

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, CIRCUIT COURT, LARKANA
Constitution Petition No.D-375 of 2023
(Re. Ammar Khan and others v. P.D, Expanded Program on Immunization & Ors)

Date of Hearing	ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGE
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BEFORE :

Mr. Justice Adnan-ul-Karim Memon,
Mr. Justice Muhammad Saleem Jessar,

Date of hearing & Order: 20.02.2025

Mr. Rafique Ahmed K. Abro, advocate for the petitioners.
Mr. Liaquat Ali Shar, Addl. A.G. Sindh, along with Dr. Rehmatullah, Divisional Additional Director, on behalf of Director, Health Services, Larkana Division, Larkana, Dr. Zaid Junejo on behalf of DHO Kamber-Shahdadkot and Saeed Ahmed Jokhio, Mukhtiarkar, Taluka Sijawal Junejo on behalf of Commissioner, Larkana Division.

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ORDER

ADNAN-UL-KARIM MEMON, J.- The petitioners were hired as vaccinators in 2021 in response to a public advertisement to deal with COVID-19 vaccination. They have continued to work in the respondent's office since then. Their lawyer states that the Project Director, EPI Sindh Karachi, requested an extension of their contracts on January 2, 2025. However, the petitioners have not yet received their outstanding salaries of the intervening period and are requesting that their positions be made permanent.

2. The respondents have submitted comments explaining that the directorate advertised vaccinator positions in Sindh in November 2021 to boost COVID-19 vaccination efforts. These positions offered a fixed, six-month contract with a remuneration of Rs. 10,000, funded by the Ministry of National Health Service, Regulation and Co-ordination (via the Federal EPI Islamabad). The learned A.A.G. states that the vaccinators' services were placed under the DHO, Qamber-Shahdadkot. The A.A.G. also acknowledges being aware of the outstanding salary issue and assures that payments will be made upon approval subject to their entitlement. However, the A.A.G. further submits that the subject program has ended since COVID-19 is no more, therefore the petitioners' request for regularization of their service cannot be granted.

3. This petition is concluded without addressing the petitioners' request for regularization of their services. Based on the statement from the learned A.A.G., the respondent Secretary Health, Government of Sindh. and District Health Officer is directed to release any outstanding salaries owed to the petitioners within two months. If the colleagues of the petitioners have been given an extension in service, similar relief should also be extended to the petitioners positively. *As per 2 accepted*