



BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OF PAKISTAN MEDICAL COMMISSION

In the matter of

Complaint No. PF.8-1855/2019/Legal/DC

Ms. Ambreen Iqbal Vs. Dr. Shahzad Farooq

Professor Dr. Naqib Ullah Achakzai	Chairman
Professor Dr. Noshad Ahmad Shaikh	Member
Mr. Jawad Amin Khan	Member
Barrister Ch. Sultan Mansoor	Secretary

Present:

Ms. Ambreen Iqbal	Complainant
Dr. Shahzad Farooq (13168-P)	Respondent
Hearing dated	21.11.2022

I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. Ms. Ambreen Iqbal (the “Complainant”) filed a complaint on 11.09.2019 against Dr. Shahzad Farooq (the “Respondent”) working as Orthopedic Surgeon at Akram Medical Complex, Lahore (the “Hospital”), his staff and others. Complainant has submitted that she used to visit the Respondent, for her own medical treatment and of her mother, as both were consulting the Respondent for their medical treatment.
2. Per Complainant, the Respondent started sexually harassing the Complainant by sending her obscene pictures on her WhatsApp number. Despite requests of Complainant to stop this

behavior, Respondent kept persisting so the Complainant went to the Clinic/house of the Respondent to complain this behavior to Respondent's wife. There, Respondent physically beat the Complainant, in his clinic/house, snatching her mobile.

3. Thereafter, Respondent further began to harass the Complainant by adding her mobile number into obscene phone groups and Complainant began to get obnoxious and threatening calls from various numbers.

II. NOTICE TO RESPONDENT, DR. SHAHZAD FAROOQ

4. In view of the allegations leveled in the complaint, Notice dated 19.09.2019 was issued to the Respondent doctor, directing him to submit his comments along with the copy of his registration certificate.

III. REPLY OF RESPONDENT, DR. SHAHZAD FAROOQ

5. The Respondent, Dr. Shahzad Farooq submitted his reply to the Notice on 26.09.2019 wherein he contended that:
 - a) *The undersigned is a private medical practitioner and the Complainant is known to him since 2015, when she worked at Akram Complex, where the Respondent also worked as Orthopedic Surgeon. Contrary to her claims of being a doctor, Complainant is only a clinical psychologist and has some connections in media which she uses to black mail people.*
 - b) *Complainant had been coming repeatedly since 31.10.2018 for her treatment and has also visited many times, regarding her mother's treatment. During all this time, she never complained or blocked my number or complained to my wife before whom she met many times. Complainant was demanding money from me and a loan to buy a car. To avoid any misbehavior, once, Respondent's wife paid Rs.12,500/- in April 2019 and upon refusing Complainant's offers, she continued to harass us with illegal manners.*
 - c) *On 26.06.2019, Complainant falsely claims to have visited my wife, who was actually out of country at that time. The receptionist called me from procedure room, informing that Complainant had taken out Rs. 400,000/- and some jewelry from her Reception Desk. When she came back a quarrel took place between*

them. It was in front of about 20- patients sitting in reception area. She repeatedly threatened us with dire consequences and claimed she had connections with Media.

- d) *We lodged a complaint at P.S. Faisal Town, Lahore, against Complainant on 26.06.2019 and have also filed a complaint under section 22-A 22-B Cr.PC, against Complainant, pending adjudication in the Court of Additional Sessions Judge, Lahore. The Complainant has managed to get a false and frivolous FIR containing concocted story. The police have observed in its investigations that all allegations, apart from section 354 PPC, are unconnected to Respondent.*
- e) *The above matter is in the trial court/ subjudice and the Respondent has also pleaded, quashment of FIR, in the High Court. Hence, it is humbly requested to not consider any action, as the matter is subjudice before competent court of jurisdiction mentioned above.*

IV. REJOINDER OF THE COMPLAINANT

6. The reply of the Respondent doctor was forwarded to the complainant on 18.06.2020 for her rejoinder, however, no rejoinder has been received from the complainant, till date.


V. HEARING

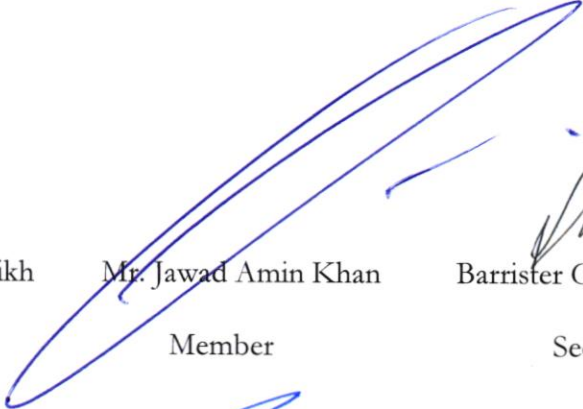
7. After completion of pleadings, the matter was fixed for hearing before the Disciplinary Committee on 21.11.2022. Notices dated 14.11.2022 were issued to the Complainant and Respondent Dr. Shahzad Farooq directing them to appear before the Disciplinary Committee on 21.11.2022.
8. On the date of hearing, the Complainant marked her presence, while the Respondent, Dr. Shahzad Farooq was present before the case was called and his attendance was duly marked, however, when the case was called, Respondent had already left, after submitting some case-relevant documents, conveying an emergency in the family.

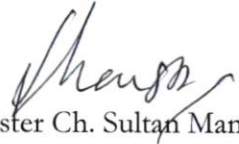
VI. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION


9. The Disciplinary Committee heard the complainant at length where she reiterated the facts of her complaint, further stating that she was solely present in Pakistan to attend to her ailing mother who was seeking treatment from the Respondent doctor.

10. Having gone through the complaint, statement of the Complainant and the available record, the Disciplinary Committee observes that the parties have lodged FIRs against each other before Police authorities, and are pursuing the criminal proceedings before the courts of law. Further, the complainant has also petitioned the Cybercrime reporting center, Federal Investigation Agency (the "FIA"), Lahore, for her allegations of harassment against the Respondent. Some record of the ongoing proceedings before the afore-mentioned forums is available.
11. In light of the foregoing, the Disciplinary Committee is of the opinion that until the ongoing proceedings before the investigative (FIA) and Judicial (Magistrate and Lahore High Court, Lahore) forums are concluded, it is unwarranted to proceed further in the instant complaint.
12. Accordingly, the instant proceedings are consigned.


Prof. Dr. Noshad Ahmad Shaikh
Member


Mr. Jawad Amin Khan
Member


Barrister Ch. Sultan Mansoor
Secretary


Prof. Dr. Naqib Ullah Achakzai
Chairman

21/11 December, 2022