ORDER SHEET

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI Suit No.-1457 of 2022

(ARY Communication Ltd. ..v...Federation of Pakistan & others)

Date

Order with signature of Judge

- 1.For hearing of CMA No.11583/2022
- 2.For hearing of CMA No.11584/2022
- 3. For hearing of CMA No. 11505/2022
- 4. For order on CMA No. 11636/2022
- 5. For order on office objection.

15.08.2022

M/s. Ayan Mustafa Memon and Amna Khalili, Advocates for the plaintiff. M/s. Khawaja Shams ul Islam, Kashif Hanif, Haris Azmat and Tahir Farooq Tarar, Advocates for PEMRA.

Mr. Khaleeq Ahmed, DAG.

Muhammad Saleem Baig, Chairman, PEMRA has affected appearance in compliance of this Court's order and states that as submitted earlier by the learned counsel for PEMRA, the latter has not suspended transmissions of ARY News channel and if such transmissions are not been visible, it may be on the part of the cable operators. Learned counsel for the plaintiff states that from the evidence already available before this Court, the alleged contemnors cannot be absolved of his responsibility resulting in suspension of the transmission. At this juncture, learned counsel for the plaintiff submits that to affirm the position of PEMRA, let PEMRA issue a circular addressed to the Registrar of this Court with copy to the cable operators that PEMRA had not suspended transmissions of ARY News channel and it has no objection if cable operators include the ARY News channel at the same position as it was so operating on 07.08.2022. Ordered accordingly. Learned counsel for the PEMRA contends that the issuance of this circular would not construe that the defendant has in any way admitted the position of the plaintiff. Learned counsel for PEMRA states that Chairman PEMRA would adhere to any order of this Court and he has not made any willful contempt of this order and tenders unconditional apologies.

In view of the above, the contempt application is disposed of subject to the issuance of the circular referred hereinabove during the course of the day. Presence of Mr. Muhammad Saleem Baig is dispensed with unless required in future.

Learned counsel for the plaintiff wished to reiterate that the Court has already passed orders dated 10.08.2022 that no final orders against the plaintiff be acted upon unless directions are issued by this Court. Learned counsel representing PEMRA undertake that any such orders would only be given effect once this Court passes such orders.

To come up on 24.08.2022. Interim orders passed earlier to continue till next date of hearing.

JUDGE

Aadil Arab