



W.P. (C) No.16947 of 2025

Sandhyarani Panda ... ***Petitioners***
and another

Mr. A. Das, Sr. Advocate

-versus-

***State of Odisha and
others*** ***Opposite Parties***

Mr. P. K. Ray, AGA

Mr. S. N. Das, Advocate

CORAM: JUSTICE V. NARASINGH

ORDER

26.03.2026

Order No.

13. 1. Heard Mr. A. Das, learned Senior Counsel for the Petitioners and Mr. P. K. Ray, learned AGA for the State.

2. During the course of hearing, in response to the submission of the learned counsel for the State that in respect of all the projects consultation with PRI is not necessitated, this Court examined the proposal relating to "Approval of projects under Provisions of facilities at GP Headquarters" under 5th SFC GIA for the Financial Year 2024-25 as contained in the letter dated 30.11.2024 of the Government of Odisha in the Panchayat Raj and Drinking Water Department.



3. On perusal of the comprehensive guidelines on which reliance is being placed by the learned counsel for the State at Annexure-1 titled as “Comprehensive Guidelines on Utilization of Grants-in-Aid under different components as recommended by the 5th SFC for the Financial Year 2020-21 to 2025-26 (6 years)” 12 components in respect of which the funds have been earmarked which have been stated in a tabular form. The same is extracted hereunder:-

SI No.	Grants-in-Aid (Component wise)	Page No.
1	Drinking Water (Piped Water Supply) & Tubewell System (Solar Energy)	2-4
2	All weather connectivity	5-6
3	Provision of facilities at G.P. headquarters	7-8
4	Provision of Street Lights	9-10
5	Development of Rural Haats	11-12
6	Maintenance of Capital Assets	13-14
7	Maintenance of Primary School Buildings	15-16
8	Preservation and development of Water Bodies	17-18
9	Creation of capital assets for revenue generation	19-20
10	Funds for innovative practices	21-22
11	Creation of Data Centres	23-24
12	Creation of infrastructure for Banking facilities at GP headquarters	25-26

4. On scrutiny of the component under (III) of the table as above relating to Provisions of Facilities of GP Headquarters (waiting shed), proposals from at least 1/6th number of GPs finds place under the heading Mode of Release of Funds under sub-para (iii) thereof.



For convenience of reference the same is culled out hereunder:-

Proposals from at least 1/6th nos. of GPs shall be included in each year. The Proposals will be submitted by the BDO to the Collector for scrutiny. After necessary verifications the proposals shall be submitted to PR&DW Department for approval. The GPs having sufficient space shall be taken up in the 1st stage and accordingly, proposals for the subsequent years shall be approved.

(Emphasized)

5. In the light of the above, learned counsel for the State is requested to place on record by way of affidavit the projects which according to the Opposite Party-State do not require consultation with the PRIs.

6. Accordingly, list this matter on 15.04.2026 under the heading "Fresh Admission".

7. Copy of the affidavit as directed above shall be served on the learned counsel for the State.

8. Copy of this order be made over to the learned counsel for the State to enable him to take necessary follow up action.

(V. NARASINGH)
Judge