the Verifying Agency, which also reported that his national status could not be ascertained for want of requisite documentary evidence. The matter was thereafter forwarded to the District Level Committee (DLC), Korangi, for a final decision.

3. We have been informed that during the Zonal Verification Board proceedings held on 10.11.2020, petitioner produced the CNIC of his father, his father's MNIC registered in 1993, and his paternal grandfather's MNIC registered in 1985; however, he failed to produce documentary evidence predating 1971 as required under Section 16-A read with Rule 13-A of the Pakistan Citizenship Act, 1951. He also failed to establish family linkage with his parents. Consequently, the

Zonal Board referred his case to the Verifying Agency for confirmation of his national status. The Verifying Agency subsequently reported that his nationality could not be ascertained for want of requisite documentary evidence. Thereafter, his case was forwarded to the District Level Committee (DLC), Korangi, for a final decision regarding unblocking or cancellation of his CRC.

4. At this stage, counsel for the NADRA added that the Petitioner may approach the DLC, Korangi, Karachi, along with all relevant original documents for further processing of his case in accordance with law.

5. Learned Counsel for the Petitioner accepted the said position and sought disposal of the petition with a direction that his case be processed and decided without unnecessary hindrance, provided his claim was found genuine.

6. In view of the consensus between the parties, the request is found reasonable and the petition is disposed of with directions that the Petitioner to approach the DLC, Korangi, along with all relevant documents, whereupon his case shall be processed and decided in accordance with law. The requisite exercise shall be completed within two weeks.

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Shahzad Soomro