

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH KARACHI

Cr. Misc. Application No. 737 of 2025

DATE	ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGES
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For hearing of application

1. For order on MA No.11636/2025
2. For order on office objection & reply of advocate
3. For order on MA No.11637/2025
4. For hearing of main case
5. For order on MA No.11638/2025

21-08-2025

Mr. Aamir Mansoob Qureshi, advocate for applicant.

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1. Urgency granted.
2. Deferred.
3. Exemption application granted subject to all just exceptions.

4&5. Sarfraz Merchant is one of the accused in NAB Reference No. 28 of 2018 pending adjudication before the learned Accountability Court No. IV at Karachi. On 18.08.2025, when the case was fixed for hearing, three accused (which included Merchant) were absent, and condonation applications were filed by their respective counsels. The learned court condoned the absence of two of the three accused, but did not pardon Merchant, observing that the learned Judge's predecessor dismissed his condonation application. NBWs were consequently issued against Merchant.

We have heard Merchant's learned counsel. He submitted that Merchant's absence on 18.08.2025 was not intentional and that the earlier dismissal of his application was not in his knowledge. He also raised medical grounds in his arguments. He also says that Merchant has the utmost respect for law and the courts of this country.

Without delving too deep into the facts, we are of the view that, keeping his alleged medical state in mind, Merchant should be allowed to appear before the learned Trial Court on 03.09.2025 without the fear of being arrested in the interim. The NBWs issued against him are therefore suspended till 03.09.2025 to enable Merchant to appear before the learned Trial Court.

The application and the connected applications are disposed of in the above terms.

JUDGE

JUDGE

Saleem/P.S.