ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI C. P. No. D-952 of 2021

Date	Order with signature of Judge
PRIORITY.	

1. For hearing of CMA No.3932/2021.

2. For hearing of main case.

31.08.2021.

Petitioner is present in person. Ms. Kalpana Devi, Additional Advocate General, Sindh.

The Petitioner, who is stated to be an Advocate by profession, has invoked the jurisdiction of this Court under Article 199 of the Constitution impugning a letter dated 24.01.2021 issued by the Director General, Health Services Sindh to the Medical Superintendents of various Hospitals/Institutions operating in the Province. The impugned letter pertains to the subject of the "Provision of Ambulance Services for Transportation of Dead Bodies", the content of which reads as follows:-

"I am under directions to attract your attention to subject matter. Ambulances are only for shifting of critically sick from one health facility to other under medical advice. The dead deserve profound honour to them. Where necessary, their movement should be carried out in graceful manner. Through coffin carriers or neat and clean vehicles. Use of ambulances should be discouraged for the purpose. They are for transportation of people in need of urgent medical help.

You are, therefore, advised to disseminate awareness on proper utilization of government ambulance services in public interest. Placing standees on prominent spots inside hospitals may prove helpful in that regard. The suggested matter in three (3) languages for display is hereby enclosed for your perusal and necessary compliance."

The Petitioner, present in person, submitted that the impugned letter violated his fundamentals rights and that of the public at large, but was unable to articulate any cogent argument as to show how that was so. Indeed, a perusal of the letter reflects that no blanket prohibition or directive has even been issued and only an advisory has been made that Ambulances be prioritized for transporting living persons who need urgent medical attention. Needless to say, in our view, such an advisory is quite unobjectionable. The instant Petition, being misconceived, accordingly stands dismissed in limine.

CHIEF JUSTICE

JUDGE