


## **SRI A. KONDAL RAO, FOREST RANGE OFFICER, BEJJUR RANGE**

	late Sri A. Kondal Rao Forest Range Officer Bejjur Range Kaghaznagar Division Adilabad Circle Martyrdom on 24-02-1990
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On 24-02-1990 at about 9.30 PM while late Sri A. Kondal Rao, Forest Range Officer Bejjur Range was attending to office work along with Range Clerk and Foresters, two persons of anti social group (Naxalities) armed with sten gun, one entered in the quarter at Kaghaznagar, and a second one stood outside the window and fired at the Forest Range Officer at pointblank Range. **While firing, one of the extremists shouted and stated that "This is Elkapally Debba". That they are killing him for prosecuting the Forest Encroachers of Elkapally Village.**

Upon knowing about the incident, the Divisional Forest Officer, Kaghaznagar along with staff rushed to the spot and immediately shifted the bullet ridden Forest Range Officer to the ESI Hospital at Kaghaznagar, which is located just 200 Metres from the Forest quarter, where the Forest Range Officer was shot. The injured Forest Range Officer expired in the hospital within 15 minutes on 24-02-1990.

It is pertinent to mention here that Sri A. Kondal Rao, the then Forest Range Officer, Bejjur Range, despite threats from extremists had registered a case for illegal encroachment of Forest Land and had prosecuted ten offenders in Court of Law at Munsif Magistrate Court Sirpur a week days before the incident.

**This was a retaliatory act done by the extremists (for the act of valour done by the Forest Range Officer), to gain sympathy from the villagers and to scare the forest officials from registering encroachment cases.**