



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

JCRLA No.240 of 2025

Bholanath Patra

....

***Appellant
Represented by
.....***

-Versus-

State of Odisha

....

***Respondent
Represented by
Ms. P.S. Nayak,
Additional Government Advocate***

CORAM:

**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANASH RANJAN PATHAK
AND
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SASHIKANTA MISHRA**

ORDER

26.02.2026

(Hybrid Mode)

**Order No.
03.**

1. The accused – Bholanath Patra is produced before this Court through VC from Rairangpur Sub-Jail, District - Mayurbhanj.
2. Accused, a Panchayat Secretary is said to have committed murder of his Wife and four children aged in between 1 to 10 years in the intervening night of 7th & 8th October, 2003.
3. In S.T. Case No.44/2004 (State v. Bholanath Patra) (arising out of G.R. No. 363/2003 corresponding to Badampahar P.S. Case No.44/2003), learned Additional Sessions Judge, Rairangpur by judgment dated 13.12.2004 convicted the said accused under Section 302 IPC and sentenced him to undergo imprisonment for life and to pay a fine of Rs.5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in default to further undergo Rigorous Imprisonment for six months.



4. This Appeal has been filed by the accused-convict Bholanath Patra from Jail with a reported delay of 7580 days.
5. From the report of the Superintendent of Rairangpur Sub-Jail dated 09.02.2026, it is seen that the accused is in custody from the date of his arrest in this case since 09.10.2003, during the trial as well as after the impugned judgment of conviction dated 13.12.2004.
6. Heard Mr. P.S. Nayak, learned Additional Government Advocate appearing for the Respondent-State.
7. As this appeal has been preferred by the appellant from jail custody, the reported delay of 7580 days in filing the appeal is condoned.
8. Admit this appeal.
9. Call for the scanned copy of the TCR in S.T. Case No.44/2004 from the Court of learned Additional Sessions Judge, Rairangpur that was disposed of on 13.12.2004 along with the scanned copy of the relevant case diary forthwith.
10. Ms. Deepti Rani Nanda, learned empaneled counsel of the Orissa High Court Legal Services Authority is hereby appointed as the counsel to argue this appeal on behalf of the convicted accused-Bholanath Patra.
11. Registry shall reflect the name of Ms. Deepti Rani Nanda in the cause list as well as in the case brief as the counsel for the appellant. Registry shall provide copies of all the relevant records and documents of this Jail Appeal and scanned copy of the TCR of S.T. Case No.44/2004 to Ms. Nanda, learned Legal Aid counsel for the appellant.



12. After receipt of the TCR, Registry shall prepare the Paper Book promptly and shall provide its copies to Ms. Nanda, learned Legal Aid counsel for the accused-appellant and Mr. P.S. Nayak, learned Additional Government Advocate for the State.

13. Registry shall list this matter for hearing immediately on preparation of the paper book of the TCR as the accused-appellant is in custody for more than 25 years 4 months since the date of his arrest on 09.10.2003.

(Manash Ranjan Pathak)
Judge

(Sashikanta Mishra)
Judge

Amit