ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI

C. P. No. D-7075 of 2022

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Date	Order with signature of Judge
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DIRECTION.

For orders as to maintainability of Petition.

01.12.2022.

Mr. Ghulam Ali Khan, Advocate for the Petitioners.

YOUSUF ALI SAYEED, J. - The Petition seeks to impugn a Notification dated 27.10.2022 issued by the Forest and Wildlife Department, Government of Sindh under the Sindh Wildlife Protection, Preservation, Conservation and Management Act, 2020, read with Rule 69 of the Sindh Wildlife Protection, Preservation, Conservation and Management Rules, 2022, so as to impose a ban on the hunting of game birds of Category (A) during the Season 2022-23.

The Notification itself reflects that there are three categories of hunt, being (A) the shooting of native game birds and water fowls with a gun in accordance with the Code of Conduct defined under Rule 62, (B) Trophy hunting at non-protected community lands and (C) falconry at deserts and hilly plains, all of which are regarded as distinct and different categories with no overlap. The Notification then goes on to state that certain field reports had been received from the respective wildlife divisions in the wake of the widespread flooding that has beset the Province, recommending a ban on game bird hunting during the upcoming season. The matter was placed before the Honourable Chief Minister of Sindh and, with his approval, then made part of the Agenda of the meeting of the Provincial Cabinet held on 11.10.2022, where, after deliberation, approval was accorded for a ban on hunting of native game binds and migratory water fowl during the aforementioned period.

On the first date that the matter had come up in Court, a query had been posed as to how the Petition was maintainable and upon such query being reiterated today and learned Counsel being asked to show the legal defect, if any, afflicting the Notification, the only response forthcoming was that the same was discriminatory since the ban imposed thereunder was only in respect of Category (A), whereas Categories (B) and (C) had been left open.

Having considered the matter, we are of the view that no case of discrimination stands made out on that basis as the Notification is self-explanatory, with there being no correlation between the various categories, nor has it even been suggested that the ban on Category (A) is being imposed selectively.

Under the given circumstances, we are of the view that the Petition is misconceived, and that being so, we dismiss the Petition *in limine*, along with the pending miscellaneous applications.

JUDGE

JUDGE

MUBASHIR