IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
BLAPL No.9473 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010716972026

Dhekalu Mahanand ..... ***Petitioner***

Represented by Adv. - Anita Sahoo

-versus-

State of Orissa ..... ***Opposite Parties***

Smt. S. Nayak, ASC

CORAM:
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADITYA KUMAR MOHAPATRA

ORDER
27.10.2026

Order No.

01. 1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid mode.

2. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner as well as learned counsel for the State. Perused the application as well as documents annexed thereto.

3. The present bail application under Section 483 of BNSS, has been filed by the Petitioner for regular bail relating to Rengali P.S. Case No.223 of 2026, corresponding to C.T. (Special) Case No.60 of 2026, pending before the learned District and Sessions Judge-cum-Special Judge, Jharsuguda, for alleged commission of offence punishable under Sections 20(b)(ii)(C), 29 of N.D.P.S. Act.

4. It is submitted by the learned counsel for the Petitioner that the Petitioner is in custody since 16.08.2026. He further submitted that in the meantime the investigation has progressed substantially and the final charge-sheet is likely to be filed soon. Further,

referring to the allegation made in the FIR, learned counsel for the Petitioner contended that a total quantity of 23.8 Kgs. of contraband Ganja has been recovered from the present Petitioner. He further submitted that the Petitioner seriously disputed the recovery from the exclusive and conscious possession of the present Petitioner. He further contended that the bar under Section 37 of N.D.P.S. Act would not be attracted to the facts of the present case as the seized contraband article is seriously disputed by the present Petitioner. He further contended that the Petitioner belongs to the locality, therefore, there is no chance of his absconding. He further submitted that the Petitioner does not have any similar criminal antecedent. In such view of the matter, learned counsel for the Petitioner contended that the Petitioner is ready and willing to abide by any terms and conditions as this Court deems fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

5. Learned counsel for the State, on the other hand, opposed the bail application of the Petitioner. She further contended that taking into consideration the fact that such cases are increasing day-by-day in the State of Odisha, no leniency should be shown to the petitioner. In such view of the matter, she submitted that the bail application of the Petitioner be rejected at this juncture.

6. Having heard the learned counsels appearing for the respective parties and on a careful examination of the surrounding facts and circumstances of the present case, further keeping in view the period of detention of the Petitioner in jail custody, and the fact that the bar under Section 37 of NDPS Act would not be attracted to the facts of the present case, and the fact that the Petitioner belongs to the locality and that he does not have any similar criminal

antecedent, this Court is inclined to release the Petitioner on bail subject to the Petitioner furnishing bail bond of Rs.40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand) with two solvent sureties each for the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned court in seisin over the matter. The release of the Petitioner shall also be subject to such other terms and conditions as is deemed just and proper by the court in seisin over the matter. Violation of any of the terms and conditions shall entail cancellation of bail.

7. It is further directed that the bail granted to the Petitioner be subject to the condition that the court below shall verify the criminal antecedent of the Petitioner. In the event the Petitioner is having any similar criminal antecedent, then this bail order shall automatically stand revoked.

8. Accordingly, the BLAPL stands disposed of.

Issue urgent certified copy as per Rules.

(Aditya Kumar Mohapatra)
Judge

S.K. Rout

Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: SANTANU KUMAR ROUT
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa
Date: 28-Oct-2026 12:57:19