



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.13942 of 2026

Raghunath Hembram & Ors.

....

Petitioners

Mr. U.K.Samal, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha & Ors.

....

Opp.Parties

Mr. R.Pradhan, ASC

**CORAM:
JUSTICE B. P. ROUTRAY**

**ORDER
05.05.2026**

Order No.

01.

1. The matter is taken up through Hybrid mode.
2. Heard Mr. Samal, learned counsel for the Petitioner.
3. Issue notice. Mr. Pradhan, learned ASC accepts notice for Opposite Parties.
4. List this matter on 21st July 2026.

I.A. No.8522 of 2026

5. It is submitted by Mr. Samal, learned counsel for the Petitioners that, as per Section 2(iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, no State Government or other authority can make any order directing any forest land or any portion thereof to be assigned by way of lease or otherwise to any person or authority etc., except with prior approval of Central Government. And the



impugned order under Annexure-3 has been issued granting permission for construction of the shop without disclosing any such prior approval of the Central Government.

6. As an interim measure, the operation of order dated 28th April 2026 under Annexure-3 is kept in abeyance till 21st July 2026.

(B.P. Routray)
Judge

S.Das