IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

CRLA No.125 of 2004

CNR No.ODHC010292352004

Sri Pandu Singh …. ***Appellant***

Mr. Karunakar Jena, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha …. ***Respondent***

Mr. Manmaya Kumar Dash, Addl. Standing Counsel

CORAM:

HON'BLE DR. JUSTICE SANJEEB K PANIGRAHI

AND

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MURAHARI SRI RAMAN

ORDER

Order No. **30.10.2026**

01. ***1.*** This matter is taken up through hybrid arrangement.

2. Assailed in the appeal is the Judgment dated 31.03.2004 rendered in Session Trial No.2/88 of 2002 by the learnd Additional Sessions Judge (FT) whereby the appellant has been convicted under Section 235(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, for commission of an offence under Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and as a result of which the appellant was serving a sentence to undergo rigorous imprisonment for life

subject to set off and was directed to pay a fine of Rs.5,000/-.

3. In course of hearing, learned State Counsel has submitted that the matter has been rendered infructuous as the appellant has been released prematurely from the jail.

3.1. He furnished the status report of the case.

3.2. A copy of Letter No.207, dated 05.05.2022 issued by the Superintendent, District Jail, Balasore addressed to D.G. of Prisons and DCS, Odisha, Bhubaneswar reveals that:

"With reference to the memo cited above on the subject, I have the honour to intimate that the life convict No.1756/A, Pandu Singh of District Jail, Balasore has been released on 14 years Premature Rule from this jail in the afternoon of 05.05.2022 as per the order No.4998/L, dated 02.05.2022 of Government of Odisha, Law Department, Bhubaneswar for favour of your kind information and necessary action."

3.3. The Superintendent, District Jail, Balasore, Welfare Services *vide* Letter No.1434/BLS, dated 23.10.2025 enclosing therewith copy of letter dated 04.05.2022 issued from the Directorate of Prisons and Correctional Services, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, and copy of letter

dated 02.05.2022 issued from the Law Department stated thus:

"The Appellant Pandu Singh released on premature from jail on 05.05.2022 as per the order of the Prisons Directorate Odisha, Bhubaneswar Memo No.7482-J/R-22/2015 Dtd.04.05.2022 and Law Department, Govt. of Odisha Memo No.5000/L Dt.02.05.2022."

4. In view of the above development, since the appellant-Pandu Singh has been prematurely released from jail during the pendency of this appeal, there remains nothing to be decided in the instant CRLA.

5. Hence, the CRLA stands disposed of as infructuous.

(Dr. Sanjeeb K Panigrahi)
Judge

(Murahari Sri Raman)
Judge

Bichi

Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: BICHITRANANDA SAHOO
Designation: Secretary
Reason: Authentication
Location: Orissa High Court, Cuttack
Date: 30-Oct-2026 16:39:46