ORDER SHEET IN THE ISLAMABAD HIGH COURT, ISLAMABAD JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

W.P. No.385 of 2021 Teradata Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. **Versus**. Federation of Pakistan and others

S. No. of order	Date of order /	Order with signature of Judge and that of parties or counsel
/ proceedings	proceedings	where necessary.

01.02.2021 Mr. Muhammad Adil Saeed, Advocate for the petitioner.

Through the instant writ petition, the petitioner, Teradata Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd., seeks a restraint against the respondents from recovering the disputed tax liability until the decision of the petitioner's appeal, which is pending before respondent No.2 (Commissioner Inland Revenue (Appeals-IV)).

- 2. The record shows that vide order dated 31.12.2020, a demand for amount an Rs.282,055,294/- was raised against the petitioner by respondent No.3 (Additional Commissioner (Audit-I)) in terms of Section 122(5A) read with Section 122(1) of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 ("the 2001 Ordinance") pertaining to the Tax Year 2015. The petitioner challenged the said order dated 31.12.2020 in an appeal before respondent No.2 on 22.01.2021. Along with the said appeal, the petitioner also filed an application for grant of stay. The petitioner's appeal along with stay application is still pending adjudication before the said respondent.
- 3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that even though the petitioner's appeal and stay application is still pending adjudication before respondent No.2, the petitioner has an apprehension that the respondent department may initiate recovery proceedings on the basis of

recovery notice dated 31.12.2020; that fearing the adoption of coercive measures during the pendency of the petitioner's appeal before respondent No.2, the petitioner has invoked the Constitutional jurisdiction of this Court to obtain a reprieve, as a stopgap measure, against the recovery of the disputed tax liability; and that if the interim reprieve is not granted, the petitioner shall be subjected to coercive measures.

- Consistent with the order dated 18.04.2016, passed by this Court in W.P. No.1367/2016 and by following the law laid down in the cases of M/s Pak Saudi Fertilizers Ltd Vs. Federation of Pakistan & others (2002 PTD 679), Z.N. Exporters (Pvt.) Ltd Vs. Collector of Sales Tax (2003 PTD 1746), Brothers **Engineering (Pvt.) Ltd. Vs. Appellate Tribunal Sales** Tax (2003 PTD 1836) and Mehram Ali Vs. Federation of Pakistan etc (PLD 1988 SC 1445), I am inclined to dispose of this petition, without the necessity of issuing notice to the respondents, with the direction to respondent No.2 to decide the petitioner's stay application expeditiously, and preferably within a period of 15 days from today. Until the decision on the petitioner's application, the respondent department is directed to restrain from recovering the disputed tax liability. The petitioner is directed to appear and argue its case before respondent No.2 without seeking any adjournment as and when its stay application is fixed for hearing.
- 5. <u>Disposed of in the above terms.</u>

(MIANGUL HASSAN AURANGZEB)
JUDGE