



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

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(@SLP(CRL.) NO.17434 OF 2025)**

UDAYANATH SAHU

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF ORISSA

RESPONDENT(S)

ORDER

1. Heard.
2. Leave granted.
3. The appellant, who has been arraigned as an accused in FIR No.65 2025 for the offences punishable under Sections 319(2), 318(2) and 3(5) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS), is seeking for being enlarged on anticipatory bail.
4. The complainant (Santosini Pradhan) alleged that wife of the appellant ran a private loan business and had collected

substantial monies and gold from the complainant and similarly placed persons promising loans from banks and other financial institutions and had misappropriated about Rs.1.38 crores and has pledged the gold and jewellery to various financial institutions and had withdrawn the money and misappropriated the same without making any payment to the complainant and other similarly placed persons.

5. Apprehending his arrest and being taken into custody, the appellant had approached the trial court and the High Court, wherein his prayer for anticipatory bail came to refused. Hence, this appeal.

6. Having heard the learned senior counsel appearing for the appellant and the learned counsel appearing for the State and on perusal of the complaint, it would emerge therefrom that prosecution has been contending misappropriation of the money by the wife of the appellant. As to what role the appellant played and the complicity of the appellant, if any, will have to be examined after trial. Hence, custodial interrogation of the appellant may not be warranted and it would suffice to direct the appellant to cooperate with the investigation.

7. Accordingly, the appeal is allowed. Impugned order is set aside. Appellant is ordered to be released on anticipatory bail on such terms and conditions as the jurisdictional Investigating Officer (IO) may deem fit to impose and also on the condition that appellant shall appear before the IO on every Thursday between 11:00 am to 05:00 pm apart from the condition that appellant shall appear before the jurisdictional court on all dates of hearing except when exempted for any specific reason.

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

.....J.
(ARAVIND KUMAR)

.....J.
(PRASANNA B. VARALE)

New Delhi;
April 13, 2026.

ITEM NO.3

COURT NO.16

SECTION II-B

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)
No(s). 17434/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 16-05-2025 in ABLAPL No. 4688/2025 passed by
the High Court of Orissa at Cuttack]

UDAYANATH SAHU

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF ORISSA

Respondent(s)

IA No. 260500/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF
THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 260502/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 260506/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

WITH

SLP(Crl) No. 354/2026 (II-B)

IA No. 330736/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF
THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 330739/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 330743/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

SLP(Crl) No. 3697/2026 (II-B)

IA No. 64391/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 64393/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 13-04-2026 These matters were called on for
hearing today.

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARAVIND KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE**

**For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Gaurav Agarwal, Sr. Adv.
Mr. A Deb Kumar, Adv.
Mrs. A Deepa, Adv.
Mr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, Adv.
Mr. Tapas Das, Adv.
Mr. Pranaya Kumar Mohapatra, AOR**

**For Respondent(s) :Ms. Pracheta Kar, AOR
Ms. Shailja Singh, Adv.
Ms. Ananya Nair, Adv.
Ms. Riya S Sharma, Adv.**

**Mr. Hitendra Nath Rath, AOR
Ms. Laxmi, Adv.
Mr. Vikas Sinha, Adv.
Mr. Vikash Kumar Sinha, Adv.**

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

SLP(Crl.)No(s). 17434/2025

- 1. Leave granted.**
- 2. Appeal is allowed in terms of the Signed Order which is placed on the file.**
- 3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.**

SLP(Crl) No. 354/2026 and SLP(Crl) No. 3697/2026

1. Heard.

2. We do not find any ground to grant discretionary relief at this stage; hence, the special leave petitions are, accordingly, dismissed.

3. pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RASHI GUPTA)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(AVGV RAMU)
COURT MASTER (NSH)