IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

CRLMP No.1814 of 2026

CNR No. ODHC010835012026

Suryamani Tripathy .... ***Petitioner(s)***

Mr. Santosh Kumar Dwivedy, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha and others .... ***Opposite Party(s)***

Mr. Udit Ranjan Jena, AGA

CORAM: JUSTICE SIBO SANKAR MISHRA

ORDER

11.11.2026

Order No.

02. **1.** Heard.

2. The petitioner by invoking the jurisdiction of this Court under Article 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India has explored the following relief:-

> "The petitioner therefore prays that this Hon'ble Court may kindly be pleased to issue a writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order/direction(s) commanding the Opp.party no.2 to 4 to immediate secure and preserve the original CCTV footage, DVR and back up servers of the EOW Office installed inside and infront of the S.P. EOW at EOW PS Bhubaneswar from 01.12.2025 to 31.12.2025 and further direct the opp.party no.2 to deposit the preserve footage in a sealed cover before this Hon'ble Court to ensure it not tampered with for the greater interest of justice."

3. Vide order dated 30.10.2026, learned counsel for the State was directed to obtain instruction in the matter. Pursuant thereto, the DSP, EOW, CID, CB, Bhubaneswar has submitted a report dated 10.11.2026, inter alia, stating as under:-

"With reference to the subject cited above and the letter under reference, I am to submit the following instructions for your kind perusal:-

1. That, the petitioner has sought a direction to Opposite Party Nos. 2 to 4 to immediately secure and preserve the original CCTV footage of the EOW PS, including the footage of inside and in front of the Office of the Superintendent of Police, EOW, Bhubaneswar, for the period from 01.12.2025 to 31.12.2025.

2. That, the EOW Police Station is functioning on the first and second floors of a five-storeyed building, which also houses the offices of the Superintendent of Police, STF; Deputy Inspector General of Police, STF; Inspector General of Police, EOW/STF; and Additional Director General of Police, CID-CB, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

3. That, all total of 20 (twenty) CCTV cameras has been installed within the premises of the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) Building, Bhubaneswar, and all of them are presently in active and functional condition. Out of these, 01 (one) camera is installed at the reception, 04 (four) cameras on the first floor, 01 (one) camera at the entrance of the EOW Police Station Building, and the remaining 14 (fourteen) cameras are installed in the outer premises of the EOW Building. It is further submitted that no CCTV camera has been installed either inside the chamber of the Superintendent of Police (S.P.) or in front of the said chamber. The maintenance of the entire CCTV surveillance system has been entrusted to M/s. Krystal Integrated Services Pvt. Ltd., Bhubaneswar, Khordha.

4. That, there is no technical or administrative impediment to securing and preserving the CCTV footage for future reference."

4. Mr. Jena, learned Additional Government Advocate for the State, however, submits that the direction for preservation of the entire CCTV footage covering the area of the EOW may not be feasible, as the same may compromise the secrecy maintained by

the Department in certain matters and may also give rise to certain technical difficulties.

5. Be that as it may, since a specific report has been submitted by the DSP, EOW, CID, CB, Bhubaneswar, as reproduced hereinabove, the CRLMP is disposed of in terms of the said report. However, it is expected that the opposite parties shall take necessary steps to ensure preservation of the CCTV footage for future reference. It is made clear that the petitioner shall not be entitled to access or claim the copies of the said footage. It would only be used for the evidentiary purpose.

6. With this observation, the CRLMP is disposed of.

(S.S. Mishra)
Judge

Swarna

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Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa
Date: 16-Nov-2026 20:15:05