



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.35255 of 2025

Soudamini Mallick

Petitioner

....
Mr. S.K. Dash, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha and others

Opposite Parties

....
Mr. U.R. Jena, A.G.A.

CORAM:

JUSTICE B. P. ROUTRAY

ORDER

30.04.2026

Order No.

07.

1. Heard Mr. S.K. Dash, learned counsel for the Petitioner and Mr. U.R. Jena, learned Additional Government Advocate for State-Opposite Parties.

2. The Petitioner has prayed for release of her vehicle, i.e. Tractor bearing Regd. No.OD-05-AN-4861 and Trolley bearing Regd. No.OD-05-AN-7271, which was seized by the Mining Officer, Cuttack.

3. After seizure of the vehicle, the Petitioner was issued with demand notice dated 28.11.2025 at Annexure-C/3 for deposit of the compounding fee in terms of Rule 51 (iv) of the Odisha Minor Minerals Concession Rules 2016. But the Petitioner without depositing such compounding fee has approached this Court for release of her vehicle.

4. Considering the authority of Mining Officer as the competent authority, who seized the vehicle in question transporting illegal minor mineral (sand), the writ petition is disposed of permitting



the Petitioner to deposit the compounding fee as per Annexure-C/3 or to contest the same in appropriate court of law. The personal appearance of the Mining Officer, Cuttack, namely, Shri Aditya Acharya is dispensed with.

5. An urgent certified copy of this order be granted on proper application.

(B.P. Routray)
Judge