IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

BLAPL No.8784 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010657492026

Santanu @ Kuna Kumar Pradhan .... ***Petitioner***

Mr. S.K. Mishra, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha .... ***Opposite Party***

Mr. S.K. Lenka, ASC

CORAM: JUSTICE V. NARASINGH

ORDER
10.11.2026

Order No.

01. 1. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner and learned counsel for the State.

2. The Petitioner is accused in connection with S.C Case No.41/36 of 2024 pending on the file of learned Addl. Sessions Judge, Sonepur, arising out of Birmaharajpur P.S. Case No.97 of 2024 for commission of offence alleged under Sections 302/201/120-B/34 of IPC.

3. The case of the prosecution is that on 10.02.2024, the informant lodged a written report alleging that one dead body was floating in the well of village Hilung. Thereafter, the body was taken out from the well and found that there were two

numbers of bleeding injuries was present on the neck and one bleeding injury was present near the private part of the deceased also one injury on the right side thigh. Basing on such report, the aforementioned P.S. case was registered.

4. Learned counsel, on instruction, submits that except the present BLAPL, no other bail application of the Petitioner relating to the aforementioned P.S. case is pending in any other Court.

5. Being aggrieved by the rejection of their applications for bail U/s.483 of the BNSS by the learned Addl. Sessions Judge, Sonepur by order dated 09.06.2026 in the aforementioned case, the present BLAPL has been filed.

6. It is submitted by the learned counsel that the Petitioner is in custody since 11.03.2024 and the basis of implication is on account of statement of the co-accused (Rajkishore @ Gagan Jagadala) who has already been released on bail by order dated 20.05.2026. Hence, further continuance of the Petitioner in custody is not warranted.

7. Learned counsel for the State on going through the materials on record does not dispute that one of the circumstances is the co-accused’s statement.

8. Considering that the case is based on circumstantial evidence, release of the co-accused on the basis of whose statement the Petitioner is taken into custody having been enlarged on bail, being a first offender, this Court directs the Petitioner to be released on bail on such terms to be fixed by the learned Court in seisin, subject to verification of criminal antecedent.

9. If it comes to fore that the Petitioner has any criminal antecedent, this order shall not be given effect to.

10. Accordingly, the BLAPL stands disposed of. U.C.C. as per rules.

11. Registry is requested to send a copy of this order via electronic mode to the Superintendent of the concerned Jail, in addition to the communication through Order Communication Portal (OCP) of this Court.

(V. NARASINGH)
Judge

Soumya

Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: SOUMYA RANJAN SAMAL
Designation: Sr. Stenographer
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa
Date: 11-Nov-2026 18:15:26