ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI. C.P No. D-5358 of 2022

Dated Order with signature of Judge.

Priority

- 1. For order on Misc. No. 22907/2022
- 2. For hearing of Misc. No.22908/2022
- 3. For hearing of Main Case

<u>27.09.2022.</u>

Mr. Raj Ali Wahid, Advocate for the Petitioners. Kazi Abdul Hameed Siddiqui, D.A.G alongwith Atiq Ahmed, Assistt. Director, FPSC.

YOUSUF ALI SAYEED, J- The Petitioners profess to be practicing advocates and to have come forward in the public interest so as to seek an extension in the date for the MCQ Based Preliminary Test ("**MPT**") for the CSS Competitive Examination – 2023 scheduled to be held by the Federal Public Service Commission ("**FPSC**") on 02.10.2022. Their case is that candidates from the Province of Sindh have been prevented from submitting their applications for the MPT online within the prescribed time period, as the widespread flooding that had ensued had disrupted infrastructure and communications over that timeframe.

Whilst we had observed at the outset that no affected candidate had personally come forward and had harboured some doubt as to whether the matter properly qualified as one of public interest, we had nonetheless issued notice to the FPSC for purpose of ascertaining whether there had in fact been any significant decline in the number of applications, so as to support the contention of the Petitioners. As it happens, the comments that have been forthcoming reflect that the online registration system of the FPSC remained operational, with 59,182 applicants having enrolled/ registered within the due date, of which 9998 applicants were from the Province of Sindh, as opposed to 10544 that had enrolled in the preceding year.

Under the circumstances, it is apparent that the reduction in the number of applicants from the previous year is not so stark as requires any further enquiry, especially when no aggrieved affectee has personally come forward. The Petition thus stands dismissed, along with the pending miscellaneous applications.

JUDGE

TariqAli/PA

CHIEF JUSTICE