



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) Nos.3612 and 3766 of 2025

W.P.(C) No.3612 of 2025

Idma Kurami and others **Petitioners**
Represented by Adv.—
Dr. B.K. Mishra, Advocate
-Versus-

Union of India and others **Opposite Parties**
Represented by Adv.—
Mr. P.K. Parhi, Advocate
(Deputy Solicitor General of India)
Mr. B. Dash, Advocate
(Additional Government Advocate)

W.P.(C) No.3766 of 2025

Amodh Kumar Bardhan **Petitioner**
Represented by Adv.—
Ms. S. Jena, Advocate
-Versus-

**Ministry of Information and
Broadcasting, Govt. of India and
others** **Opposite Parties**
Represented by Adv.—
Mr. P.K. Parhi, Advocate
(Deputy Solicitor General of India)
Mr. B. Dash, Advocate
(Additional Government Advocate)

CORAM:
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARINDAM SINHA,
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. SAHOO



Order No.

ORDER
05.02.2025

- 01.** 1. Dr. Mishra, learned advocate appears on behalf of petitioners in WPC(PIL) no.3612 of 2025 and submits, the film due to be released day after tomorrow, Friday the 7th February, 2025 will cause serious issues regarding maintenance of public order. He submits, his clients have obtained recording of trailers of the movie. Pen drives have been attached to the petition. Translations of the dialogues have been disclosed in the writ petition.
2. The movie carries derogatory dialogues and the scenes against Christianity. It purports to extinguish the tribal community by making them part of the Hindu community. On query from Court he submits, the film has received certification from the Censor Board. On further query he submits, the materials in respect of the trailers were obtained by his clients in November, 2024.
3. Ms. Jena, learned advocate appears on behalf of petitioner in WPC(PIL) no.3766 of 2025. She adopts submissions made by Dr. Mishra. In addition, she draws attention to section 5B in Cinematograph Act, 1952 to submit, release of the film and



making it available for viewing will affect public order. The certification was illegally granted. There be interim intervention to stop the release.

4. Mr. Parhi, learned advocate, Deputy Solicitor General of India appears on behalf of Union of India and draws attention to plot summary disclosed by petitioners in WPC(PIL) no.3612 of 2025. Dr. Mishra clarifies, it is part of the certificate issued by the Central Board of Film Certification. Relied upon plot given in the certificate is reproduced below.

“Plot Summary- It has been almost 76 years since the independence of India, but still in some parts of the country, sacrifice, superstition, superstition and lack of education are still prevalent. Two friends dedicate themselves to overcome all these. Two friends relationship is the relationship between devotee and God.”

Mr. Parhi submits, no interference is warranted.

5. Mr. Dash, learned advocate, Additional Government Advocate appears on behalf of State and submits, regional certification has also been obtained by producer of the film. The certifications were duly granted. Contents of the writ petitions do not reveal any substance for interference by this Court.



6. On query made, our attention was drawn to pages 23 and 28 in WPC(PIL) no.3612 of 2025. Relied upon allegedly offending dialogues from the pages are extracted and reproduced below.

“When you came here you had one Bible in your hand and people had their lands... now you have their lands and Bibles in their hands.

Yesu is a false God (Bhanda baba). He had three girlfriends. He is similar like Sarathi Baba... a fake God (Bhanda baba). He was just a magician and was fooling the uneducated people.”

7. First relied upon dialogue appears to be a quotable quote. Second is in respect of Bhanda babas. Furthermore, it appears the dialogues have been obtained from a website, which is deceptively similar to a popular website, where people can upload their videos. Considering petitioners themselves say they had knowledge about the trailers in November, 2024 coupled with depictions from a website deceptively similar to another with no demonstration of checks in place for authenticity of contents, it is a situation unsafe for us to rely on and interfere, when the film is to be released day after tomorrow.

8. At this stage, Ms. Jena submits, her clients seek reconsideration of certification by the Censor Board. Union of



India and State are represented. Both Union of India and State are on notice of apprehension regarding public order expressed by petitioners and the contention for reconsideration. We keep the writ petitions pending, to be listed on 19th February, 2025, for them to inform us on reconsideration or that it is not necessary.

(Arindam Sinha)
Acting Chief Justice

(M.S. Sahoo)
Judge

S. Behera

Signature Not Verified

Digitally Signed
Signed by: RANJAN KUMAR SETHI
Designation: Assistant Registrar-Cum-Senior Secretary
Reason: Authentication
Location: ORISSA HIGH COURT
Date: 06-Feb-2025 14:14:35

