



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.19958 of 2025

Satyapir Srichandan

....

Petitioner

Represented by Adv.—
Mr. Bibekananda Bhuyan, Senior Advocate
along with Mr. S.S. Bhuyan, Advocate
-Versus-

State of Odisha and others

....

Opposite Parties

Represented by Adv.—
Ms. A. Dash, Addl. Standing Counsel

**CORAM:
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANASH RANJAN PATHAK**

Order No.

**ORDER
24.07.2025**

- 02.** 1. The instant Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is taken out by the petitioner assailing the notice inviting tender (NIT) dated 09.06.2025 for inviting the bids to grant the quarry leases in respect of the lands depicted in the list of quarries appended thereto. Primarily the challenge to such action of the authority is founded upon the violation of Section 16(2) of Sri Jagannath Temple Act, 1955 that no immovable property of Lord Jagannath can be dealt with either by sale, lease or mortgage unless a previous sanction by the State Government is obtained in this regard.



2. In course of hearing of the case, Ms. A. Dash, learned Additional Standing Counsel appearing on behalf of the State hands over the relevant documents touching upon the sanction having granted by the State Government prior to issuance of the said NIT.

3. At this juncture, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner took a further plea that Rule 6 of the Odisha Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016 forbids the mining lease if the relevant land is below 1 hectare and draws our attention to the list of quarries appended to the said NIT where the property disclosed in item nos.1 and 2 falls short of 1 hectare. The State responded to such submission by contending that so far as the land disclosed in the said list at Sl.Nos.4, 5 and 6 are concerned, they have been put into a cluster which is in conformity with the judgment of the apex Court in the case of ***Deepak Kumar and Others vs. State of Haryana and Others*** reported in (2012) **4 SCC 629**. It is further submitted that Sl.No.3 of the said list admittedly exceeds 5 hectare of land which is not only in conformity with the said Rules but also in tune of the order of the apex Court and, therefore, there cannot be any grievance in this regard. However, it was brought to our notice that so far as the land disclosed in Sl.No.1 and 2 are concerned, a corrigendum is subsequently published by a mining officer on 18.06.2025 cancelling/withdrawing the land shown at



SL.No.1 and 2 as it is in contravention to the provisions contained in Rule 6 of the aforesaid Rules.

4. After noticing all the facts disclosed before us, we thus feel that those facts and the relevant documents should be filed before this Court in the form of an affidavit so as to bring quietus to the litigation. Such affidavit be filed by 28th July, 2025.

5. Let the matter be listed on 29th July, 2025.

(Harish Tandon)
Chief Justice

(M.R. Pathak)
Judge

SK. Jena/Secy.

Signature Not Verified

Digitally Signed
Signed by: SANJAY KUMAR JENA
Designation: SECRETARY
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa, Cuttack.
Date: 24-Jul-2025 19:09:37

