



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

CRLA No.1003 of 2025

Saroj @ Santosh Kumar *Appellant(s)*
Digal @ Babu

Mr. Sidhartha Das, Adv.

-versus-

State of Odisha *Respondent(s)*
Mr. Sonak Mishra, ASC

CORAM:

HON'BLE DR.JUSTICE SANJEEB K PANIGRAHI

ORDER

08.05.2026

Order No.

07.

I.A. No.1235 of 2026

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid arrangement.
2. In filing this I.A., the Appellant being in custody pursuant to the impugned judgment of conviction and order of sentence dated 21.07.2025 passed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge-cum-Special Court under the POCSO Act, Phulbani in C.T. Case No.108 of 2016 arising out of Phulbani Town P.S. Case No.216 of 2016, has prayed for releasing him on interim bail.
3. Heard.
4. Learned counsel for the Appellant submits that since the minor son of the Appellant has died by drowning in recent past i.e. on 06.05.2026, presence of the Appellant in his house is very much essential for performing the last rites ceremony of his deceased son. He, accordingly, prays for allowing the prayer made in this I.A.



5. Considering the submissions made on behalf of the Appellant and since the minor son of the Appellant has passed away in recent past, this Court is of the view that the Appellant should be enlarged on interim bail for performing the last rites of his deceased son. This Court, accordingly, directs that the Appellant shall be released on interim bail for a period of two months from the date of his actual release from the custody in connection with the above noted case by the learned Court in *seisin* over the matter on such terms and conditions as deemed just and proper with further conditions that he will positively surrender before the learned Court in *seisin* over the matter on the date as would be so directed. The Appellant is also directed not to threaten the victim or his/her family members in any manner. The Appellant shall take prior permission of the concerned Police Authority of the local Police Station, if he goes outside the city for performing the last rites of his deceased son.

6. This I.A. is, accordingly, disposed of.

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7. List this matter on 8th September, 2026 for final hearing.
8. Both the parties are directed to file their respective written notes of submissions along with citations, if



any, in their support on or before the next date of listing of this matter.

(Dr. Sanjeeb K Panigrahi)
Judge

Ayaskanta