



ITEM NO.2

COURT NO.15

SECTION II-B

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s).
2709/2026

[Arising out of impugned judgment and order dated 01-12-2025
in BLAPL No. 11356/2025 passed by the High Court of Orissa
at Cuttack]

ABHI CHANDAN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF ODISHA

Respondent(s)

IA No. 48769/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
I/JUDGMENT

Date : 21-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing
today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Abhimanyu Jhamba, AOR
Ms. Thonpinao Thangal, Adv.
Ms. Ayushi Srivastava, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Ms. Ankita Chaudhary, AOR(through VC)
Mr. Shreyas Balaji, Adv.
Mr. Chand Kapoor, Adv.
Ms. Vishaka Raghuram, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Heard Mr. Abhimanyu Jhamba, learned counsel for the
petitioner and Ms. Ankita Chaudhary, learned counsel
for the State.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that

there were six occupants in the vehicle, from which the seizure was effected. The admitted case of the prosecution is that three of them fled away. The petitioner was in the vehicle and was arrested. Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that Samandar Kumar Singh @ Samundar- co-accused, who was one of the three fled away, has been enlarged on bail. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the question whether the petitioner was in conscious possession is highly doubtful and is a matter to be established in the trial. Petitioner has already undergone one year of incarceration.

3. Considering that the charges have just been framed; that the trial will take considerable time, and keeping in mind the *prima facie* nature of the case against the petitioner, and the ingredients of Section 37 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for short, 'NDPS'), we are inclined to enlarge the petitioner on bail.

4. Accordingly, petitioner shall be enlarged on bail in connection with FIR/CR No.85/2025 registered with Phulbani Sadar Police Station, District Kandhamal, Odisha, for the offences punishable under Sections 20(b)(ii)(C) r/w Sections 25/29 of the NDPS, subject to the satisfaction of the concerned Trial Court.

5. The Special Leave Petition is disposed of in the above terms.

6. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(NIRMALA NEGI)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(MANOJ KUMAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)