



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

ABLAPL No.1634 of 2026

Laxmi Samal @ Lakshmi Samal **Petitioner**

Mr. K. Pattanaik, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha & another **Opposite Parties**

Mr. M.K. Mohanty, ASC

CORAM:

MR. JUSTICE R.K. PATTANAIAK

ORDER

23.03.2026

Order No.

01.

1. Heard learned counsel for the respective parties.
2. Instant petition under Section 482 BNSS is filed for pre-arrest bail of the petitioner in connection with Khuntuni P.S. case No. 260 of 2025 corresponding to Spl. G.R. Case No.222 of 2025 pending in the file of the learned Additional Sessions Judge POCSO Court, Cuttack on the grounds stated therein.
3. Perused the FIR as at Annexuer-1. The statement of the victim recorded under Section 180 BNSS is at Annexure-2. The above statement reveals that the victim, a minor, was in a relationship with the principal accused, namely, Sunil Naik, however, has not alleged anything adverse against him. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the present accused though not committed any mischief but he apprehends arrest in the hands of the local police. The case diary is produced by learned counsel for the State and the same is perused. Considering the fact that it is a case of elopement of



the victim with the principal accused with no involvement of the petitioner revealed from the record, this Court is inclined to direct him to surrender before the learned court below for being released instead of entertaining his plea for pre-arrest bail as has been demanded by him.

4. Accordingly, it is ordered.

5. In the result, the ABLAPL is disposed of. It is directed that in the event, the petitioner surrenders within a fortnight from today before the learned Additional Sessions Judge POCSO Court, Cuttack in connection with Khuntuni P.S. case No. 260 of 2025 corresponding to Spl. G.R. Case No.222 of 2025, he shall be released on bail subject to him furnishing a bail bond of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees twenty thousand) with one solvent surety for the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned court below, which shall be at liberty to impose such other suitable conditions as deemed just and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

6. Issue urgent certified copy as per rules.

(R.K. Pattanaik)
Judge