

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI  
Cr. Accountability Appeal No.04 of 2025

Present:  
Mr. Justice Muhammad Iqbal Kalhoro  
Mr. Justice Syed Fiaz ul Hassan Shah

Applicants:- Syed Muhammad Ali and another through  
Mr. Qamar Abbas Abbasi, Advocate.

Respondent:- The State through Syed Khurram Kamal, Special  
Prosecutor NAB.

Date of hearing:- 05.12.2025

**O R D E R**  
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**MUHAMMAD IQBAL KALHORO J:** NAB in a pending inquiry against Syed Muhammad Ali Shah, Deputy Commissioner and other land grabbers, filed an application under section 12 of the National Accountability Ordinance, 1999 for freezing three properties belonging to the appellant, the objector. The details of the three properties are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Properties	Size of Plot /House	Name of Purchaser/Owner	Year of Purchase
1.	Apartment No. CT1-15-1501, North Tower, Crescent Bay, DHA Phase VIII, Karachi	2,201 sq ft	Mrs. Javeria Ali	2022
2.	Apartment No. H-502, Creek Vista Apartment, DHA Phase VIII, Karachi	3,760 sq ft.	Syed Muhammad Ali and Mrs. Javeria Ali	2006
3.	Flat No. S-02 on 2nd Floor (right side) Plot No 118 E, Block 2, PECHS Karachi	650 sq ft.	Mrs. Javeria Ali	2020

2. This application has been decided by impugned order dated 02.09.2025, whereby the learned Judge Accountability Court No.IV, Karachi has put embargo on/freeze two properties, out of three and has released one property at serial No. 2 viz. Apartment No.H-502, Creek Vista Apartment, DHA Phase-VIII, Karachi on the ground that it was lawfully purchased by brother of the objector/appellant, however, has freeze the remaining two properties. While passing the impugned order, learned Accountability Court has also directed NAB to complete the inquiry within

three months and if not then the freezing order itself will be reviewed. Going by the order on 02.09.2025, it is clear that three months have already passed.

3. Learned Special Prosecutor NAB has admitted that inquiry has not been completed till now. Section 18 (f) of NAB Ordinance provides that an investigation or inquiry shall be completed within six months. This inquiry had started in the year 2021 and still has not been completed. This ground is sufficient to call for review of the freezing order which even otherwise the learned Accountability Court has already ruled giving three months' time to NAB to complete the inquiry. *Prima facie*, no plausible explanation has been put forth by NAB Prosecutor to explain the delay in completing the inquiry despite specific directions. It goes without saying that under the garb of an inquiry, the properties of an individual cannot be freezed for an indefinite period, not the least when the law itself has laid down particular period i.e. six months for completing investigation or inquiry.

4. Therefore, we direct the said Accountability Court to review the freezing order as three months have already passed and pass a fresh order by taking into consideration all the relevant circumstances including but not limited to effect of section 18(f) of the NAB Ordinance and the fact that the clear cut directions of the Court have been *prima facie* violated by NAB by not completing the inquiry as directed by it. The fresh order shall be passed in three weeks from today without fail and compliance report shall be submitted through MIT-II of this Court for a perusal in Chamber.

The appeal is accordingly disposed of in above terms.

JUDGE

HANIF

JUDGE