

Firing case: policemen among four booked

By Our Staff Reporter

ELURU, Sept. 7.

The First Additional District Judge, Mr. S. Govindarajulu, who is also heading the special court constituted under the SCs, STs Prevention of Atrocities Act, today directed the station house officer of the Polavaram police station to register a case against two APSP constables and two landlords as the accused in the firing case at Manugopala on November 3, 1997. Karam Parvathi, a tribal woman was killed and three others were injured in the incident.

Responding to a private complaint lodged by the three tribals, the Judge asked the police to formally register a case against Mr. H. Sriramachandra Murthy, his brother, Mr. H. Visweswara Rao (both landlords), Gopi and Raju, both constables attached to the APSP battalion, Kakina. Charges were framed against the accused under section 302, 307, 326 of Indian Penal Code and section 3 of SCs, STs of the Prevention of Atrocities Act.

The court asked the station house officer to forward the subject to the D.S.P. at Jangareddy-gudem for investigation.

The petitioners, who included Mr. Midiam Raju, Mrs. Sunnam Ramulamma and Mrs. Midiam Bhoodevi, stated that H. Sriramachandra Murthy snatched a sten gun from the constable Gopi and opened fire on a group of tribals. The petitioners also received injuries in the firing, but recovered after treatment.

The petition moved by the advocate, Mr. Ronald Raju, on behalf of the tribals said that the two landlords accompanied by six policemen and 15 henchmen arrived in the village on November 2 to plough the disputed lands. The villagers detained them demanding the presence of revenue officials. The stand-off resulted in firing.