



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
BLAPL No.9941 of 2025

Girija Sankar Sethi

...

Petitioner

*Mr. A.K. Parida, proxy counsel
appearing on behalf of Mr. A.K. Sahoo, Advocate*

-versus-

State of Odisha

...

Opposite Party

Mr. R.B. Mishra, Addl. PP

CORAM: JUSTICE G. SATAPATHY

ORDER(ORAL)

23.02.2026

Order No.

03.

1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual/Physical Mode).
2. This is an application U/S.483 of BNSS by the petitioner for grant of bail in connection with Odagaon P.S. Case N. 207 of 2024 corresponding to T.R. Case No.136 of 2024 pending in the file of Addl. District & Sessions Judge-cum-Special Court under POCSO Act, Nayagarh, for commission of offences punishable U/S. 331(4)/64(2)(m)/326(g)/351(2) of BNS r/w. Sec. 6 of the POCSO Act, on the main allegation of committing rape and aggravated penetrative sexual assault upon the victim by trespassing into her house as well as setting fire to her house.
3. Heard, Mr. Abhaya Kumar Parida, learned proxy counsel appearing on behalf of Mr. Akshaya Kumar Sahoo, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr. R.B. Mishra, learned Addl. PP in the matter and perused the record including the copy deposition of the victim. None appears for the victim despite being duly informed as apprised by the learned State Counsel.



4. After having considered the rival submissions and taking into consideration the nature and gravity of the offences as alleged against the petitioner vis-à-vis the accusations sought to be brought against him and regard being had to the pre-trial detention of the petitioner in custody since 23.07.2024 with examination of the victim in the meantime and thereby, there being little apprehension of tampering of the evidence of material witness like victim with trial having not yet been concluded and taking into account the other circumstances on record in entirety together with the copy of deposition of victim and keeping in view the inherent right of the accused to be presumed innocent until proven guilty at the trial, this Court without expressing any view on merit, admits the petitioner to bail.

5. Hence, the bail application of the Petitioner stands allowed and the Petitioner is allowed to go on bail on furnishing bail bonds of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-five Thousand) only with two solvent sureties each for the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned Court in seisin of the case on such terms and conditions as deem fit and proper by it with following conditions:-

(i) the petitioner shall not contact the victim in any way or any manner and he shall not visit to the house/village of the victim till disposal of the case &

(ii) the petitioner shall not threaten, induce, influence or coerce any of the witnesses including the family members of the victim acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade them from disclosing such facts before the Court.

6. Accordingly, the BLAPL stands disposed of. 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