

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 20/017/2001

15 March 2001

**Further information on UA 364/00 (ASA 20/58/00, 27 November 2000) and follow-ups (ASA 20/01/2000, 19 February 2001; ASA 20/015/2001, 20 February 2001) - Fear for safety**

**INDIA Human Rights Defenders in Andhra Pradesh**

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On 19 February the Andhra Pradesh government announced that there would be a judicial inquiry into the killing of human rights defender Azam Ali. However, they have not yet taken any action.

No judicial officer has been appointed to head the inquiry, and there has been no announcement about its scope. Human rights activists have asked for details of the inquiry, asking that it look into the alleged links between police and the surrendered members of armed groups who killed Azam Ali and T. Puroshottam, but have had no answer.

**Amnesty International will be watching the situation closely, and will now shift to longer-term campaigning on this case. Please send a final round of faxes/express/airmail letters in English or your own language:**

- expressing grave concern that the Andhra Pradesh government announced in the Legislative Assembly on 19 February that there would be a judicial inquiry into the killing of Azam Ali, but so far appear to have taken no steps to establish the inquiry or begin investigations;
- urging the government to order an independent and impartial investigation into the killing of Azam Ali and T. Puroshottam, and into serious allegations that police have been acting in connivance with those responsible for their killing.

**APPEALS TO:**

Mr Chandrababu Naidu  
Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh  
Office of the Chief Minister  
Secretariat Building  
Hyderabad 500 022  
Andhra Pradesh  
India

**Fax: + 91 40 345 7824 (Please note it can be difficult to get through to this number)**

**Email: [cmap@ap.nic.in](mailto:cmap@ap.nic.in)**

**Salutation: Dear Chief Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

Justice Verma  
Chair, National Human Rights Commission  
Sardar Patel Bhavan  
Sansad Marg  
New Delhi 110 001  
India

and 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 26 April 2001.