IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN

(Original Jurisdiction)

PRESENT:

MR. JUSTICE JAWWAD S. KHAWAJA

MR. JUSTICE IQBAL HAMEEDUR RAHMAN

MR. JUSTICE MUSHIR ALAM

Constitution Petition No.26 of 2013

Khurram Shahzad Chughtai ... Petitioner(s)

Versus

Federation of Pakistan and others ... Respondent(s)

For the petitioner(s): Mr. Ali Raza, ASC

Mr. Tariq Aziz, AOR

For the applicant(s): Mr. Athar Minallah, ASC (in CMA-7108/13)

On Court's Notice: Mr. Salman Aslam Butt, Attorney General for Pakistan.

For respondent No.1: Mr. Imran ul Haq Khan, DAG

(M/o IT) Mr. Muhammad Ayub, Dy. Manager (Legal)

For respondent No.2: Dr. Ismail Shah, Chairman

(PTA)

Mr. Tariq Salman, Member (Finance) Mr. Khurram Siddiqui, Director (Law) Mr. Munawwar Iqbal, Consultant (Legal)

Mr. Faraz Khan Jadoon, L.O.

For respondent No.3:

(FAB)

Nemo.

For respondent No.4: Syed Sibt-e-Hassan Gardezi, Acting G.M. (Law)

Mr. Kamran Masood, Manager (F)

On Court's Notice:

For Cabinet Division: Mr. Jamil Ahmed, Sh. S.O.

For M/o Finance: Nemo.

Date of hearing 17.03.2014

ORDER

We have heard this matter partly. As noted in our previous order we are anxious that this matter is decided at the earliest and if possible, before the auction of 3G and 4G licences. We are told that previously the date of this auction was fixed as 7th April, but now it has been postponed to 23rd April, 2014.

2. Today, while hearing this petition, we asked the learned Attorney General to show the method of book keeping of the USF and the treatment of the Fund, after the monies of the USF were transferred to the Federal Consolidated Fund (FCF). He stated that the Ministry of Finance would be aware of the book-keeping but today no representative of

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the said Ministry, conversant with this aspect of the case is present. He shall, therefore, ensure presence of a fully conversant functionary of the Ministry of Finance to be present

in Court tomorrow i.e. 18th March, 2014.

3. Additionally, it will be the office of the Auditor General and the Accountant

General of Pakistan Revenue (AGPR), who will be fully aware of the rules applicable to

the FCF. Mr. Athar Minallah, learned ASC states that the Auditor General has already determined and prepared the Manual of Accounting Principles in exercise of powers

under Article 170 of the Constitution in respect of the FCF. This will help in determining

the status/constitutionality of the transfer of USF funds from the National Bank and eight

other scheduled Banks to the FCF. The office shall issue notice to the Auditor General and

to the AGPR Islamabad who may depute officers of their relevant departments

conversant with the Manual of Accounting Principles as well as the manner in which the

USF and the FCF are maintained and audited according to such Manual.

4. Today, we were also informed by Mr. Kamran, Manager (Finance), USF that prior

to the amendment in the USF Rules made in 2013, the USF was earning interest/profit on

the funds. In the financial year ending 30th June, 2013 a sum of rupees 5.6 billion was

earned by the USF as income on the monies of the fund deposited with the National Bank

and other scheduled Banks. The Manager (Finance) stated that after the transfer of monies

of USF to the FCF not a single rupee has been earned on the sums belonging to the USF.

5. The learned Attorney General for Pakistan submitted that the fundamental issue

in this case will revolve around whether or not the monies in the USF can be transferred

to the Federal Consolidated Fund (FCF). He stated that even if it is held that the monies in

the USF cannot be transferred to the FCF, the fact remains that the investments of USF

could have yielded a much higher return than the sum of rupees 5.6 billion as noted

above.

6. Let this matter come up for hearing as a part-heard case on 18th March, 2014.

JUDGE

JUDGE

JUDGE

Islamabad 17th March, 2014 M. Azhar Malik