IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
BLAPL No.9541 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010716672026

Reka@ Rekka Pattnaik **.....** ***Petitioner***

Represented by Adv. - Bijay Kumar Behera

-versus-

STATE OF ODISHA **.....** ***Opposite Party***

Represented by Adv. – U.C. Jena, ASC

CORAM:
MR. JUSTICE ADITYA KUMAR MOHAPATRA

ORDER
28.10.2026

Order No.

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

2. Heard learned counsel appearing for the Petitioner and learned Additional Standing Counsel appearing for the State-Opposite Party. Perused the materials placed before this Court.

3. The present bail application under Section 483 of B.N.S.S. has been filed by the Petitioner for regular bail in connection with T.R. Case No.139 of 2025, arising out of Maitri Vihar P.S. Case No.107 of 2025, pending in the Court of learned Addl. District and Sessions Judge-cum-Special Judge (C.B.I.-II), Bhubaneswar for alleged commission of offence punishable under Sections 21(C) of the N.D.P.S. Act.

4. It is submitted by the learned counsel for the Petitioner that the Petitioner, who is a lady, is languishing in custody since

19.03.2025. He further contended that in the meantime investigation has been concluded and trial has been commenced. He further submitted that although the trial has commenced, so far only ten out of eighteen prosecution witnesses have been examined. It was also brought to the notice of this Court that the Petitioner does not have any criminal antecedent and that he belongs to the locality, therefore, there is no chance of his absconding. Further, referring to the allegation made in the FIR, learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that as per the prosecution allegation a total quantity of 256 grams of brown sugar were recovered from a dash board of a car in which the Petitioner was travelling along with other co-passengers. On such ground, learned counsel for Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner had no knowledge about such contraband article being kept in a vehicle in which she was merely travelling. He further submitted that the Petitioner does not have any similar criminal antecedents and, further referring to the period of custodial detention since 19.03.2025, learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner be enlarged on bail on any stringent terms and conditions deemed appropriate by this Court.

5. Learned Additional Standing Counsel appearing for the State-Opposite Party, on the other hand, opposed the release of the Petitioner on bail on the ground of gravity and seriousness of the allegation and, the fact that the contraband used in the present case is itself a threat to the society. Therefore, he submitted that the prayer for bail of the Petitioner be rejected at this juncture.

6. On perusal of the record it appears that earlier the Petitioner had moved this court for bail by filing BLAPL No.4023 of 2025,

11044 of 2025 and BLAPL No.4296 of 2026, such bail applications were rejected by a coordinate Bench of this Court. The last bail application was rejected vide order dated 31.08.2026 with a further direction to the learned trial Court to expedite the trial. Though the trial has been expedited by this Court, however only ten witnesses have been examined so far out of eighteen prosecution witnesses.

7. Taking into consideration the aforesaid facts as well as on a careful analysis of the submissions made by learned counsels appearing for both sides, further taking note of the fact that the Petitioner is a lady and she is languishing in custody for more than one and half years and there is no possibility of the trial being concluded in the near future, further keeping in view that fact that the Petitioner does not have any similar criminal antecedent, this Court is inclined to release the Petitioner on bail subject to imposition of stringent conditions.

8. Hence, it is directed that the Petitioner be released on bail in the aforesaid case on furnishing bail bond of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand) with two local solvent sureties each for the like amount to the satisfaction of the Court in seisin over the matter. It is open for the Court in seisin over the matter to impose any other conditions as may be deemed just and proper. Violation of any of the conditions shall entail cancellation of the bail application.

9. It is further directed that the bail granted to the Petitioner is subject to the condition that the court below shall verify whether the Petitioner is having any criminal antecedent of similar nature.

In the event it is found that the Petitioner is having any similar criminal antecedent under the offences of NDPS Act, this bail order shall automatically stand revoked.

10. The BLAPL is, accordingly, disposed of.

(A.K. Mohapatra)
Judge

Sisir

Signature Not Verified
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Signed by: SISIR KUMAR SETHI
Reason: Authentication
Location: ORISSA HIGH COURT
Date: 28-Oct-2026 19:19:33