



Human Rights Defenders Alert- India

National Coordination Office

6, Vallabai Road, Chokkikulam, Madurai 625 002

Tamil Nadu, INDIA

Tel: +91-9994368540 Email: hrda.india@gmail.com

7th April 2017

To,

Shri Srinivasa Kammath

National Focal Point - Human Rights Defenders & Deputy Registrar

National Human Rights Commission

Manav Adhikar Bhawan,

Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,

New Delhi – 110 023

Email: hrd-nhrc@nic.in

Subject: HRDA India – Urgent Appeal for Action – Andhra Pradesh: Foisting false charges and continuous harassment of lawyer and human rights defender Mr. UG Srinivasalu in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh – Regarding

Greetings from Human Rights Defenders Alert - India!

HRD Alert - India is a forum of Human Rights Defenders for Human Rights Defenders. It endeavors to initiate actions on behalf of Human Rights Defenders under threat or with security concerns.

We are writing to express our grave concern regarding continuous harassment and repeated false charges by police on lawyer and human rights defender Adv. UG Srinivasalu in Adoni, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.

Status of human rights defender:

Mr. UG Srinivasalu is a lawyer based in Adoni. He is also the Secretary of Human Rights Forum (HRF) of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. He has been active in protesting against industries which cause severe pollution around the neighbourhood. He has also been actively opposing the unlawful methods used by the local police.

Source of information of the incident:

- Communication from Human Rights Forum
- Co-ordinator for South of India – HRDA

Place of the incident:

Adoni in Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh

Date of the incident:

April 3 – 6, 2017

Details of the incident:

Adv. UG Srinivasalu was in the forefront of opposing against industries which were causing health and environmental hazards to make them comply the environmental regulations around Adoni in Kurnool district. Because of this act of the HRD, a false criminal charges were filed against him and other activists, including one charge under Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

Meanwhile, the Kurnool police had indiscriminately included 160 persons as 'rowdy sheeters'. When this arbitrary act of the police was questioned by Adv. UG Srinivasalu and other activists, he was falsely charged under Section 153 of Indian Penal Code and then he himself was falsely implicated as a 'rowdy sheeteer'. This act of the police is a clear indication to harass the genuine work of the HRD and thereby to make him silent on the issues he was active in forefront.

Appeal:

We, therefore urge you to immediately take necessary steps and –

- Order an immediate, thorough, transparent, effective and impartial investigation into the above mentioned incident of harassment, intimidation and filing of fabricated and false cases on activist and human rights defender, in this case Adv. UG Srinivasalu.
- Guarantee in all circumstances the physical and psychological integrity and protection of Adv. UG Srinivasalu who continues to be under risk of further reprisals from the perpetrators, and;

- Take immediate action on the perpetrators, in this case the state police, for intimidation on the human rights defender and by using all provisions of law, ensure that the defenders are not harassed or attacked in future and the FIR against all of them should be quashed immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Henri Tiphagne)
National Working Secretary