

ORDER SHEET

IN THE LAHORE HIGH COURT, LAHORE
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Case No. W.P No.227807/2018

Haroon Farooq Vs Government of the Punjab etc.

S.No.of order/ Proceeding	Date of order/ Proceeding	Order with signature of judge, and that of parties or counsel, where necessary.
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01.07.2019

Syed Kamal Ali Haider, Advocate for applicant-Water Commission.

Mr. Abu Zar Salman Khan Niazi, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Mohsin Mumtaz Advocate for respondent No.4.

Mr. Sibtul Husnain Advocate for respondent No.7.

Mr. Zafar Hussain Ahmad, Addl. A.G.

Mr. Anis Ali Hashmi, A.A.G with Syed Zahid Aziz, M.D, WASA.

Report has been compiled by the Water Commission nominated by this Court. Substantial steps have been taken by the Commission as brought forth in the report which have resulted in saving the precious resource of water. These steps though substantial are only confined to limited spheres in which water conservation can take place. What is required is to expand on the work accomplished for the purposes of water conservation as also to replicate the steps taken by the water commission to the rest of Punjab. This would require a concerted sustained effort and financial resources which cannot be undertaken by this Court. However, the efforts which have been put in place by the Commission can serve as a beacon light for the Govt. of the Punjab and further steps which are essential to accomplish the task can therefore be undertaken by the relevant

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department of the Govt. of the Punjab. There is no doubt that the enormous amount of work which has been carried out by the Commission ought to be continued for the future. It has been informed by the learned counsels for the parties that a draft law on water resources is pending consideration before the Provincial Assembly. This report as well as the previous reports compiled by the Water Commission shall be placed before the Secretary Law & Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of the Punjab who shall, upon consideration of the report and its analysis, explore the possibility of incorporation of the work accomplished in different areas of activity regarding water conservation in the Water Act which is under consideration of the Govt. of the Punjab. In addition to this, the learned A.A.G shall ensure that the report compiled by the Commission shall be forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Minister who shall place it before the Chief Minister Punjab for his perusal and consideration. It is expected that the Chief Minister Punjab shall appreciate the steps taken by the Commission and the creeping danger of water scarcity and shall put in place tangible steps for not only replicating them for the rest of Punjab but also will hold a deliberative session with the stakeholders so that scarce resources of groundwater can be preserved with sustained and long-lasting measures.

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The M.D WASA present in Court shall also apprise the Press regarding the accomplishment of the Commission so as to highlight the issue in order to bring awareness to the various segments of the society. Also, the Commission shall prepare a report regarding installation of water meters to measure and charge the quantity of water consumed, before the next date of hearing. The positive steps taken by the Cantonment Board Lahore and DHA are much appreciated and would go a long way to check water exploitation.

2. Adjourned to **29.07.2019**.


C.M No.7 of 2019

3. Through this application the Water Commission appointed by this Court has sought security for the Assistant Commissioner appointed as the focal person for enforcing the various directions issued by the Commission under the auspices of this Court. These duties are meant for curtailing the misuse of water and requires visitation to places where such misuse is taking place and for its stoppage forthwith. It has been brought forth in the application that for undertaking this assignment, the Assistant Commissioner faces serious threats and other hazards and requires to be provided security so that the assignment can be carried out without fear of threat to life and property.

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4. In view of the contents of the application it is disposed of with a direction to the C.C.P.O Lahore to provide security to the Assistant Commissioner appointed as focal person to undertake various assignments and to carry out the directions of Water Commission. The Assistant Commissioner shall inform the office of the CCPO, Lahore priorly which shall ensure the provision of adequate number of police personnel to the Assistant Commissioner to enable him in the fulfillment of his duties.


(SHAHID KARIM)
JUDGE

Refiqat Ali

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