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Woman Dies, Man Critically Injured After Self-Immolation Attempt in Odisha

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– Categories: Crime



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A 26-year-old woman died and a 38-year-old man remains critically injured after setting themselves on fire near Khiching College in Raruan tehsil, Mayurbhanj district. The incident took place on Saturday morning around 8:30 am in an open field adjacent to the college.

The deceased has been identified as Bharati Patra of Khiching village, while the injured man is Harishankar Acharya of Rairangpur. According to police, the pair poured petrol over

themselves and ignited it. Locals who rushed to help extinguished the flames before emergency responders arrived. Both victims were taken to Sukruli Community Health Centre; Bharati was declared dead on arrival, and Acharya was later transferred to Keonjhar district headquarters hospital for advanced care.

Investigators say the two were not related but were acquaintances. Early evidence suggests the act may have stemmed from a personal relationship, possibly a love affair. Police have registered an unnatural death case and sent the woman's body for post-mortem examination. An inquiry has been initiated to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Authorities confirmed the initial probe indicates no other individuals were involved. The SDPO from Rairang Police Station said the motives are still under investigation, and further statements are being recorded.

Local residents expressed shock at the incident, with many questioning why such an extreme step was taken in broad daylight near a public location. Village leaders have requested a timely investigation and support for the survivors' families amid growing local anxiety.

A police officer emphasized that investigations will follow all legal procedures. The department has advised public restraint and will keep residents informed as facts emerge. Officials have sent messages of condolence to the bereaved family and are monitoring reactions closely.