

## राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय) (A constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

File No. NCST/ATY-2815/AP/384/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Dated: 17.09.2025

To.

The Superintendent of Police,

District- Nellore, Nellore, (Andhra Pradesh)-524003 Email: sp@nlr.appolice.gov.in

Sub: Representation received from Smt. Manikla Sujatha, W/O Babaji and Others of Ramakrishna Puram, Yanadi Colony, Karedu Ulavapadu Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh regarding illegal Midnight arrest of three tribal women by the Police of Ulavapadu Police Station.

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sittings held on 29.08.2025 at 11:40 AM under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Dilkusha Guest House, Hyderabad on the above mentioned subject.

2. It is requested that the action taken/to be taken in the matter may be intimated to NCST within stipulated time from receipt of the letter for placing it before the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

(डॉ.पी.कल्याण रेड्डी/Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy)

निदेशक/Director

Telephone No: 011-20819841

## Copy for information:-

- Smt. Manikla Sujatha, W/o Babaji and Others of Ramakrishna Puram, Yanadi Colony, Karedu Ulavapadu Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, (Andhra Pradesh), Mobile No: 8367603714
- 2. PS to Hon'ble Member (JH), NCST.
- NIC, NCST for uploading on the website of the Commission.

## NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Dilkusha Guest House, Hyderabad in the case of Smt Manikla Sujatha W/o. Balaji and other ST women from Ramakrishnapuram Tribal Colony, Karedu Village regarding alleged arbitrary arrest and detention by police.

> Date of the Sitting: 29/08/2025, 11:40 AM Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure NCST/ATY-2815/AP/384/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Smt Manikla Sujatha W/o. Balaii and other ST women from Ramakrishnapuram Tribal Colony. Karedu Village, Ulavapadu Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh vide letter dated 26.07.2025 have informed that they were allegedly arrested around 12:30 a.m. by Sub-Inspector Ankamma Rao of Ulavapadu Police Station under Sections 109(1), 118(1), 115(2) r/w 3(5) BNS (attempt to murder), reportedly without female police personnel, proper attire, or CRPC notices. The petitioners allege serious violation of constitutional and SC/ST PoA Act rights, terming the action arbitrary, harassing, and rooted in local bias possibly related to land issues. They request the Commission's urgent intervention for inquiry, legal aid, protection from further intimidation, and accountability of police officials involved, along with a fact-finding visit.

- The Commission issued notice to the Superintendent of Police, District- Nellore vide NCST letter dated 29.07.2025 seeking facts and comments within 3 days. Reply has not been received.
- Smt Sunkara Padmasri (AICC Member), Smt K. Vasundhara (Social Activist), and Smt M. Sridevi (Advocate, High Court of AP), in their joint representation dated 26.07.2025, have informed the Commission that a false case bearing Cr.No.104/2025 U/S 109(1), 118(1), 115(2) r/w 3(5) BNS has been registered by Ulavapadu Police Station, Nellore District, against Smt Manikala Sirisha, Smt Manikala Sujatha W/o Balaji, and Smt Lalithamma, who are agricultural labourers and supporters of the ongoing Karedu Rythu protest. They allege that the complaint was lodged by Smt Jagannadham Seshamma W/o Nageswara Rao, under influence of local villagers and AP government supporters, with the intention to suppress the protest. The petitioners request the Commission to take action against those responsible for falsely implicating the women and to ensure justice for the female agricultural workers.
- The Commission decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 29.08.2025. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 20.08.2025.
- The petitioners have attended the hearing. The authority sought and exemption and SDPO, Kandukur was authorized to attend on behalf of the authority.
- The petitioners informed that the State Government has given clearance for land acquisition of 8348 acres through GO 43 for establishment of Indosoul Solar project . The land suitable for raising 3 crop each year is chosen for acquisition forcibly on the assurance that the employment will be created for the local youth. The Notification is issued for vacating the ST Colonies in Pottenugunta, Ramakrishnapuram and Dalit Colony in Upparapalem. When the STs resisted the attempt, 3 women were arrested at the night time without any women police on the pretext of internal dispute among the relatives within the same tribal community and kept in custody for 6 days. The movement of local public representatives and activists were curtailed.
- The authority has informed that the incident occurred on 25-07-2025 at around 12.30 PM, after completion of a village meeting concerning opposing to land acquisition. Smt. J. Seshamma filed a complaint at 10.00 PM on 25-07- 2025, stating that she was physically attacked by Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha. and Lalitha with an intention to kill her. Hence a case was registered u/s 109(1), 118(1), 115(2) r/w 3(5) BNS initially against Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalithamma. The complainant J.Seshamma and the accused Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalithamma are belonging to same community and they are close relatives. As the issue is creating tense situation in the village, the Sub Inspector of Police, Ulavapdu recorded the statements of Smt. J.Seshamma and her husband and later sent the victim to the medical

जाटोतु हुसेन/Jatothu Hussain सदस्य / Mamber

भारत सरकार / Government of India राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनेजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

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officer, CHC, Ulavapadu for medical aid. Basing on the statements of witnesses, the physical assault took place against the victim and no intention established to kill the victim, hence he reported that he has deleted the section of law 109(1) BNS. Further he served 35(3) BNSS notices to Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalithama in presence of women staff WPC-197, WPC-1396 as they were available at the scene of offence in order to secure them from any attacks from the victims. At the time servicing notices u/s 35(3) BNSS notices, Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalitha were in their traditional dresses. After receiving the notices, the women voluntarily came to Ulavapadu police station with four others and stayed overnight due to lack of transport. Basing on the wound certificate of the victim Smt. J.Seshamma issued by the medical officer, CHC, Ulavapadu, she got grievous injuries and then, the section of law altered from 118(1) BNS to 118(2) BNS in the above reference case. Further, during the course of further investigation, the Sub Inspector of Police, Ulavapadu arrested the accused Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalithamma at 01.00 PM on 26.07.2025 at Ulavapadu Police Station as they were voluntarily present at the PS after explained the reasons of their arrest by served notices u/s 47 BNSS and also informed the arrest particulars of the accused A1 to A3 to Sri.Ankamma Rao who their relatives, by served notice u/s 48 BNSS. The was no violation of legal process took place during their arrest.

- Further, the Sub Inspector of Police has been reported that he got produced the accused Smt. Sirisha, Sujatha, and Lalithamma before the medical officer, Area Hospital, Kandukuru through escort staff HC-853, WPC-197, WPC-1396 and WHG-468 and obtained medical fitness certificates and in which, the medical officer certified that no external injuries noted. Further they were produced before the Hon'ble AJFCM, Kanigiri, FAC:Addl. Judicial Magistrate of I Class, Kandukuru on 26.07.2025 at 19.12 hours for judicial remand. The Hon'ble court considered all legal procedure during and after the arrest of the accused and granted judicial remand against the accused for 13 days. During and after arrest of the accused, I followed the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. At the time of producing the accused before the Hon'ble court, they voluntarily stated to the Hon'ble magistrate that no ill treatment in the hands of Police. When the Hon'ble Magistrate questioned them means to engage an advocate to defend the case against the accused, they stated that they have means to engage an advocate. The Hon'ble Magistrate perused the grounds of arrest mentioned in the remand report, he satisfied with the grounds of arrest mentioned in the report. After considered of material available on records, the Hon'ble court considered that it is just, fair and reasonable to remand the accused A1 to A3 judicial custody. There was no violations took place during the investigation. It is further assured that the authority would cooperate transparently with the NCST or other authorities.
- After hearing to both the petitioner and authorities the following recommendations are made and ATR may be submitted in 15 days time.
- The Detailed Project Report of the Said Project may be submitted to NCST. A proper Gramsabha Ĭ. may be conducted in the affected villages and consensus arrived regarding the land acquisition for the said project. Until then the Status quo may be maintained.
- The Commission recommends that the concerned authorities may submit a detailed and verifiable report on the land acquisition process, including copies of official notifications, legal provisions invoked, and the nature of land being acquired-including the details of all affected individuals, including landowners, agricultural tenants, and other stakeholders.
- Rehabilitation, Community Development, and Livelihood Restoration: The Commission further recommends that comprehensive rehabilitation measures for all displaced families, including the development of essential infrastructure such as schools, healthcare facilities, roads, and drinking water, and livelihood restoration plan may be submitted to the Commission.
- The Social impact Assessment and Environmental Impact assessment made for the proposed project may be submitted to NCST.
- The commission assured the petitioners that a visit will be scheduled to the said village after receiving and examining all the reports.

(Jatothu Hussain)

जाटोतु हुसेन / Jatothu Hussain

सदिस्य / Member भारत सरकार Government of India राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

## F. No NCST/ATY-2815/AP/384/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

List of participants of the sitting held on 29.8.2025 at .......... under the chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST at Hyderabad.

| Sr.<br>No. | Name and Designation  | Address & Phone No.                     | Signature   |
|------------|---|---|-------------|
| 1          | National Commission for Scheduled Tribes  |   |             |
| 1.         | Dr. P.K Reddy<br>Director   |   |             |
| 2.         | NCST Officials  |   |             |
| 11         | Superintendent of Police, District - Nellore  |   |             |
| Sr.<br>No. | Name and Designation .  | Address & Phone No.                     | Signature   |
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|            |   |   |             |
| Ш          | Petitioner  |   |             |
| 1.         | M. Sujatha  | 1/1 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 | M & Caretha |
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