



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

CRLMC No. 3853 of 2025

Bhaskar Jena

..... *Petitioner(s)*

Mr. Bibhu Prasad Mohanty, Adv.

-Versus-

State of Odisha & Anr.

..... *Opposite Party(s)*

Mr. Udit Ranjan Jena, AGA

Mr. Ambika Prasad Ray, Adv.

(for O.P.2)

CORAM:

DR. JUSTICE SANJEEB K PANIGRAHI

ORDER

09.02.2026

Order No.

04.

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid arrangement.
2. The Petitioner has filed this CRLMC with a prayer to quash the criminal proceeding initiated against him in Puri Spl Energy P.S. Case No.7 of 2018 corresponding to G.R. Case No.796 of 2018 pending in the court of learned S.D.J.M., Puri.
3. Heard learned counsel for the parties.
4. Learned counsel for the Petitioner submits that the Opposite Party No.2 lodged an FIR before the Puri Spl. Energy P.S. Case No.7 of 2018 alleging that the Petitioner was consuming energy unauthorisedly by hooking through a 4 sq mm service wire from the nearest LT line, around 30 meters away from his house. It is



further alleged that, on being asked, the Petitioner had failed to give any satisfactory explanation for such illegal use of energy.

5. Learned counsel for the Petitioner further contends that no search was conducted in the house of the Petitioner before lodging of the FIR. The Petitioner has never committed any such mischievous energy theft at any point in time. He further submits that the FIR has been lodged after one month of the alleged search made by the informant. He further submits that neither any article had been seized from the house of the Petitioner nor any notice was served on him about the conduct of a search. The investigation has yet to be completed since 2018.
6. In such view of the matter, this Court expresses its anguish on the fact that the FIR has been lodged since 2018 and the investigation is yet to be completed. Hence, the persons who are engaged in the alleged Police Station deserves an explanation to this Court. Accordingly, the learned counsel for the State is directed to file a detailed reply regarding the delay in investigation by the next date.
7. List this matter on 23rd February, 2026.

(Dr. Sanjeeb K Panigrahi)
Judge