ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH. CIRCUIT COURT, HYDERABAD.

C.P. No.D-411 of 2020

DATE ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

1. For orders on M.A. No.2285/2020 (Urgent application)

2. For orders on office objections.

3. For orders on M.A. No.2286/2020 (Exemption Application).

4. For hearing of main case.

18-03-2020

Mr. Farhad Ali Abro, Mr. Lutufullah Arain, Syed Waseem Shah and Mr. Zahid Ali Hingoro, advocates for petitioners.

This petition pertains to the current issue of Corona Virus (COVID-19). Counsels submit that the situation is very alarming and the basic necessities required to curb and cater the current situation are now missing which is a great pandemic to curtail and stop the spreading of this viral disease.

We have heard the learned counsels. We are aware of the situation prevailing in our Province. While we appreciate the efforts taken by the Provincial Government, we realize that there is still a lot to be done in order to handle the situation. Advertisement and public awareness should be as much as possible in all kind of modes including but not limited to print and electronic media including TV, radio and social media, as well as self-quarantine could save the situation from being aggravated and public awareness is a best possible solution. Respondent No.1 (Federal Government) and NDMA should coordinate with the Provincial Government (respondent No.2) on top priority. Secretary of transport should take strict measures and monitor the situation and take strict decisions to curb the spread of this COVID-19 disease.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), having funds is required to coordinate with all Provincial Governments in order to cater their requirement and need. The Provincial Government (respondent No.2) should allocate adequate funds in order to successfully overcome this emergent situation. Quarantine facilities should be improved in every respect, which

is imperative for controlling spread of this pandemic. We are of the view that the passengers and the pilgrims coming from abroad should be catered strictly and should remain in the proper quarantine facilities before they are allowed to enter in their respective places, that may curtail the spreading of this disease in public at large.

We are also of the view that if private sector, including any of the hospitals in private sector want to import or procure testing kits, ventilators, thermal guns and other auxiliary equipment(s), in order to alleviate the present national health crisis, they should be allowed to procure and import the same and both Federal and Provincial Governments facilitate all those private sector organizations in procuring such equipment and in this regard red-tapism should be avoided. Governments and its functionaries shall ensure that equipments which are imported or procured, are of prescribed standard and this proposed facility is not misused by anyone.

The concerned Health Ministry (respondent No.3) shall also forthwith address the situation being faced by the Doctors who are dealing with these patients that they should remain safe and Doctors who are attending such patients, do not themselves become contagions, therefore, to ensure that these attendants or doctors should not transmit such disease to other patients or citizens, they may be provided all kinds of facilities that are required by them. Provincial Government is also required to facilitate all District Health Officers who shall ensure strict vigilance and monitoring in their respective districts.

Adjourned to 24.03.2020. Copy of this order be forwarded today to learned A.A.G., D.A.G. and Chief Secretary Sindh through all modes including fax, e-mail or any other electronic mode available for express delivery.

> Sd/ MUHAMMAD SHAFI SIDDIQUI. JUDGE

SO/ MUHAMMAD FAISAL KAMAL ALAM