IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No. 33701 of 2026
(CNR No. ODHC010793622026)

Umakanta Khandai …. **Petitioner**

Mr. K. K. Swain, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha and others …. **Opposite Parties**

Mr. C. M. Singh, ASC

CORAM:
MR. JUSTICE R.K. PATTANAIK

ORDER
04.11.2026

Order No.

01. 1. Heard learned counsel for the respective parties

2. Instant writ petition is filed by the petitioner for a direction to the opposite parties, in particular, opposite party No.4 to handover the charge of the office of the Headmaster to him as he is the senior most Hindi-cum-Trained Graduate Teacher of the school and to allow him to function as Headmaster-in-Charge w.e.f. 1st January, 2027 on the grounds stated therein.

3. Mr. Swain, learned counsel for the petitioner refers to the resolution dated 18th February, 2008 of the Government in School and Mass Education Department to submit that consequent upon fixation of revised qualification for the post of Hindi Teachers in Government Aided and Block Grant High Schools, it has been upgraded to the status and scale of pay of Trained Graduate Teachers. The further submission is that the

petitioner received the Trained Graduate scale of pay vide Annexure-4 w.e.f. 24th December, 2010. It is a submission that opposite party No.4, who is the Headmaster-in-Charge is due to retire on 31st December, 2026 in view of Annexure-6 and according to Mr. Swain, learned counsel, the petitioner being the senior-most TGT is eligible to remain in charge of Headmaster w.e.f. 1st January, 2027 but the same is likely to be denied by opposite party No.3 on the premise that he is not the senior-most TGT and hence, the representation dated 8th September, 2026 is at Annexure-7. The submission is that opposite party No.3 is required to be directed to consider the representation i.e. Annexure-7 keeping in view of the Government's resolution dated 18th February, 2008 at Annexure-2.

4. Recorded the submission of Mr. Singh, learned ASC for the State. No instruction has been received by the State, nonetheless, the objection of Mr. Singh, learned ASC for the State has been recorded.

5. Since the post of Hindi Teachers stands upgraded as made to reveal from the Government's Resolution i.e. Annexure-2 and the plea of the petitioner is that he is the senior-most TGT and received the scale of pay under Annexure-4 w.e.f. 24th December, 2010 but there is every likelihood of him not being given the assignment of Headmaster-in-Charge w.e.f. 1st January, 2027, this Court, with the State's response noted down, is inclined to direct opposite

party No.3 to deal with and dispose of the representation i.e. Annexure-7 keeping in view Annexure-2..

6. Accordingly, it is ordered.

7. In the result, the writ petition stands disposed of with a direction as aforesaid for compliance by opposite party No.3 on the representation at Annexure-7 for a decision at the earliest preferably within a period of three weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

(R.K. Pattanaik)
Judge

Rojina

Signature Not Verified
Digitally Signed
Signed by: ROJINA SAHOO
Designation: Sr. Stenographer
Reason: Authentication
Location: ORISSA HIGH COURT
Date: 09-Nov-2026 17:09:19