

To
Sri Mukul Wasnik,
Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment,
Government of India.

Date: 27/06/2012.

Respected Sir,

Sub: Lakshimpet Massacre and Mass Attack – Demanding Justice
– Req – Reg.

Ref: Cr No-24/2012 U/s 147, 148, 302, 307, 326, 324, 120-B, 109 r/w
149 and 395 of IPC. Sec 3(1)(x) and 3(2)(v) of SC/ST (PoA) Act

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Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) is a mass based organization working in the state of Andhra Pradesh. DSS works for the protection and promotion of the rights of dalit women and girl children and capacitating them on rights and laws. As part of its activities, DSS addresses the issues of violence against dalit women and girl children.

In reference to the above mentioned subject, I would like to bring to your kind notice the incident of Lakshimpet, Srikakulam district.

Name of the Deceased : 1. Chithiri Appadu (27)
2. Nivarthi Sangameshu (40)
3. Nivarthi Venkat Rao (40)
4. Bhurada Sundara Rao (32)
5. Bodduri Papaiah (50)

Name of the injured : Kalamathi Sangamma w/o Gangaiah (45) and 19 others

Caste : SC (Mala)

Village/Mandal/District : Lakshimpet, Vangara mandal, Srikakulam district

Name of the Accused : 1. Botcha Vasudeva Naidu
2. Avu Srinivasa Rao
3. Avu Thirupathi Rao
4. Gantyada Appala Naidu
5. Gedala Krishna
6. Avu Kalyani
7. Seshappu Jagannadhamma
8. Gantyada Kalavathi and more than 70 others

Caste : BC (Thurpu Kapu)

Date of the incident : 12-06-2012

Place of incident : Lakshimpet, Vangara mandal, Srikakulam district

Type of violence : Massacre and Mass attack

Jurisdiction : Vangara PS, Srikakulam district

FIR Details : Cr No-24/2012 U/s 147, 148, 302, 307, 326, 324, 120-B, 109 r/w 149 and 395 of IPC. Sec 3(1)(x) and 3(2)(v) of SC/ST (PoA) Act

Brief details of the incident:



On 11th June one Mr Chithri Gangaiah the husband of the former sarpanch has gone to Rajam for repairing the tractor. There he noticed the Thurpu Kapu community people mobilising in more numbers and discussing some matter. Later, while on his way back he saw them going to the house of Botcha Vasudeva Naidu at Vangara. On the same night they all returned to Lakshimpet in a tractor and few autos. On the day of incident i.e., on 12th June around 6.30 am Gangaiah

noticed them mobilised in more numbers nearer to the dalit colony, immediately he phoned to the Sub Inspector of Vangara. The SI told that they all are in election duty and shall sent someone by informing to his superiors. Around 7.30 am more than 150 members belonging to the Thurpu Kapu community under the leadership of Avu Srinivasa Rao and Kalyani came with deadly spears and bamboo sticks. They threw country made bombs and attacked the dalit colony until 11am approximately. They stabbed with spears whomever they came across and



brutally murdered 5 men and caused grievous injuries to 20 others. 19 members with broken hands, legs and heads have undergone operations and are undergoing treatment at RIMS, Government Hospital in Srikakulam and more than a dozen women have been caused injuries in private parts.

The women belonging to Thurpu Kapu have come with chilli powder, threw the chilli powder in to the eyes of the dalits whomever they came across. They played a key



role in the attack. For instance, one of the deceased Ch Appadu was taking his last breath, his old mother Muttamma (65) was trying to pour water in his mouth. Kalyani and others abused her on the name of caste and attacked her. In the same manner many incidents like this took place and many women were beaten with bamboos in their private parts. Many youth belonging to the Thurpu Kapu community were there in the mob. In between the attack a police constable came,

saw the situation and went away having frightened. Later the police came in more number around 11am.

Bodduri Papaiah succumbed to the injuries on 20th June evening, while undergoing treatment at KGH, Visakhapatnam.

After the assurance from the superintendent that the dead body will be handed over safely on the next day, dharna was called off. On the early hours of 21st as the dead body was missing, DSS team along with other organizations has stalled the proceedings of Sub Committee meeting on SC/ST Sub Plan being held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chief Minister and demanded for the handing over of the missing dead body of Papaiah and to register a case against the concerned officials.



Background of the incident:

Lakshimpet panchayat has a total population of around 600 dalits and about 700 BCs (Thurpu Kapu) and very few other backward class families. The sarpanch (village president) was reserved for SC Women in the year 2006. All the village elders have reached to a consensus and made the election unanimous during that time. One Ms Chithri Simhachalamma (30) w/o Gangaiah SC (Mala) by caste was elected as the sarpanch. After her election, the caste elders belonging to the Thurpu Kapu have asked Simhachalamma and her family to migrate and go to either Chennai or Hyderabad in search of work and they shall take care of the panchayat by putting thumb impressions instead of her signature. Simhachalamma and Gangaiah rejected to do so and started to discharge her duties as the sarpanch. This irritated the people of dominant caste communities. The sarpanch and her husband started to take up the works of laying roads, drainages, etc on their own and did the

work with utmost quality. Day by day they grew much independently and were not at all dependent on the dominant communities.



From the land acquired by the government for the irrigation project, 220 acres of land was left away unused. The dalits took into possession of 60 acres and the remaining 160 acres was taken into possession by the Thurpu Kapu community. The Thurpu Kapu community took the support of one Mr. Botcha Vasudeva Naidu belonging to their community BC(Thurpu Kapu), who is the former MPP of Vangara belonging to the congress party and pressurized the

dalits to vacate the land. Since the disputes between these two communities were going on continuously, the dalits approached the minister many times and always he used to say that Botsa Vasudeva Naidu will take care. As the dalits approached Vasudeva Naidu, he used to say that “You won’t listen to us unless and until some of you are killed (mi salthilu lesthegani)”. At this helpless situation the dalits approached the Collector two years ago. Joint Collector, RDO and DSP came and enquired into the matter, took possession of the whole land. This act of the government got

irritated the Thurpu Kapus and they grew grudge over the dalits. The dominant community’s main intention was to send away the dalits from the village as they could not tolerate the dalits becoming equal to them. The dominant communities proposed many a times to the dalits to leave the village by showing a place at a distant place. The dalits refused this proposal and continued to stay there. Therefore the dominant communities continuously harassed



the dalits and even the dalit women by uttering abusive words. With a view of weakening the dalits economically, they took the support of Botsa Vasudeva Naidu, got the pensions cancelled, stopped the work under NREGA, and rejected to call for work etc. In this process the dalits have lodged 3 atrocity cases, but no action was taken by the police at the behest of Botsa Vasudeva Naidu. Botsa Vasudeva Naidu was behind all acts of the Thurpu Kapus against dalits. The intensity of harassment was increased and 2 months back Ch Appadu and his wife were attacked while they were in their land. As Appadu fell down unconscious they thought that he was dead and left away. To this effect a case was registered bearing Crime No. 16/2012 on 11th April U/s. 323, 324 r/w 34 of IPC and 3(1) (X) and 3(1)(XI) of SC/ST (PoA) Act. Many times the dalits approached Kondru Murali the Minister and their MLA and also Botcha Vasudeva Naidu seeking justice, but in vain.

In view of this situation a police picket was put in the village on the request of the dalits. The picket was withdrawn on 10th June without the knowledge of dalits.

Present Status of the Case: A case has been registered bearing Crime No.24/2012 U/s 147,148,302,307,326,324,120B, 395, 109 r/w 149 of IPC and Sec 3(1) (X) and 3(2) (V) of SC/ST PoA Act.

Demands:

- The Cabinet Sub-Committee on SC/ST Sub Plans to visit Lakshimpet, the place of incident immediately.
- To arrest the main culprits and not to give bail for the arrested until all the accused are arrested.
- To set up special court at Lakshimpet as per the SC/ST (PoA) Act and conduct speedy trial.
- To appoint special prosecution team with reputed human rights lawyers.
- To allocate the total left over land to the dalits as per the recommendations of Koneru Ranga Rao Land Commission and the Supreme Court.
- To take necessary action against the Collector and Superintendent of Police for not taking any preventive measures in the Atrocity Prone area as mentioned in the Act.
- The injured to be moved to the corporate hospital immediately
- The compensation, relief and rehabilitation to be given immediately to the whole community as per the new GO of SC/ST (PoA) Act. The relief to include livelihood support (ration, wages and other essentials) until the next 6 months.
- The assets of all the culprits be confiscated immediately and prohibit all the accused from entering the village until the trial is complete.
- To hold a public hearing with eminent judges, IAS and IPS officers on the whole incident.
- As many officials and politicians are involved in this incident, a case U/s 4 of SC/ST (PoA) Act be registered against them.
- To constitute a full-fledged SC Commission in the state immediately.



With the wife of the deceased B. Papaiah in KG Hospital, Visakahpatnam



Staging Dharna outside KG Hospital, Visakhapatnam demanding Arrest of the accused



Demanding for the missing dead body of B. Papaiah

In view of the above, we humbly request you to take necessary action from your kind office and extend full co-operation in accessing justice.

Thanking You Sir,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Geddam'.

(Jhansi Geddam),

Convener-DSS