

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 20/45/96

27 September 1996

Further information on UA 39/96 (ASA 20/06/96, 16 February 1996) and follow-ups (ASA 20/14/96, 25 March; ASA 20/20/96, 16 May; ASA 20/40/96, 30 August; ASA 20/43/96, 13 September) - Death Penalty

INDIA Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao, aged 25  
Satuluri Chalapathi Rao, aged 24

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On 25 September 1996, the High Court of Andhra Pradesh stayed the execution of Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao and Satuluri Chalapathi Rao. The stay order was passed in response to a writ petition filed by the Andhra Pradesh Civil Liberties Committee, in which they asked that the execution be delayed until the mercy petitions which the two men have filed are heard. The government has been asked by the court to respond to the mercy petitions within two weeks.

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**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:**

- welcoming the stay of execution order on Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao and Satuluri Chalapathi Rao;
- urging that the men's sentences be commuted.

**APPEALS TO:**

[Under the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, both the President of India and the state governors have the power to grant clemency]

President Shankar Dayal Sharma  
Office of the President  
Rashtrapati Bhavan  
New Delhi 110 004, India

**Telegrams: President of India, New Delhi, India**

**Faxes: +91 11 301 7290**

**Salutation: Dear President**

Mr Indrajit Gupta  
Minister of Home Affairs  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
North Block

New Delhi 110 001, India

**Telegrams: Home Minister, New Delhi, India**

**Faxes: + 91 11 301 5750**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Mr Krishna Kanth  
Governor of Andhra Pradesh  
Office of the Governor  
Hyderabad  
Andhra Pradesh, India

**Telegrams: Governor, Hyderabad, India**

**Faxes: + 91 40 234 055 [ATTN: Governor of Andhra Pradesh (ask for fax tone)]**

**Salutation: Dear Governor**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of India accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 November 1996.