IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN

(Appellate Jurisdiction)

PRESENT:

MR. JUSTICE MUNIB AKHTAR MR. JUSTICE SHAHID WAHEED MR. JUSTICE IRFAN SAADAT KHAN

C.P.L.A.254 of 2024

(On appeal from the judgment dated 11.01.2024 passed by the Lahore High Court, Lahore in WP No.1808 of 2024)

Shahbaz Ahmad Khan ... Petitioner

Vs

Learned Election Appellate Tribunal and ... Respondents

others

For the Petitioner : Mr. Shaukat Rauf Siddiqi, ASC

Mr. Haroon Irshad Janjua, ASC

Ch. Akhtar Ali, AOR

For the respondents : Mr. Zafar Iqbal, Special Secy, ECP

Mr. Muhammad Arshad, DĞ (Law) Mr. Masood Akhtar Sherwani, D.G.

(Political Finance)

Mr. Falak Sher, Legal Consultant

Date of Hearing : 31.01.2024

ORDER

Munib Akhtar, J.: We have heard learned counsel for the petitioner as also the learned Special Secretary, Election Commission of Pakistan as well as DG (Law) and the Legal Consultant.

2. For detailed reasons to be recorded later and subject to such amplification and/or explanation therein as may be deemed appropriate, this leave petition is converted into an appeal and allowed. The impugned judgment of the learned High Court as well as the orders of the fora below are set aside with the result that the nomination papers of the petitioner, now appellant, for PP-212 (Khanewal) are deemed accepted and his name is deemed included

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in the final list of candidates for the General Elections of 2024. This candidate shall immediately and forthwith, and it shall be the duty of the Election Commission to ensure that this is done, be allocated an election symbol.

3. The name of the candidate and his election symbol must appear on the ballot papers used in and for the general election to the constituency aforementioned and the said election for this constituency must be held on 08.02.2024, as scheduled.

Judge

Judge

Judge

Islamabad, the 31st January, 2024 Naveed/*

Not approved for reporting