

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**Criminal Appeal No(s). 2305/2026
@SLP (CrI) No. 4872/2026**

RAJESH KUMAR SAHU

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF ODISHA & ANR.

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. Heard learned counsel for the parties.
3. This appeal arises from a judgment and order dated 02.12.2025 passed by the High Court of Orissa at Cuttack, rejecting the anticipatory bail prayer of the appellant in connection with Case No. 924/2025, registered at P.S. Soro, District Balasore.
4. After hearing the learned Counsel for the appellant, on 19.03.2026 we had passed an interim order, which is reproduced below:

"1. Issue notice, returnable in six weeks.

2. In the meantime, it is provided that in the event the petitioner is arrested in connection with Soro P.S. Case No.924/2025 registered at P.S. Balasore, Odisha, he shall be released on a personal bond of Rs. 25,000/- subject to an undertaking that he shall cooperate in the investigation and make himself available for interrogation as and when required by the investigating agency. He shall also submit an undertaking that he will not threaten the witnesses or tamper the evidence."

5. Upon service of notice, the State is represented.

6. Upon consideration of submissions, we do not find a good reason to discharge the interim protection order granted earlier.

7. This appeal is, accordingly, disposed of by making the interim order absolute subject to the following conditions:

(A) Within three weeks from today, the appellant shall submit bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Trial Court along with an undertaking that he shall cooperate in the trial/investigation; and

(B) He shall submit an additional undertaking that he will not threaten the witnesses or tamper the evidence.

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

..... J
[MANOJ MISRA]

..... J
[MANMOHAN]

New Delhi;
May 04, 2026

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

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VERSUS

STATE OF ODISHA & ANR.

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 83420/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 04-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN

For Appellant(s) :

Mr. Anirudh Sanganeria, AOR
Mr. Pankaj Khandelwal, Adv.
Mr. Abhay Khandelwal, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Srisatya Mohanty, AOR
Ms. Sakshi Mittal, Adv.UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is disposed of in terms of the signed order placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(CHETAN ARORA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS(SAPNA BANSAL)
COURT MASTER (NSH)