



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

WP(C) No.1323 of 2026

Sanjaya Kumar Dutta

.....

Petitioner

Represented by Adv. -
Banshidhar Satapathy

-versus-

State Of Odisha & Ors.

.....

Opposite Parties

Represented by Adv. –
Sarbeswar Sahoo,
A.G.A.

CORAM:

**THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADITYA KUMAR
MOHAPATRA**

ORDER

15.01.2026

Order No.

01. 1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual /Physical Mode).
2. On the request of learned counsel for the Petitioner, he is permitted to carry out the correction in the cause title. Corrected copy of the cause title be uploaded by 19.01.2026.
3. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner as well as learned Additional Government Advocate for the State-Opposite Parties. Perused the writ application as well as the prayer made therein.
4. Learned counsel for the Petitioner at the outset submitted that being aggrieved by the office order dated 18.12.2025 whereby the notional increment which was granted to the Petitioner earlier has been withdrawn without issuing any show-cause notice to the Petitioner, the Petitioner has approached this Court being aggrieved by such conduct of the Opposite Parties. Learned



counsel for the Petitioner contended that the order dated 18.12.2025 is punitive in nature. Therefore, the Opposite Parties are legally duty bound to issue a show-cause notice before withdrawing the benefit which had been given earlier. However, such procedure has not been followed in the present case. As such, it was prayed that the impugned order be quashed.

5. Learned counsel for the State sought for some time to obtain instruction in the matter.

6. Considering such submissions, learned counsel for the State is granted four weeks' time to obtain instruction and file his reply affidavit, after serving a copy thereof on learned counsel for the Petitioner.

7. List this matter in the week commencing 23.02.2026.

I.A No.873 of 2026

8. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner.

9. As an interim measure, it is directed that no coercive action shall be taken pursuant to order dated 18.12.2025 at Annexure-1 in respect of the Petitioner.

(A.K. Mohapatra)
Judge

Anil