



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
CRLA No. 372 of 2019

Kanta Bag @ Keut

.....

Appellant

Mr. G.N. Sahu, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha

.....

Respondent

Mr. C.K. Pradhan, AGA

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY

ORDER

13.02.2026

Order No.15

I.A. No. 934 of 2024

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid mode.
2. Heard learned counsel appearing for the Parties.
3. Even though this application has been filed seeking grant of regular bail by keeping the sentence under suspension, but in course of hearing learned counsel appearing for the Appellant contended that the present application be treated as an application for interim bail for a period of three (3) months.
4. Learned counsel appearing for the Appellant contended that Appellant has been convicted to undergo R.I. for a period of ten (10) years with fine of Rs.5,000/-, in default to undergo R.I. for a period of six (6) months for the offence under Sec. 376(2)(n)/417 of the I.P.C.. However, Appellant was acquitted for the offence under Sec. 6 of the POCSO Act.
- 4.1. It is contended that Appellant has already undergone more than 8 years of the substantive sentence. It is further contended that Appellant was earlier released on interim bail by this Court



vide order dtd.17.10.2023 and he has not violated the said order. It is accordingly contended that since Appellant has already undergone more than 8 years of the sentence out of 10 years and he has not violated the earlier order passed by this Court on 17.10.2023, let the Appellant be released on interim bail for a period of three (3) months on such terms and condition as deem fit and proper.

5. Learned Addl. Govt. Advocate does not dispute the contention raised by the learned counsel appearing for the Appellant. However, it is contended that stringent condition be imposed.

6. Having heard learned counsel appearing for the Parties, considering the submissions made and the fact that Appellant has already undergone more than 8 years of the substantive sentence and he has not violated the terms and condition of order dtd.17.10.2023, this Court is inclined to direct for release of Appellant on interim bail for a period of three (3) months on such terms and condition as deem fit and proper by the learned court in seisin, in S.A. No. 91 of 2017 of the learned Addl. District & Sessions Judge-cum-Special Judge, Nuapada vide judgment dtd.30.03.2019. However, it is observed that Appellant shall surrender immediately after completion of the interim bail period without fail.

7. I.A. accordingly stands disposed of.

(BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY)
Judge

16. CRLA No. 372 of 2019

1. Heard.



2. Since the appeal is otherwise ready for hearing, list this matter on 27th February, 2026.

(BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY)
Judge

Sneha