

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, CIRCUIT COURT LARKANA

(1) 1st Cr. Bail Appln. No. S- 23 of 2026
(2) 1st Cr. Bail Appln. No. S- 24 of 2026

Applicant : Mehboob Ali Chandio,
(in both matters) through M/s. Sabir Ali Shaikh and Akbar Ali H. Dahar Advocates.

Informant : Mst. Zahida Chandio,
(in B.A. No.S23/2026) through Mr. Tufail Ahmed Aheer Advocate.

Respondent : The State,
through Mr. Aitbar Ali Bullo, Deputy Prosecutor General.

Date of hearing : 09.02.2026.
Date of decision : 09.02.2026.

*Crime No.141/2025, u/s 302,
337-H(2), 114, 148, 149, PPC.
PS Civil Line, Larkana,*

*Crime No.143/2025, u/s 24, Sindh
Arms Act, 2013.
PS Civil Line, Larkana,*

ORDER

Adnan Iqbal Chaudhry, J.- The Applicant seeks post-arrest bail in the aforesaid crimes after the same has been declined by the Additional Sessions Judge-III, Larkana by separate orders dated 24.12.2025.

2. Crime No. 141/2025, for offences under section 302, 337-H(2), 114, 148, 149 PPC, was registered on 05.08.2025 at 13:00 hours to report the murder of Manthar Ali [**deceased**]. The informant, Mst.Zahida Chandio who was the sister of the deceased, narrated that on 04.08.2025 at 14:00 hours she, Manthar Ali and one other brother were on their way to the Dar-ul-Aman to visit their sister Mst. Naveeda, who had taken refuge over there from her husband, the accused Shahid Hussain, who had beaten her and threatened to kill over a domestic matter; that on Lahori Mohalla road near Latif Market, they saw (i)Shahid Hussain; his two brothers (ii) Zahid Hussain and (iii) Mehboob (Applicant); (iv) their father Muhammad Alam; (v) Abdul Nabi (vi) and one unknown person approaching on three motorcycles; that after

stopping the informant party, the said persons took out pistols; that accused Muhammad Alam instigated his companions to kill Manthar Ali; thereupon the accused Shahid Hussain fired two shots at Manthar Ali, both of which hit him; that accused Zahid Hussain also fired upon Manthar Ali, which also hit him and he fell; whereas the accused Mehboob Ali (Applicant), Abdul Nabi and their unknown accomplice made aerial firing before all of them fled away.

3. As per the narration of Crime No. 143/2025 registered on 07.08.2025, the police were out investigating Crime No. 141/2025 when the informants of that crime i.e. Mst. Zahida Chandio and her brothers, led the police to a public place where the Applicant was found waiting for someone; that a search of the Applicant's person revealed a .30 bore pistol with erased number and 3 live rounds; that the firearm was unlicensed and the Applicant acknowledged that he had used it in Crime No. 141/2025; the Applicant was thus arrested for Crime No. 141/2025 and for the offence under section 24 of the Sindh Arms Act, 2013.

4. Learned counsel for the Applicant submits that he is the younger brother of the accused Shahid Hussain and a student of First Year (Intermediate); that he was not present at the place of incident and has been falsely implicated in the murder; that he was in fact picked up by the police when he was on his way back from college; and that the pistol was foisted on him at the behest of the informant party due to their enmity with his brother.

5. On the other hand, learned counsel for the informant and the learned DPG submit that as per the report of the FSL, the empties collected from the crime scene matched the .30 pistol recovered from the Applicant.

6. Heard learned counsel and perused the record.

7. The parties are known to each other. The Applicant is the younger brother of the accused Shahid Hussain. The latter is the husband of the informant's sister. Apparently, prior to the murder, the dispute between the estranged couple had boiled to a fervent acrimony between the two families.

8. The murder was committed on 04.08.2025 at 14:00 hours, but it was reported on 05.08.2025 at 13:00 hours, after a delay of 23 hours. Though learned counsel for the informant explains that the family of the deceased was busy in performing his last rites, nevertheless the intervening period presented sufficient time for consultation. Therefore, the tendency to throw a wider net in the FIR cannot be ruled out just yet.

9. It is correct that the report of the FSL states that 3 out of 7 empties collected from the crime scene matched the .30 pistol recovered from the Applicant; however, it is also a fact that those empties were sent for forensics at the same time as said pistol on 08.08.2025 and not before. The mashirs of recovery of the firearm from the Applicant are none other than the siblings of the deceased. Therefore, the Applicant's contention that the pistol was foisted on him at the behest of informant party, also cannot be ruled out at this stage.

10. Regardless of the foregoing, the role assigned to the Applicant in the FIR is that of aerial firing, not firing upon the deceased or on the informant party. In such circumstances, the allegation of common intention to commit murder of the deceased also requires further inquiry into the Applicant's guilt, thus falling within the ambit of sub-section (2) of section 497 Cr.P.C.

11. In view of the foregoing, the Applicant Mehbood Ali Chandio is admitted to bail both in Crime No.141/2025 and Crime No.143/2025 subject to furnishing solvent surety in the sum of Rs.100,000/- (Rupees One Hundred Thousand only) in each case and P.R. Bond in like amount to the satisfaction of trial Court.

The office shall place a copy of this order in the connected bail application.

Needless to state that observations herein are tentative, and shall not be construed to prejudice the case of either side at trial.

JUDGE