

Naidu slams govt, police over handcuffing Amaravati farmers, TDP writes to NHRC

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A day after some farmers of Amaravati region were handcuffed while being shifted from Narasaraopet sub-jail to Guntur central prison, Opposition Leader and TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu has accused the YSRC government of 'defaming' Andhra Pradesh by such acts.

As the issue attracted criticism, the Guntur Rural police placed six constables responsible for handcuffing the farmers under suspension and issued charge memos to two senior officials. An additional SP rank officer was appointed to conduct a departmental probe into the incident.

The farmers from Amaravati region were arrested recently on the charges of obstructing people from proceeding towards the capital region for participating in a rally in support of the government's plans to have executive capital at Visakhapatnam instead of Amaravati. Initially, they were lodged at the Narasaraopet sub-jail and after Covid tests, they were shifted to Guntur prison, during which they were handcuffed.

Naidu wondered how the innocent farmers could be treated in such an inhuman way. In a statement issued on Wednesday, the

TDP chief said it was violation of human rights to use handcuffs after the cases have been withdrawn. Meanwhile, TDP politburo member Varla Ramaiah wrote a letter to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) requesting its interference in the farmers' handcuffing incident. He also submitted video clipings of the incident to the commission. The peacefully demonstrating

farmers were handcuffed as if they were criminals and terrorists. The police violated Article 19 of the Constitution. A case should be filed against the AP government, he demanded.



By handcuffing farmers, Jagan has brought shame to AP: TDP

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday accused the YSRCP Government of 'defaming' Andhra Pradesh as a hostile State that has used handcuffs on farmers to shift them to jail.

Naidu wondered how innocent farmers could be treated in such an inhuman way in a State that was being ruled by persons accused in criminal cases. From the beginning, the ruling YSRCP was harassing and persecuting the farmers and filing false cases against them, the former chief minister alleged.

In a statement here, the TDP chief said that it was a violation of human rights to use handcuffs after the cases have been withdrawn. "There was not a farmers' family that has not shed tears in the past 17 months because of rising



losses and debts and failure of crops. The ruling party was acting with a vengeance and subjecting the farmers to mental agony," he claimed.

The TDP chief demanded the Government to prevent repetition of the atrocious incidents like the handcuffing and false implication of farmers.

Immediately after the handcuffing incident came to light, the Opposition TDP condemned the act and launched a scathing attack on the ruling

YSRCP. The Government initiated action against the lower level police while giving a clean chit to the actual persons responsible for this chaotic incident.

Meanwhile, TDP Politburo member Varla Ramaiah wrote a letter to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) requesting its intervention and action in the farmers' handcuffing incident. He provided video clippings of how the handcuffed farmers were shifted to the jail.

Ramaiah termed it as atrocious that the peacefully demonstrating and agitating farmers of Amaravati Capital were handcuffed as if they were criminals and terrorists. The Government and the police violated Article 19 of the Constitution of India. A case should be filed against the AP Government for initiating further action against it, he said.