



ODISHA POLICE ROURKELA

Illegal Cricket Betting Syndicate Busted under Operation

CYBER KAVACH – Rourkela Police

Case detected	Bondamunda PS case No. 86 Dt. 19.02.2026 U/s-318(8)/340(2)/336(3)/61(2)/112(2) BNS R/w sec.-3/4/5/ of OPG Act R/w Sec.-66(C)/66(D) IT Act
Brief the case	<p>Basing on reliable and credible information regarding illegal betting on the ongoing T-20 Cricket World Cup-2026 by an organised syndicate operating from Sector-B, Bondamunda, Rourkela, a raid was conducted by Rourkela Police at multiple locations after due verification and surveillance.</p> <p>During the course of the operation, six persons were apprehended, and incriminating materials including cash of Rs.30,65,000/-, mobile phones, laptops, and vehicles used in facilitating the illegal betting activities were seized.</p> <p>Preliminary investigation and interrogation revealed that the accused persons were actively engaged in conducting both online and offline cricket betting/gambling activities in connection with T-20 World Cup matches, with the intention of earning wrongful gains. The accused persons were luring members of the public by promising high financial returns through illegal betting, thereby cheating and exploiting unsuspecting participants.</p> <p>During sustained interrogation, the prime accused Rohit Bhagat disclosed that he, along with his brother Pankaj Kumar Bhagat, and associates namely Sonu Rao and Mukesh Sahoo, were operating betting activities through an online gaming application known as “Silver Exchange”. The IDs were subsequently circulated to various customers to enable illegal betting transactions.</p> <p>Further investigation revealed the involvement of additional persons including Jitendra Agarwal and Suresh Kumar Khemka of Bisra Dahar Road, Rourkela, who had invested in and supported the illegal betting operations.</p> <p>The investigation has revealed that the accused persons were operating an organised illegal betting syndicate not only in Rourkela but also extending to other parts of Odisha and across state boundaries, with structured roles including ID procurement, customer handling, financial transactions, and operational coordination.</p> <p>Further investigation is underway to identify additional associates, trace financial transactions, and dismantle the wider network.</p>

<p>Arrested accused persons</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rohit Bhagat (27) S/o- Chhotan Bhagat 2. Pankaj Kumar Bhagat (31) S/o- Chhotan Bhagat both are of sector-B, PS-Bondamunda, Rourkela, Dist- Sundargarh 3. Sonu Rao(30), S/o Late Biswanath Rao of Lalbuilding, Telugu Basti, P.S- Plantsite, Rourkela, Dist- Sundargarh 4. Mukesh Sahoo (48), S/o Late Biswanath Sahoo of Kalunga, P.S- Brahmani Tarang, Rourkela, Dist- Sundargarh 5. Jitendra Agrawal (42) S/o-Lt. Ramabatar Agrawal and 6. Suresh Khemka (56) S/o-Lt. Dashratha Khemka both of Bisra Dahar road PS-Uditnagar, RKL Dist.-Sundargarh
<p>Articles Seized</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total cash of Rs.30,65,000/- 2. One I-phone 17 pro max. 3. Two numbers of Laptops of HP brand 4. One Galaxy S25 5. One silver I-Phone 17 Pro Max 6. One black colour Mahindra Thar four-wheeler having regd. No OD 14 AE 4668 7. One Vivo 40-E mobile phone 8. one VIVO Y-75 Mobile phone 9. One Xiaomi mobile phone 10. One Realme mobile phone
<p>C/A of Accused</p>	<p>(1). Rohit Bhagat (27) S/o- Chhotan Bhagat of sector-B, PS-Bondamunda, Rourkela, Dist- Sundargarh involved in following cases:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Case No.06/2018 U/s-323/341/427/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3(2)(v) SC7 ST Prevention Act ii. Case No-98/2023 U/s-323/307/341/506/34 IPC iii. Case No-127/23 U/s-294-A/420/34 IPC iv. Case No-184/2025 U/s-351(2)/126(2)/296/3(5) BNS <p>(2). Pankaj Kumar Bhagat (31) S/o- Chhotan Bhagat of sector-B, PS-Bondamunda, Rourkela, Dist- Sundargarh involved in following cases</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Case No.06/2018 U/s-323/341/427/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3(2)(v) SC7 ST Prevention Act ii. Case No-98/2023 U/s-323/307/341/506/34 IPC iii. Case No-127/23 U/s-294-A/420/34 IPC iv. Case No-184/2025 U/s-351(2)/126(2)/296/3(5) BNS v. Case No-02/2018 U/s-120-B/294/353/506/34 IPC vi. Case No.-96/2018 U/s-186/294/353/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3 of OPG Act vii. Case No.-98/2018 U/s-294/353/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3 of OPG Act viii. Case No.-110/2018 U/s-294/353/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3 of OPG act ix. Case No.-164/2019 294/294-A/353/506/34 IPC R/w sec.3 of OPG act x. Case No-83/2023 U/s-3 of OPG Act <p>C/A of other accused persons are yet to be verified.</p>