IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
BLAPL No.9557 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010717102026

Ajaya @ Aju Pradhan **.....** ***Petitioner***

Represented by Adv. –
Mr. Pravash Chandra Jena

-versus-

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

Represented by Adv. –

Miss. Babita Kumari Sahu, AGA

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 Government Advocate appearing for the State-Opposite Party. Perused the bail application as well as the F.I.R and other documents attached to the bail application.

3. The present bail application under Section 439 of Cr.P.C. read with Section 483 of B.N.S.S, 2023 has been filed by the Petitioner for regular bail in connection with C.T. Case No.538 of 2026, arising out of Khuntuni P.S Case No.164 of 2026, pending in the Court of learned S.D.J.M., Athagarh, for alleged commission of offence punishable under Sections

303(2)/281/111(2)/3(5) of the BNS, 2023 read with Section 11(a)(d) of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

4. Learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner happens to be the owner of the vehicle in which the cattle were being illegally transported. He further contended that the Petitioner is in custody since 26.06.2026. He further submitted that in the meantime the investigation has been concluded and the final charge sheet has been filed. Learned counsel for the Petitioner further submitted that although the Petitioner is having two similar criminal antecedents, however, he is ready and willing to abide by any stringent terms and conditions that would be imposed by this Court in the event he is released on bail. He further contended that the Petitioner belongs to the locality, therefore, there is no chance of his absconding.

5. Learned Additional Government Advocate for the State, on the other hand, objected to the release of the Petitioner on bail on the ground that the Petitioner is a habitual offender and having two criminal antecedents. She further submitted that in the event the Petitioner is released on bail, there is every likelihood that he might indulge in similar type of offences. On such ground, learned Additional Government Advocate prayed for rejection of the Petitioner's prayer for bail.

6. Having regard to the submissions made by the learned counsels appearing for the respective parties and on a careful examination of the nature and gravity of the allegations, further keeping in view that fact that charge sheet has already been filed

and taking note of the period of custodial detention of the Petitioner, this Court is inclined to release the Petitioner on bail subject to imposition of stringent conditions.

7. Hence, it is directed that the Petitioner be released on bail in the aforesaid case on furnishing a bail bond of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand) with two solvent sureties each for the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned court in seisin over the matter. While imposing conditions, the court in seisin over the matter shall also impose the following additional conditions:-

I. He shall not indulge in similar criminal activities while on bail;

II. He shall appear before the local police station one in a fortnight, preferably on 'Sunday' in between 10.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M. for a period four months; and

III. He shall furnish a cash security of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees five thousand) before the court in seisin over the matter which shall be kept in interest bearing fixed deposit account in the name of the court in any nationalized bank for a period of one year which shall be renewed from time to time till disposal of the case. The said deposit shall be subject to the final outcome of the trial.

8. 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 imposed either by this Court or the court in seisin over the matter shall entail cancellation of the bail.

9. The BLAPL is disposed of accordingly.

(A.K. Mohapatra)
Judge

Debasis

Signature Not Verified
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Signed by: DEBASIS AECH
Designation: SECRETARY
Reason: Authentication
Location: ORISSA HIGH COURT
Date: 30-Oct-2026 12:13:53