

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
Criminal Revision No. 366 of 2026

Rajkumar Nayak represented by his natural guardian/faher namely
Pintu Nayak Petitioner

Versus

The State of Jharkhand Opposite parties

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RONGON MUKHOPADHYAY

For the Petitioner : M/s. Nikhilesh Kumar Chatterjee, Shiv Prasad
& Arvind Prakash Malakar, Advocate

For the Opposite party : Special P. P.

2/06.05.2026 Heard Mr. Nikhilesh Kumar Chatterjee, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned A.P.P. appearing for the State.

This application has been directed against the judgment dated 26.02.2026 passed by the learned District and Additional Sessions Judge I, Khunti in Criminal Appeal No. 1 of 2026 whereby and whereunder the order dated 16.01.2026 passed by the learned Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board, Khunti in Khunti P. S. Case No. 230 of 2025 corresponding to POCSO Case No. 2 of 2026 rejecting the prayer for bail of the petitioner has been affirmed.

Submission has been advanced by the learned counsel for the petitioner that though witnesses have been examined including the victim in course of trial but all have been declared hostile by the prosecution. It has further been submitted that the petitioner is in observation home since 15.12.2025.

Learned Special P.P. for the State has opposed the prayer for bail of the petitioner.

It has been alleged that the petitioner and some of the accused persons had enticed away the daughter of the informant. An interlocutory application has been preferred by the petitioner for early hearing of criminal revision no. 366 of 2026 being I. A. No. 5512 of 2026 in which the evidences of the witnesses including the victim examined

during the trial have been brought on record from which it clearly transpires that the victim has been declared hostile by the prosecution.

Regard being had to the above, while setting aside the orders dated 26.02.2026 and 16.01.2026, direct that the petitioner above named be released on bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs. 10,000/- (Ten Thousand) with two sureties of the like amount each, to the satisfaction of the learned Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board, Khunti in connection with Khunti P. S. Case No. 230 of 2025 corresponding to POCSO Case No. 2 of 2026, subject to the condition that one of the bailors should be the father of the petitioner who shall ensure the safety of the petitioner and shall further ensure that he is kept away from the anti-social elements.

This criminal revision is allowed.

Consequent to the revision application being allowed, I. A. No. 5512 of 2026 has become redundant and the same accordingly stands disposed of as well.

(Rongon Mukhopadhyay, J)