IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
ABLAPL No.12170 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010782412026

Sonali Soren ..... ***Petitioner***

Represented by Adv. –
Mr. Prasanta Kumar
Nanda

-versus-

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

Represented by Adv. –
Mr. S.K. Rout, ASC

CORAM:
MR. JUSTICE ADITYA KUMAR MOHAPATRA

ORDER
23.10.2026

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-Opposite Party. Perused the Anticipatory Bail Application as well as the F.I.R.

3. The present application has been filed by the Petitioner seeking pre-arrest bail in connection with Baripada Town P.S. Case No.771 of 2022, corresponding to C.T. Case No.1659 of 2022, pending in the court of the learned S.D.J.M., Baripada, registered for alleged commission of offences punishable under Sections 409/420/467/468/34 of the I.P.C.

4. On perusal of the record, it appears that earlier the Petitioner approached this Court by filing ABLAPL No.11601 of 2022. This Bench, vide order dated 14.10.2022, disposed of

the said bail application by granting liberty to the Petitioner to surrender before the trial court and move an application for bail.

5. Learned counsel for the State, at this juncture, contended that instead of surrendering before the court below, the Petitioner has once again moved this pre-arrest bail application.

6. At this stage, learned counsel for the Petitioner submitted that the Petitioner does not want to press this bail application and seeks liberty to surrender before the court below and move an application for bail. Further, learned counsel for the Petitioner drew the attention of this Court to the order dated 12.10.2022 passed by this Court in ABLAPL No.11614 of 2022, whereby one of the co-accused has already been released on bail.

7. Taking into consideration the aforesaid facts, the Petitioner is permitted to surrender before the learned S.D.J.M., Baripada in the aforesaid case in the first hour within four weeks hence and move for bail. On such event, the learned Magistrate shall consider her application for bail in the first hour strictly on the basis of the materials on record. In case of rejection of the bail application, the Petitioner may move for bail before the higher forum in the second hour. On such event, the higher forum shall consider and dispose of the bail application of the Petitioner on the same day strictly on the basis of the materials on record by maintaining the principles of parity, if applicable.

8. The case diary be made available on the date of surrender on an application being filed by the Petitioner prior to her date of surrender along with a copy of today's order. Records be transmitted to the higher forum at the cost of the Petitioner, if applied for.

9. The ABLAPL is, accordingly, disposed of.

Issue urgent certified copy of this order as per Rules.

(Aditya Kumar Mohapatra)
Vacation Judge

Debasis

Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: DEBASIS AECH
Designation: SECRETARY
Reason: Authentication
Location: ORISSA HIGH COURT
Date: 25-Oct-2026 09:21:28