



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

CRLMC No.1253 of 2026

Pravat Ranjan Biswal *Petitioner(s)*
Mr. Hemant Kumar Mund,
Advocate

-Versus-

Republic of India *Opposite Party (s)*
Mr. Sarthak Nayak,
Retainer Counsel (CBI)

CORAM:

DR. JUSTICE SANJEEB K PANIGRAHI

ORDER

02.07.2026

Order No.

04.

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid arrangement.
2. The Petitioner has filed this CRLMC with a prayer to quash the criminal proceeding in connection with T.R Case No.5 of 2018 pending before the learned Special Judge, C.B.I.-1, Bhubaneswar.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the charge sheet No.5 of 2015 was filed on 07.03.2015 in the Court of the Special CJM, CBI, Bhubaneswar against one Prashanta Kumar Dash who was the then M.D. of Seashore Group of Companies & other Directors of the Multipurpose Co-operatives of Seashore Group by keeping the investigation open. Though the petitioner's name was not reflected in the FIR, but, subsequently, a supplementary charge sheet was filed on 12.01.2018, wherein in



addition to the offences for which charge sheet No.5 of 2015 was filed under Sections 7/11/12 read with Section 13(1) (d) of the prevention of Corruption Act was also added. In the aforesaid charge sheet, the names of the petitioner and his wife, named, Laxmi Bilasini Biswal were added as accused Nos. 19 to 22 respectively. The specific allegation against the petitioner is that he being the MLA of Cuttack Choudwar Constituency in the Odisha Legislative Assembly was paid a sum of Rs.25 lakhs through the account of his wife Smt. Laxmi Bilasini Biswal bearing No. 30621606478 maintained at SBI, Bidyadharpur ADB, Cuttack from the account of Seashore Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd. during 2011 for extending arms protection to the Seashore Group of Companies for going ahead with their illegal financial scam smoothly without any hindrance at Cuttack and its nearby areas. The petitioner had earlier filed an application under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. before this Court for quashing of the impugned proceeding which was registered as CRLMC No.2763 of 2019. This Court vide order dated 11.04.2023 disposed of the said CRLMC directing the learned trial Court to consider the charge as expeditiously as possible and in case charge is framed, the trial of the case was directed to be completed within a period of 1 year



from the date of framing of the charge. In the instant case, charge was framed on 23.09.2023 and P.W.I was examined on 02.12.2023. Till date 28 prosecution witnesses have been examined and despite the order dated 29.01.2026 directing the prosecution to produce its witnesses and to shortlist the witnesses proposed to be examined by the prosecution, the Opposite Party has still not complied with the order passed by the learned Trial Court causing serious prejudice to the petitioner so far his political career is concerned. Hence, he prays for quashing of the criminal proceeding initiated against him.

4. On the other hand, Mr. Sarthak Nayak, learned Retainer Counsel for the CBI strongly objects the prayer of the Petitioner. He submits that delay of trial is not at all a ground for quashing of the criminal proceeding. In order to substantiate his argument, learned Retainer Counsel for the CBI produces a copy of the judgment of this Court passed in case of *Umakanta Kar-versus-State of Odisha(Vigilance)* disposed of on 22.05.2026.

5. Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel for the Petitioner and the learned Retainer Counsel for the CBI, this Court is of the view that since the matter is pending since long time, this Court requests the learned Special Judge, C.B.I-1,



Bhubaneswar to take steps to complete the trial within a period of 6 months from today. The learned Special Judge, C.B.I.-1, Bhubaneswar is requested not to grant unnecessary adjournments to the parties and stick to the timeline as far as possible.

6. The CRLMC stands disposed of, accordingly.

(Dr. Sanjeeb K Panigrahi)
Judge

Gitanjali