

VIGILANCE DIRECTORATE
ODISHA, CUTTACK.



PRESS RELEASE

Dt.05.07.2026

SARPANCH OF NIMNA GRAM PANCHAYAT UNDER ULLUNDA BLOCK, DIST-SUBARNAPUR ARRESTED BY ODISHA VIGILANCE FOR TAKING BRIBE RS.20,000/- FROM AN SHG TO FACILITATE RELEASE OF SUBSIDY FOR PISCICULTURE.

Today i.e. on 05.07.2026, Smt. Suryakanti Pandey, Sarpanch of Nimna Gram Panchayat (GP) under Ullunda Block, Dist-Subarnapur has been **apprehended** by Odisha Vigilance for **demanding and taking undue advantage (bribe) of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand)** from a functionary of an SHG for signing the agreement papers required for pisciculture in the GP Tank and to facilitate release of subsidy amount from District Fisheries Office in favour of the said SHG group. It is pertinent to mention here that the SHG Group has taken the lease of G P Tank for five years for pisciculture purposes. Initially, the accused Sarpanch demanded bribe Rs.40,000/- from the functionary of the SHG for the aforementioned purpose. But, functionary of the said SHG expressed inability to pay the demanded bribe. However, on negotiation, the accused Sarpanch reduced the bribe amount to Rs.20,000/-. Finding no other means, the functionary of the SHG (Complainant) approached the Vigilance authorities.

Based on the above complaint, a trap was laid on 05.07.2026, wherein the accused Smt. Suryakanti Pandey, Sarpanch of Nimna GP was **nabbed** by the team of Odisha Vigilance in her house for demanding and taking undue advantage (bribe) of **Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand)** from a functionary of the SHG. The entire bribe money was recovered and seized from the possession of Smt. Pandey in

presence of witnesses. Both hands wash of Smt. Pandey gave positive chemical reaction, confirming taking and handling of bribe money by her. Following the trap, **simultaneous searches have been launched** on the residential house of Smt. Pandey at Telenda, Subarnapur and her office room. **Accused Smt. Suryakanti Pandey, Sarpanch of Nimna GP under Ullunda Block, Dist-Subarnapur has been arrested and is being forwarded to the Court.**

In this connection, Sambalpur Vigilance PS Case No.10 dated 04.07.2026 U/s 7 Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been registered and is under investigation.