IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

ABLAPL No.12973 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010862872026

Rajesh Kumar Sethy …. ***Petitioner***

Mr. S. Swain, Advocate

-versus-

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

Mr. S. Panda, ASC

CORAM: JUSTICE V. NARASINGH

ORDER
13.11.2026

Order No.

01. 1. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner and learned counsel for the State.

2. The Petitioner is seeking pre-arrest bail in connection with G.R. Case No.337 of 2018 pending in the Court of learned SDJM, Anandapur, Keonjhar arising out of Ghasipura P.S. Case No.204 of 2018 for commission of offences punishable under Sections 420/34 of IPC.

3. It is submitted by the learned counsel that the present Petitioner was before this Court in ABLAPL No.5742 of 2025 and this Court vide order dated 22.10.2025 was not inclined to entertain his bail application and gave liberty to him to surrender and seek bail.

4. It is further submitted by the learned counsel that the co-accused, namely, Ayusmita Sethy, the wife

of the present Petitioner granted pre-arrest bail by this Court vide order dated 16.01.2026 in ABLAPL No.294 of 2026.

On perusal of the same, it is evident that inadvertent error has crept into the order inasmuch as the coordinate Bench of this Court had noted that this Court had granted bail to the co-accused, the husband, present Petitioner in ABLAPL No.5742 of 2025 which is not correct and while rejecting his pre-arrest bail this Court had taken note of the role ascribed to him and accordingly the order was passed. This Court does not see any reason to make a departure from the earlier order.

5. Taking into account the nature of allegation, this Court is not inclined to entertain the application for pre-arrest bail. However, the Petitioner may surrender before the learned SDJM, Anandapur, Keonjhar in connection with the aforementioned case within one month from today.

In the event of his surrender and motion for bail, the same be considered by the learned SDJM, Anandapur, Keonjhar on merits, in the first hour of the day.

In the event of rejection of the prayer for bail by the learned SDJM, Anandapur, Keonjhar, the Petitioner is at liberty to move the higher forum for bail in the second hour on the same day.

6. On being so moved, the higher forum is requested to make an endeavor to dispose of the bail

application of the Petitioner on the same day.

The case diary shall be made available to the concerned courts to facilitate disposal of the bail application of the Petitioner and learned SDJM, Anandapur, Keonjhar is called upon to transmit the case record to the higher forum at the earliest in the event of rejection of such bail application.

Ground of parity, if any, may be considered by the learned court(s) below.

7. Accordingly, the ABLAPL stands disposed of.

U.C.C. as per rules.

(V. NARASINGH)
Judge

Jina

Signature Not Verified
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Signed by: JINA DIGAL
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa
Date: 13-Nov-2026 17:53:06