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Location: High Court of Orissa, Cuttack
Date: 29-Oct-2026 10:46:36

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No. 35151 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010828162026

Sanjaya Kumar Pradhan .... **Petitioner**
Mr. S. Jena, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha & Others .... **Opposite Parties**
Mr. J.K. Bal, AGA

CORAM:
MR. JUSTICE R.K. PATTANAIK

ORDER
28.10.2026

Order No.

01. 1. Heard Mr. Jena, learned counsel for the petitioner.

2. Instant writ petition is filed by the petitioner challenging the impugned letter dated 3rd August, 2026 issued by the Finance Officer Higher Education Department, Odisha, namely, opposite party No.3 under Annexure-13 declaring the same as illegal, arbitrary and contrary to the law on the grounds stated.

3. Referring to the Government's Notification dated 11th June, 2018 at Annexure-8, Mr. Jena, learned counsel would submit that the Block Grant was abolished with introduction of Grant-in-Aid order 2017 and Grant-in-Aid order 2018 with effect from 1st January, 2018. It is further submitted that the petitioner has been receiving the salary through direct payment system in view of Annexure-11 & 12 series. The submission is that in view of the impugned decision at Annexure-13, the

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service conditions of the petitioner would be affected to which he is otherwise eligible in view of Rule 3 of the Orissa Aided Educational Institutions' Employees' Retirement Benefit Rules, 1981. It is contended by Mr. Jena, learned counsel that such a decision as per Annexure-13 is in direct conflict with the Notification of the Government at Annexure-8 and furthermore, when the Finance Officer, Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha does not possess the authority to direct release of monthly Grant-in-Aid salary in case of BG employees covered under the GIA order 2017-2018 to the college account from the month of July, 2026 and onwards. Recording the submission as above and challenge to the impugned letter dated 3rd August, 2026 at Annexure-13 and response of the State that the service conditions of the petitioner are likely to be affected since there been payment of salary in the manner directed through the college account, this Court is inclined to consider the same with necessary instructions received.

4. List on 3rd November, 2026 along with W.P.(C) No.34117 of 2026 for final hearing and orders upon receiving the State's reply and response.

(R.K. Pattanaik)
Judge

I.A. No.20586 of 2026

02. 1. Heard.

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2. Instant I.A. is filed for interim orders.

3. Mr. Jena, learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that the impugned decision as per Annexure-13 should not be given effect to as it is not in consonance with the service conditions of the petitioner and also in conflict with the Government Notification i.e. Annexure-8. Recorded the objection of the learned AGA for the State. But having regard to the fact that there has been such a decision for payment of salary through college account not by direct payment system despite the fact that the Block Grant was abolished in 2018 with the introduction of GIA orders 2017-2018 with effect from 1st January, 2018, this Court, as an interim measure, awaiting response of the State, stays operation of Annexure-13 till the next date of hearing and further awaiting the State's response, this Court is inclined to direct the Opposite Party No.2 to forthwith release the current salary through district Treasury until further orders.

4. List on the date fixed for further orders.

5. Issue urgent certified copy of this order as per rules.

(R.K. Pattanaik)
Judge

Madhu