



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
WPCRL No.146 of 2025

Chaitanya Khatua

...

Petitioner

Mr. Abhimanyu Parida, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha and others

...

Opposite Parties

Mr. Sanjay Rath, Additional Government Advocate

CORAM:
THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MURAHARI SRI RAMAN

ORDER
09.12.2025

Order No.

03.

1. Pursuant to the direction passed in the instant writ petition in the nature of the habeas corpus as the police administration demonstrated before this Court that they have gathered reliable information on the whereabouts of the minor girl, the girl has been rescued on 04.12.2025 from the uncle's house of the accused. Her statement is also recorded under Section 180 as well as Section 183 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and based upon the disclosure of the facts, the case has also been registered against this accused. Since the girl did not attain the age of consent and is a minor, she was treated as a child in need of care and protection under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and was produced before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Kendrapara. The CWC directed the said minor girl to be kept in Sakhi, Short Stay Home, Kendrapara and she is still residing there. The CWC has directed the investigation to be undertaken in order to ascertain the welfare of the said minor child and therefore, it can be safely presumed that she is in safe custody.



2. The instant writ petition was filed for production of the minor girl and since she has already been rescued and kept in a safe home by the CWC, it would not be conducive for her to appear in person before this Court; the CWC shall take care of the best interest of the said minor girl and shall pass an appropriate order as the situation so warrants.

3. It is open to the petitioner to approach the CWC for any direction.

4. The writ petition is, thus, dismissed. No order as to cost.

(Harish Tandon)
Chief Justice

(M.S. Raman)
Judge

Aswini