ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH BENCH AT SUKKUR

C.P. No.D-302 of 2023

Date Order with signature of Judge

- 1. For orders on CMA No.1355/2023
- 2. For orders on office objections
- 3. For orders on CMA No.1356/2023
- 4. For hearing of main case.

21.02.2023

Petitioners are present in person

- 1. Granted.
- 2. To be complied with within a week.
- 3. Granted subject to all just exceptions.
- 4. Grievance of the petitioners is that Culture and Tourism Department is going to organize a Musical night titled as Centenary of Moen-Jo-Daro at London (UK), which is scheduled on 11th March, 2023; besides they are going to organize such like festivals/musical nights in different countries of the world but, inspite of that, they have failed to save cultural sites; besides they have no mechanism to provide cultural information by establishing cultural information centers with tour guides at ancient places.

It is contended that Sindh Government is providing Rs.300 Million every year for conducting such informative festivals regarding cultural sites as well book fairs but such grant has been misused in the name of cultural musical nights. In this regard, petitioners have also appended the grant awarded for maintenance of Gorakh Hills but inspite of massive allocation of budget, there is no smooth road for the visitors as well as they have failed to establish any innovation center in different parts of Province of Sindh.

In sequel to above, let notice be issued to the Respondents as well as learned AAG for 14.03.2023; to be taken up at 09:30 a.m. Meanwhile, Respondent No.1 is restrained to conduct any musical event in foreign countries, and Respondent No.2 i.e. President Arts Council is hereby restrained to schedule any cultural events in other Provinces from the aid granted to Province of Sindh. Besides, Secretary Culture shall establish mechanism of endowment fund with regard to major portion of funds reserved for cultural activities to be

invested in any profitable scheme and only profit can be utilized for the cultural activities.

Secretary Culture Department shall submit details with regard to musical programs conducted for fund raising for present flood effectees; besides they shall not conduct recreational program on the cost of public exchequer. Further, he shall submit details of festivals organized to promote academic, cultural and sports activities amongst the physically challenged. Secretary, Finance shall also submit details of fund allocated and released to the cultural department in last two years.

Secretary, Culture Department, Government of Sindh, shall submit complete breakup of amount of last five years incurred on musical nights within the province as well as abroad, if any. Besides, shall submit criterion and SOPs with regard to organize cultural festivals and musical nights.

JUDGE

JUDGE

Faisal Mumtaz/PS