



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) NO.2312 OF 2026

Kautuka Rana

.... Petitioner

Mr. Gopal Chadnra Das, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha & others

.... Opp. Parties

Mr. Swayambhu Mishra,
Additional Standing Counsel

CORAM:

JUSTICE K.R. MOHAPATRA

JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR MISHRA

ORDER

15.04.2026

Order No.

- 02.
1. This matter is taken up through hybrid mode.
 2. Grievance of the Petitioner in this writ petition is with regard to inaction of the Special Land Acquisition Officer, Upper Indravati Irrigation Project, Kusumkhunti in disposing of the application filed by the Petitioner under Section 28-A of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (for brevity 'the Act').
 - 2.1. The said application under Section 28-A of the Act was filed pursuant to the judgment dated 23.09.2019 passed by learned Civil Judge (Senior Division), Bhawanipatna in LAR No.40 of 2019 in a reference under Section 18 of the Act.
 3. Taking note of the grievance of the Petitioner, this Court vide order dated 27.02.2026, directed learned State Counsel to take instruction with regard to the current status of the application filed by the Petitioner under Section 28-A of the Act.
 4. Accordingly, the Special Land Acquisition Officer, Upper Indravati Irrigation Project, Kusumkhunti vide his letter No.351



dated 15.04.2026 intimated the office of learned Advocate General, Odisha, Cuttack that he requires three months' time for disposal of L.A. Misc. Case No.78 of 2019 filed by the Petitioner under Section 28-A of the Act.

5. Mr. Das, learned Counsel for the Petitioner submits that the application filed by the Petitioner under Section 28-A of the Act (L.A. Misc. Case No.78 of 2019) should be disposed of within the time sought for and the compensation amount be disbursed accordingly.

6. In view of the submissions made by the learned Counsel for the parties, this Court without expressing any opinion on the merit of the case of the Petitioner in the application under Section 28-A of the Act (L.A. Misc. Case No.78 of 2019) disposes of the writ petition with a direction to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, Upper Indravati Irrigation Project, Kusumkhunti to dispose of the application of the Petitioner filed under Section 28-A of the Act in accordance with law by end of July, 2026. If the Petitioner is held to be entitled for higher compensation on re-determination, he shall be paid the same as expeditiously as possible, preferably by end of October, 2026 on verifying his entitlement and on proper acknowledgement.

7. Urgent certified copy of this order be granted on proper application.

(K.R. Mohapatra)
Judge

(S.K. Mishra)
Judge