



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
CONTC No.686 of 2026

Basanta Kumar Barik

.....

Petitioner

Represented by Adv. –
Mr. S.C. Acharya

-versus-

***Aravind Agarwal, IAS,
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to
Govt., Department of High
Education, Odisha, Lok Seva
Bhawan, Bhubaneswar and
others.***

.....

***Opposite Party/
Contemnor***

Represented by Adv. –
Mr. S.K. Parhi, ASC

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADITYA KUMAR MOHAPATRA

ORDER

13.03.2026

Order No.

- 02.
1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual /Physical Mode).
 2. Learned counsel for the Contemnor produced a copy of letter dated 12.03.2026 of the Department of Higher Education, Government of Odisha.
 3. On perusal of the said letter dated 12.03.2026, this Court observes that the same is a communication from the Local Consultant of the Department of Higher Education, Government of Odisha to the office of the Advocate General.
 4. This Court expresses its strongly displeasure with regard to the communication of the Legal Consultant to the office of the Advocate



General. The communication should have been by any of the officer of the concerned department and not by Legal Consultant, who does not fall within the hierarchy of the department.

5. Learned counsel for the State assures this Court that he will intimate the concerned department with regard to the aforesaid fact and that they would be careful in future communications.

6. On the request of the learned counsel for the Contemnors, he is granted four weeks' time, as a last chance, to ensure that the judgment dated 26.11.2021 passed by this Court in WPC(OA) No.616 of 2017 is implemented, failing which, the Contemnors shall be asked to appear in person before this Court and to explain as to why a proceeding under the Contempt of Courts Act shall not be initiated against them for wilful and deliberate violation of this Court's order.

7. A copy of this order be handed over to the learned counsel for the Contemnors for communication.

8. List this matter on 1st of May, 2026.

(Aditya Kumar Mohapatra)
Judge

Debasis