

04. 24.07.2020

Heard learned counsel for the petitioner, and the learned Counsel for the State through Video Conferencing, due to the pandemic situation of COVID-19.

This is an application under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of bail to the petitioner in connection with Special (POCSO) Case No. 03 of 2020, arising out of Handapa P.S. Case No. 08 of 2020, pending in the court of learned Additional District & Sessions Judge-cum-Special Court, POCSO Act, Angul for alleged commission of offence under Sections 376(2)(n)/417/276(2) of the IPC and Section 6 of the POCSO Act.

It is submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner was initially in custody since 13.02.2020 and by virtue of the order dated 2.6.2020, he went on interim bail and subsequently on surrendering, taken to custody since 06.07.2020. It is further submitted that during the period of his interim bail, he has married to the victim and she is now residing as the wife of the petitioner in his house. To that effect a copy of the affidavit dated 8.6.2020 has been filed on behalf of the petitioner.

Having considered such submission, it is directed that the petitioner be released on bail in the aforesaid case on such terms and conditions to be fixed by the learned court below in seisin over the matter.

The BLAPL is disposed of accordingly.

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**(B. P. Routray, J.)**