

**EXTERNAL**

**AI Index: ASA 20/40/96**

**30 August 1996**

**Further information on UA 39/96 (ASA 20/06/96, 16 February 1996) and follow-ups (ASA 20/14/96, 25 March and ASA 20/20/96, 16 May) - Death Penalty**

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

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On 29 August 1996, the Supreme Court dismissed an appeal and upheld the death sentences passed on Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao and Satuluri Chalapathi Rao. No date has yet been set for their execution.

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

- urging that the death sentences on Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao and Satuluri Chalapathi Rao not be carried out and that their sentences be commuted;
- expressing unconditional opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- pointing out that the death penalty has never been shown to have a unique deterrent effect.

**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 10 October 1996.