



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
BLAPL NO.5320 of 2026

(In the matter of application under Section 483 of
BNSS, 2023).

Minati Sahoo ... **Petitioner**

-versus-

State of Orissa ... **Opposite Party**

For Petitioner : **Mr. B. Dash, Advocate**

For Opposite Party : **Mr. M.R. Patra, Addl. PP**
Mr. R.K. Meher, Advocate
(Informant)
Ms. P. Agarwal, Advocate
(Victim)

CORAM: JUSTICE G. SATAPATHY

DATE OF HEARING & JUDGMENT:23.07.2026(ORAL)

G. Satapathy, J.

1. This is a bail application U/S.483 of BNSS by the petitioner for grant of bail in connection with Lalbag PS Case No.106 of 2026 corresponding to GR Case No.268 of 2026 pending in the file of learned SDJM Sadar, Cuttack, for commission of offences punishable U/Ss.326(g)/326(f)/329(5)/287/125 of BNS r/w Sections 3/4/5 of Explosive Act and U/S.4 of PDPP Act, on the main allegation of throwing one



bottle containing petrol with fire to the vehicles parked by the side of wall of the High Court of Orissa and in the process, causing damage to four vehicles.

2. In the course of hearing, Mr. Bijayananda Dash, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that even if the materials on record are taken into consideration, no offence is made out against the petitioner since the petitioner is a psychiatric patient and what she has done is beyond her control at the time of incident. Mr. Das further submits that in the meantime, after completion of investigation, charge-sheet has already been submitted and the petitioner being a lady can be admitted to bail by resorting to first proviso appended to Section 480 of BNSS. Accordingly, Mr. Das prays to grant bail to the petitioner.

2.1. On the other hand, Mr. M.R. Patra, learned Additional Public Prosecutor opposes the bail application of the petitioner by contending inter-alia that the offences alleged against the petitioner is



punishable with life and, thereby, it is not a simple matter and, therefore, the bail application of the petitioner should be dealt with sternly. Accordingly, Mr. Patra prays to reject the bail application of the petitioner.

2.2. Mr. Rajesh Kumar Meher, learned counsel for the informant, however, submits that since four vehicles have been damaged due to the fire as allegedly caused by the petitioner, she should not be enlarged on bail, rather she should be directed to compensate the victims for the loss suffered by them. Accordingly, Mr. Meher prays to reject the bail application of the petitioner.

2.3. In echoing the submission of Mr. Meher, Ms. Priyanka Agarwal, who is an advocate by profession and a victim in this case, appearing in person opposes the bail application of the petitioner by contending inter-alia that release of the petitioner would encourage her to commit the offence again and again and it would not be proper to grant bail to the



petitioner. Accordingly, Ms. Agarwal prays to reject the bail application of the petitioner.

3. After having considered the rival submissions upon perusal of record, there appears allegation against the petitioner for throwing bottle containing petrol with fire to the vehicles and causing damage to four vehicles by fire, but the petitioner herself is not only a lady, but also she is having a five years child, however, the child is remaining outside the jail as submitted. No doubt, there is serious objection and opposition to the bail application of the petitioner, but at the end, the petitioner herself being a lady is also entitled to the benefit of first proviso appended to Section 480 of BNSS. In the aforesaid facts and circumstance and taking into account the nature and gravity of the offence as alleged against the petitioner vis-à-vis the accusation sought to be brought against her and regard being had to the pre-trial detention of the petitioner in custody since 31.03.2026 with submission of charge-sheet in the meantime and there being no criminal antecedent of



similar nature reported against the petitioner and keeping in view the other circumstances on record in entirety including the principle of bail and the release of an accused being not to be equated with or considered for her acquittal and there being inherent right ingrained on each accused to be presumed innocent until proven guilty at the trial, this Court without expressing any view on merit, admits the petitioner to bail, but subject to certain conditions.

4. Hence, the bail application of the petitioner stands allowed and the petitioner is allowed to go on bail on furnishing bail bonds of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-five Thousand) only with one solvent surety for the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned Court in seisin of the case on such terms and conditions as deem fit and proper by it with following conditions:-

(i) the petitioner shall not indulge in similar activities while on bail,

(ii) the petitioner shall not come to the place of occurrence or nearby area &



(iii) the petitioner shall not threaten, induce, influence or coerce any of the witnesses including the family members of the informant/victim acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade them from disclosing such facts before the Court.

5. Accordingly, the BLAPL stands disposed of. Issue urgent certified copy of the order as per Rules. A soft copy of this order be immediately communicated to the concerned Court, who shall afterwards communicate the same to the concerned Jail through e-mail for reference.

(G. Satapathy)
Judge

*Orissa High Court, Cuttack,
Dated the 23rd day of July, 2026/Subhasmita*