



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.C) No.20482 of 2026

Rabi Narayan Das & anr.

....

Petitioners

Mr. S.S.Patra, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha & ors.

....

Opposite Parties

Mr.P.K. Mohanty, ASC

Mr. S.S. Mohapatra, Advocate

(For O.P. No.3)

CORAM: JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR MISHRA

ORDER

24.07.2026

Order No.

02.

This matter is taken up through hybrid mode.

2. Mr. Mohanty, learned ASC for the State submits, pursuant to order dated 09.07.2026, he has already received instruction from the Collector, Keonjhar. Mr. Mohanty files a copy of such instruction with para wise comments.

3. Mr. S.S. Mohapatra, learned Counsel for the Opposite Party No.3- Joda Truck Owners Association submits, in view of the provisions under Section 11-A of the Societies Registration Act, 1860, the prayer made in the present writ petition is not maintainable. The Petitioners should have approach the competent Civil Court having territorial jurisdiction for redressal of their grievances, if any, regarding conducting election of the Opposite Party No.3 Association.

4. However, para 3(d) of the para-wise comments enclosed to the forwarding letter dated 18.07.2026 of the Collector & District Magistrate, addressed to the office of the learned Advocate General, being relevant, is reproduced below:-



“Para No.-3(d):- In response to this para, it is humbly submitted that, on receipt of grievance petition dated 11.05.2026 from members of Joda Truck Owners Association, Joda, ADM, Keonjhar has taken necessary action in to the petition and discussed with office bearer of Joda Truck Owners Association regarding conduct of election-2026 of the said society. He has also instructed to start the election process at an early date. Accordingly, the Secretary of said society has intimated vide his letter No. JTOA/003/Dt.22.05.2026 that the scrutiny of documents is going on and after completion of scrutiny work, the final member (voter) list will be published and next election process will be started very soon (Annexure-1). Further, it has also been intimated by the office of Joda Truck Owner Association vide the letter No. JTOA/011/dt. 18.07.2026 that the election process will be completed by the end of October 2026 (Annexure-II).”

5. In view of the above, without expressing any opinion regarding competency of the Opposite-Party No-1 and 2 to deal with the grievance of the Petitioners, more particularly, in view of the provisions enshrined under Section 11-A of the Societies Registration Act, 1860, the writ petition stands disposed of.

6. The instruction with para-wise comments produced in the Court be kept on record.

7. Urgent certified copy of this order be granted on proper application as per rules.