



Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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(Retd. High Court Judge)

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L. No. FGG/GOV/REP/ 45 /2020

Hyderabad
10th August, 2020

To
H.E. the Governor
Telangana State
Hyderabad

Respected Madam,

Sub : Establishment of Grama Nyayalaya (Village Courts) – Request to instruct Chief Secretary to take action for establishment of Grama Nyayalaya - Reg.

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To Provide access to justice at grass roots level, the Law Commission of India in its 114th report requested for establishment of Village Courts so that, speedy, inexpensive and substantial justice could be provided to the Common man. Accordingly Indian Parliament enacted Grama Nyayalaya Act 2008.

To avoid financial burden on the State in establishment of Village Courts Government of India gives total capital cost and 50% recurring cost on establishment and functioning of Village Courts. Right from 2009 Government of India is pressing the states for establishment of Village Courts. In some states Village Courts started functioning from 2nd October 2009. The then A.P. is not one of them. In this regard Forum for Good Governance made number of representations to State Government but, there was no response in the matter.

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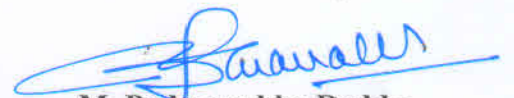
In the year 2010 Registrar (Judicial) High Court has informed us that the Court has made a recommendation to erstwhile Government to establish 139 Village Courts vide their letter No. 1056/E1/2009 dated 30-7-2010, but there was no action from the State Government. After bifurcation of the state, the High Court vide letter No. 1065/E1/2009 dated 22-1-2015 has recommended 84 Village Courts to A.P and 55 to Telangana and requested state Government to sanction of Village Courts. The proposals are pending with State Governments since last 5 years. In the year 2014-15 an amount of Rs. 50 crores was proposed in Telangana budget but no action was taken subsequently.

Forum for Good Governance requested Hon'able Chief Minister of Telangana to take quick action on establishment of 55 Village Courts. Subsequently Secretary Law, Government of Telangana informed us vide his letter dated 25-7-2017 that the matter is under consideration of Government. Since last three years there is no progress in the matter.

In October 2019 Supreme Court of India directed states who have not established Village Courts to establish them urgently and further directed to file affidavits explaining the action taken. As there was no response from some states including the state of Telangana, Supreme Court on 29-1-2020 again issued orders to defaulting states to deposit Rs. one lakh with Registrar General Supreme Court and issue notification in four weeks for establishment of Village Courts and submit affidavits to Supreme Court.

Unfortunately till today there is no action from the Government of Telangana in this matter. Forum for Good Governance requests H.E. the Governor to direct the Chief Secretary to issue notification for establishment of 55 Village Courts on top priority basis and take up further follow up action.

Yours Sincerely



M. Padmanabha Reddy

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance

Encl : 1. Letter of Minister of Law, Government of India to Chief Minister of A.P.,

dated ~~21~~ 8-2009

2. Our representation to Chief Minister Telangana letter No. FGG/GN/REP/143/2015,
dated 8-12-2015

3. Registrar Judicial letter No. 522/PIO/JUDL/2017; dated 4-7-2017

4. Secretary, Law department letter No. 8866/Courts. A/2017, dated 25-7-2017

5. News item in local Telugu daily, dated 4-2-2020