



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
CRLA No.536 of 2026
CNR NO.ODHC010445842026

Prabin Kumar Pradhan @ Prabin ... Appellant
Pradhan

Mr. P.S. Das, Advocate

-versus-

State of Orissa and another ... Respondents

Mr. T.K. Acharya, Addl. PP

CORAM: JUSTICE G. SATAPATHY

ORDER(ORAL):04.08.2026

Order No.

02.

1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual/Physical Mode).

2. This criminal appeal in the nature of bail U/S.14-A of the Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 together with amendment Act, 2016 (in short, "the Act") is directed against the impugned order dated 09.06.2026 passed in Special Case No.31 of 2026 by which the learned Sessions Judge-Cum-Special Judge, Keonjhar, has refused to grant bail to the appellant in connection with Turumunga PS Case No.38 of 2026, for commission of offence punishable U/Ss.69/88/308(6)/319(2)/320 of BNS r/w Section 3(2)(v) of the Act, on the main allegation of cohabiting with the victim belonging to "SC" community on the false assurance of marriage by taking advantage of her caste.

3. Heard, Mr. Partha Sarathi Das, learned counsel for the appellant and Mr. T.K. Acharya, learned Additional Public Prosecutor in the matter and perused the record. None appears for the informant/victim despite being duly intimated as apprised by learned Addl. PP.



4. After having considered the rival submissions and taking into consideration the nature and gravity of the offence alleged against the appellant vis-a-vis the accusations sought to be brought against him and regard being had to the materials placed on record and taking into account the pre-trial detention of the appellant in custody since 26.05.2026 with submission of charge-sheet in the meantime and keeping in view the other circumstances on record in entirety including the statement of the victim and lastly, the inherent right of the accused-appellant to be presumed innocent until proven guilty at the trial, this Court without expressing any view on the merits, considers it proper to admit the appellant to bail.

5. Hence, the CRLA stands allowed and the impugned order is, hereby, set aside. Consequently, the appellant is directed to be released on bail on such terms and conditions as deem fit and proper by the learned Court in seisin over the matter.

6. Issue urgent certified copy of the order as per Rules. A soft copy of this order be immediately communicated to the concerned Court, who shall afterwards communicate the same to the concerned Jail through e-mail for reference.

(G. Satapathy)
Judge