



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

ABLAPL No. 3856 of 2026

Ritik Sahu and others **Petitioners**

Mr. S. Sahoo, Advocate
on behalf of Mr. S. Padhee, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Orissa **Opposite Party**

Mr. S. Panda, ASC

CORAM:

MR. JUSTICE R.K. PATTANAİK

ORDER

31.03.2026

Order

No.

01.

I.A. No.514 of 2026

1. Though the matter is not listed today, on being mentioned by learned counsel for the petitioner, it is taken up on Board by a Special Notice.
2. Heard learned counsel for the respective parties.
3. Instant I.A. is filed by the petitioners seeking interim protection from arrest in connection with Barpali P.S. Case No.118 of 2026 for the reason stated.
4. Referring to Annexure-2, it is submitted by Mr. Sahoo, learned counsel for the petitioners that the present accused persons are college going students and all are to appear +3 Semester Examination to commence from 6th April, 2026 and to continue till 17th April, 2026 as per the examination schedule released by Sambalpur University on 5th March, 2026 and



hence, they should be granted interim protection from arrest for the said purpose. Recorded the response of the State. In view of the Admit Cards issued to the petitioners as the students of Barpali College, Barpali and as they are to appear +3 Semester Examination under the Sambalpur University, this Court, considering the same, is inclined to grant interim protection to them till 20th April, 2026.

5. Accordingly, it is ordered.

6. In the result, the I.A. is disposed of. It is directed that the petitioners shall not be taken into custody in connection with G.R. Case No.115 of 2026 pending in the file of learned J.M.F.C., Barpali till 20th April, 2026.

7. Urgent copy of this order be issued as per rules and in course of the day.

(R.K. Pattanaik)
Judge