

Form No:HCJD/C-121  
**ORDER SHEET**  
**IN THE LAHORE HIGH COURT LAHORE**  
**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

Case No. W.P. No.227807/2018

Haroon Farooq **Versus** Government of Punjab & others

| S.No.of<br>order/<br>Proceeding | Date of<br>order/<br>Proceeding | Order with signature of judge, and that of parties or counsel, where<br>necessary. |
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30.12.2022 Presence as before.

Learned Assistant Advocate General has produced the notifications issued by the Higher Education Department as well as School Education Department extending the winter vacations till 08.01.2023.

2. The Environment Protection Department has produced draft of the rules which are sought to be notified for which a summary has been moved to the Chief Minister, Punjab. A reading of these rules clearly shows that they are deficient in material particulars and are required to be revisited. It is directed that the summary shall not be placed before the Chief Minister until it has been vetted and seen by a Committee constituted for the purpose.

3. Learned Members of the Commission have apprised this Court regarding use of PTZ Cameras for

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the purpose of checking and monitoring the violating industrial units which are using substandard fuel. Further report shall be placed on the record on the next date of hearing. In this regard, Director General, PDMA has also appeared and has been notified to take the lead in the entire matter of controlling smog as smog has been declared as a calamity and the role of PDMA is enhanced by this declaration. He has stated that an application will be developed and a group of volunteers will also be set up for real time monitoring of the violations being committed by the industrial units and anyone involved in causing pollution in any manner. A complete proposal shall be placed before this Court before the next date of hearing. The Director General, PDMA shall also suggest amendments in the existing rules to further empower the PDMA in the times of calamity so that Departments of the Government of Punjab are made to act on the directions of PDMA.

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4. With regard to traffic congestion, learned Assistant Advocate General shall apprise this Court regarding the law relating to declaration of red zone and dealing with increased number of protests which are taking place on the main roads of Lahore and which causes traffic congestion. This in turn causes

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environmental pollution. Also Mr. Shahzad Khan, SSP City Traffic shall hold a meeting with the Managing Director of TEPA for making necessary changes in the roads structure so that points of congestion in various parts of Lahore can be reduced by making these structural changes in design etc.

5. Learned Members of the Commission shall also hold a meeting with School Education Department for a concerted plan by large schools in private sector in the first phase for acquiring new busses so that maximum number of school children can ply on those busses from their homes to the schools instead of using private transport. The schools shall be required to come up with the acquisition plan during which small and medium busses shall be acquired by the schools for this purpose. This will help in substantial reduction of environmental pollution. The purpose of the meeting should be to impress upon the schools to play their role under the corporate social responsibility towards city of Lahore and for reducing environmental pollution including smog. Simultaneously, Government of Punjab shall ensure mass promotion and essential installation of the application developed by the safe city and the Punjab police which ensure safety of children and women.

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6. One aspect which was highlighted by the Members of the Commission was regarding the tree cover which blocks the view of PTZ cameras of safe city authority. These trees are required to be pruned by LESCO in coordination with PHA. These two authorities are directed to do so. It is made clear that no trees will be cut in the process but only pruning of branches shall take place.

7. Learned Deputy Attorney General has produced a report on behalf of the Ministry of Climate Change of the Federal Government. According to this report Ministry of Foreign Affairs had contacted the relevant ministry of the People's Republic of China. They have fortunately consented to render assistance on the issue. The Chinese Ministry requires the working paper on the proposed cooperation between the Government of Punjab and the People's Republic of China. The Ministry of Climate Change has forwarded the same to the Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab on 28.12.2022 to provide a working paper for the proposed cooperation. Moreover, Pakistan's Ambassador to China in his letter dated 22.12.2022 has informed that due to a new wave of Covid-19 pandemic in Beijing, most of the offices are working with limited staff. In this regard, learned

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Assistant Advocate General shall touch base with the Chief Secretary, Punjab to expedite the matter and for the purpose, Director General, PDMA shall also coordinate in the formulation of the working papers in consultation with the Members of the Commission. This shall be done expeditiously and before the next date of hearing so that the coordination as initiated by the Ministry of Climate Change may yield fruitful results.

8. Adjourned to 13.01.2023.

  
(SHAHID KARIM)  
JUDGE

Abdul Waheed

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10/1/23