IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.23585 of 2026
CNR No.ODHC010566202026

Dr. Sandhyarani Das .... ***Petitioner***

Mr. J.K. Mahapatra, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha and Others .... ***Opposite Parties***

Mr. S.P. Das, ASC

CORAM:
JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY

ORDER
30.10.2026

Order No.

04. **1.** This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual/Physical) Mode.

2. Pursuant to order dated 29.07.2026, learned Addl. Standing Counsel produced the instruction so provided by the Department with service of copy on the learned counsel for the petitioner. The same be kept in record.

3. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

4. The present Writ Petition has been filed *inter alia* with the following prayer:-

> *"It is therefore, most humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Court be graciously pleased to:*
>
> *i) Admit the Writ application.*
>
> *ii) Call for the record.*
>
> *iii) Issue a writ in the nature of mandamus or any other writ/writs quashing the order of transfer Notification dated 21.07.2026 under Annexure-6 passed by Opp. Party No.1, the Principal Secretary to Government, Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment*

Department, Bhubaneswar. And direct to consider the application dated 23.07.2026 under Annexure-7 within a stipulated period which may fix by this Hon'ble Court.

iv) And pass any other order/orders for the ends of justice directing the Opp. party No.4, the Chief District Agriculture Officer, Kendrapara to allow the petitioner to continue in the present place of posting i.e. ADO, Pattamundei, Kendrapara.

v) And/or pass any other order/orders, direction/directions as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper for the ends of justice."

5. It is contended that petitioner though vide order dated 09.10.2025 under Annexure-3, was transferred and posted at Pattamundai, but vide the impugned order dated 21.07.2026, when she was put under transfer to Jajpur, the present Writ Petition was filed challenging the same.

5.1. It is further contended that this Court while directing learned Addl. Standing Counsel to obtain instruction vide order dated 29.07.2026, passed an interim order staying operation of order dated 21.07.2026. It is further contended that in terms of the interim order, petitioner is continuing at Pattamundai as on date.

5.2. It is accordingly contended that since petitioner has been put under transfer just after 10 months of her joining at Pattamundai, the same being contrary to the guideline issued by the G.A. and P.G. Department on 22.05.2026, order of transfer requires interference of this Court.

6. Basing on the instruction so provided, learned Addl. Standing Counsel contended that since after her joining at Pattamundai in terms of order dated 09.10.2025 under Annexure-3, a request was made by her father to transfer and post her at Jajpur, the impugned order dated 21.07.2026 under Annexure-6 was issued.

6.1. It is accordingly contended that since considering the request made by the petitioner's father on 05.11.2025, petitioner has been transferred and posted to Jajpur, no illegality or irregularity can be found with the same. It is accordingly contended that the Writ Petition is liable for dismissal.

7. To the submission made by learned Addl. Standing Counsel, learned counsel for the petitioner contended that since petitioner is serving under State, petitioner's father has no locus-standai to make any grievance with regard to her transfer from Pattamundai to Jajpur and no such request could have been entertained at the instance of her father with passing of the impugned order dated 21.07.2026 under Annexure-6.

8. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and considering the submission made, it is found that petitioner vide order dated 09.10.2025 under Annexure-3 was transferred and posted to Pattamundai

while continuing at Dharmasala. However, as found petitioner vide the impugned order dated 21.07.2026, has been transferred and posted to Jajpur.

8.1. Considering the challenge made to the impugned order and the instruction so provided by the State, it is the view of this Court that basing on the request made by the petitioner's father, petitioner could not have been transferred and posted to Jajpur. Since no such request was ever made by the petitioner herself, considering the grievance made by her father, no order of transfer could have been issued.

8.2. In view of the aforesaid analysis, this Court is inclined to quash order dated 21.07.2026, so issued by the Govt.-O.P. No.1 under Annexure-6 so far as it relates to the petitioner. While quashing the same, this Court permits the petitioner to continue at Pattamundai in terms of the order dated 09.10.2025 so issued under Annexure-3.

9. The Writ Petition stands disposed of accordingly.

(Biraja Prasanna Satapathy)
Judge

Basudev
Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: BASUDEV SWAIN
Designation: SENIOR STENOGRAPHER
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa, Cuttack
Date: 02-Nov-2026 10:33:24