ORDER SHEET THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH KARACHI

C.P. No.D-4410 of 2024

DATE ORDER WITH SIGNATURE(S) OF JUDGE (S)

- 1. For order on Misc. No.19503/2024
- 2. For order on Misc. No.19504/2024
- 3. For order on Misc. No.19505/2024
- 4. For hearing of main case

<u>10.09.2024</u>

M/s. Ebrahim Saifuddin & Tahir Mehmood, Advocates for the Petitioner a/w Petitioner/Advocate Amir Nawaz Warraich

1. Urgency granted.

2. Exemption granted subject to all just exceptions.

3-4. This petition is filed by the President, Karachi Bar Association. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that on 17.08.2024, Respondent No.6 held a meeting in the office of Controller Examination whereby a sitting Judge of the Islamabad High Court (Mr. Justice Tariq Mahmood Jehangiri) was singularly targeted only to tarnish the reputation of the Hon'ble Judge; that after the decision of Respondent No.6, a media campaign started against the Hon'ble Judge of IHC; that the said Judge is also one of the signatories who signed the letter informing the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan about the alleged interference by the intelligence operatives in judicial matters; that Respondent No.7/FIA has initiated alleged Inquiry No.43 on the complaint of one Muhammad Shahzad Gondal; that the said inquiry encompasses a 24 pages report which has been disseminated through both electronic and print media regulated by Respondent No.8/Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA); that Respondent No.9 published a four-page report on her Twitter account which appears to be an attempt to defame and undermine the reputation of a sitting High Court Judge without adhering due process of law. Learned counsel further contended that on similar issue, a C.P. bearing No.4336/2024 was filed wherein this Court passed an orer dated 05.09.2024 whereby decision of Unfair Means Committee regarding invalid degree of Mr. Justice Tariq Mehmood Jehangiri was suspended but despite that order, on the complaint of Respondent No.9, FIA officails initiated inquiry against their lawful mandate; that action of the FIA are based on malafide only to defame the reputation of respective Judge; that

Respondent No.9 instead of approaching proper forum of Supreme Judicial Council as prescribed under Article 209 of the Constitution published a four-page report. They also contended that if these actions which are hanging like Sword of Damocles upon the judiciary; if not stopped then the independence of judiciary will blew up. Lastly, the petitioner submits that being President and representative of 20,000 lawyers, he has come forward to safeguard the institution and its integrity; therefore, No.7 Respondent may restrained be to initiate any inquiry/investigation against the Hon'ble Judge of the Islamabad High Court.

The arguments presented by learned counsel for the petitioner carry substantial weightage; therefore, notices are issued to the Respondents as well as Deputy Attorney General and Advocate General, Sindh. Meanwhile, Respondent No.7/FIA officials are hereby restrained to initiate any inquiry/investigation not only in the subject matter but also if any complaint is filed thereafter by any other person. Respondent No.9/PEMRA is also directed to ensure that on the basis of decision of Unfair Means Committee, there shall be no publication in print as well as electronic media.

To come up alongwith C.P. No.D-4336 of 2024.

JUDGE

JUDGE

PA/KAMRAN