

# THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA: CUTTACK

## STANDING ORDER NO. 02 OF 2026

In addition to the Standing Order No. 3 of 2024, and in compliance with the mandates issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 24.03.2026 passed in Criminal Appeal No. 1275 of 2015 (State of Himachal Pradesh vs. Hukum Chand @ Minu), as well as in Nipun Saxena vs. Union of India, (2019) 2 SCC 703, the Hon'ble Court is pleased to issue the following directions to ensure protection of the identity of victims (prosecutrix) in cases involving sexual offences:

### **1. Role of Stamp Reporters:**

If the identity of the victim (prosecutrix), including her name, address, or any other particulars that may lead to her identification, is disclosed in any document including petition, pleading, affidavit, or annexure etc. in cases involving sexual offences, the same shall be treated as a defect by the Stamp Reporters.

### **2. Role of the Counsels:**

The Counsels shall, at the time of filing, clearly mention and indicate on the cause title or on the top of the petition that the case pertains to "Sexual Offence" under the POCSO Act/IPC/BNS/Any other law, so as to enable the Registry to take necessary precautions and avoid any inadvertent disclosure of the identity of the victim.

### **3. Redaction of Existing Records:**

In all cases where the identity of the victim (prosecutrix) stands disclosed, the concerned Counsel shall ensure redaction of such sensitive information from the documents. Such redaction shall be carried out before the Additional Deputy Registrar or any other officer authorized in this regard by filing a substituted redacted version, clearly indicating the portions redacted. The original unredacted version shall, however, be submitted in a sealed cover for the Court's confidential record.

### **4. Copies and Records:**

In all matters pending prior to passing of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Nipun Saxena Vs Union of India, where the identity of the victim is disclosed in any copy of a judgment, order, or any other document, the

original shall be retained in a sealed cover. The Registry shall prepare a masked and anonymized version thereof, which shall be placed in both the physical and digital case records.

#### 5. Paperless Module:


In the paperless system, only redacted copies of records shall be uploaded and made accessible to the parties and the Bench, unless otherwise specifically directed by the Court.

Such redacted copies alone shall be served upon the Advocate General, ensuring that no unredacted or sensitive information, capable of revealing the identity of the victim (prosecutrix), is disclosed in any manner whatsoever.

#### 6. Pending Matters:

The Registry shall ensure that, in all pending matters including those have been filed prior to the judgement of Nipun Saxena Vs Union of India, relating to sexual offences, the identity of the victim (prosecutrix) is not disclosed in any manner.

The aforesaid directions shall be complied with scrupulously and shall come into force with immediate effect. Any deviation shall be viewed seriously.

**By Order**  
  
(Dr. Bhagyalaxmi Rath)  
5.5.2026  
**REGISTRAR GENERAL**

**Cuttack, Dated the 05 May, 2026**  
**[Administrative Department]**

Memo No. 7387(4)/Rules Date: 05.05.2026  
XI-19/2026

Copy forwarded to the

1. Advocate General, Odisha, Cuttack,
2. Chairman, Odisha State Bar Council, Cuttack,
3. Deputy Solicitor General of India for the High Court of Orissa,
4. Secretary, High Court Bar Association, Cuttack  
for information.

  
5/5/26  
**SPECIAL OFFICER (SPECIAL CELL)**

Memo No. 7388(32) / Date: 05.05.2026

Copy forwarded to the

1. District & Sessions Judges, .....(All)
2. Director, Odisha Judicial Academy, Cuttack
3. Member-Secretary, Odisha State Legal services Authority, Cuttack  
for information.



SPECIAL OFFICER (SPECIAL CELL)

Memo No. 7389(100) / Date: 05.05.2026

Copy forwarded to the

1. All Officers of the Court,
2. Additional Registrar-cum-Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice,
3. Joint Registrar-cum-Principal Secretary/Addl. Dy. Registrar-cum-Addl. Principal Secretaries / Asst. Registrar-cum-Senior Secretaries / Secretaries to Hon'ble Judges of the Court,
4. A.R-cum-Stamp Reporter & Oath Commissioner
5. All A.R.-cum-Addl. Stamp Reporters & Oath Commissioners,
6. All Superintendents/ Section Officers of the Court with a request to circulate the same amongst all dealing assistants,  
for information and necessary action.



SPECIAL OFFICER (SPECIAL CELL)

Memo No. 7390 / Date: 05.05.2026

Copy forwarded to the Superintendent, Computer Section to upload the same in the official website of the Court.



SPECIAL OFFICER (SPECIAL CELL)