

HIGHCOURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI**MAIN CASE No: CrI.P.No.11581 of 2025****PROCEEDING SHEET**

Sl. No.	DATE	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE
02.	17.11.2025	<u>Dr.YLR,J</u> The learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners have been in judicial custody for the past seven (07) years and that the trial has not yet commenced. It is submitted that thousands of cases are pending on the file of the learned Metropolitan Sessions Judge-Cum-Special Judge for Trial of Offences under NDPS Act at Visakhapatnam, for trial. The present case has been transferred to the learned XIII Additional District and Sessions Judge, Gajuwaka. It is reported that thousands of cases are pending for scrutiny before the learned Metropolitan Sessions Judge for giving NSC Number. Without appropriate and adequate infrastructure and sufficient number of Courts being provided, it would be highly difficult for the learned Courts to conduct trial and dispose of the cases. This case is a classic example where the petitioners languishing in jail for seven years without	Contd...

		there being any trial. Keeping the petitioners for years together in jail as remand prisoners is a violation of Article 21 of the Constitution of India and it is against the fundamental right of the petitioners as per the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Hussainara Khatoon (IV) v. Home Secretary State of Bihar¹. It is brought to notice that the Government has agreed in principle to establish thirteen (13) dedicated fast track NDPS Courts in the cadre of Sessions Judges apart from existing Courts for conducting trial of thousands of NDPS cases pending across the Northeastern Districts of the State. Therefore, this Court intends to know about the progress regarding the establishment of the said Special Courts in the required areas. It is brought to the notice that, as per the directive of the Government of India <i>vide</i> letter dated 13.09.2022, the Home Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, sent a proposal for creation of thirteen (13) NDPS Courts. Since more than three (03) years have passed, no remarkable progress in the establishment of the above thirteen Courts is noticed. Thousands of under-trial prisoners are languishing in jails without there being any trials because of lack of a sufficient number of Special	Contd...
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¹ Air 1979 SC 1360

Courts established for trying NDPS cases. On several occasions, this Court orally informed the prosecution to expedite the process of establishing thirteen Special Courts to cater to the requirements. Yet, there is no progress at all. Therefore, it is felt expedient to ascertain the progress of establishing the Special Courts. The presence of the Principal Secretary (Finance), and the concerned Police Officer in the Office of the Director General of Police is required through Video Conference to know about the progress in the matter.

It is further reported that the Government, in its wisdom, has constituted an Eagle Team headed by an officer in the cadre of Inspector General of Police to combat drugs peddling in the State.

Post on 24.11.2025.

The Registrar (Judicial) is directed to submit the pendency of the NDPS cases registered in the judicial Districts of West Godavari, East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam, and also pending in other Districts.

RSI/PRA

Dr.YLR,J

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