

Missionary held in Adilabad

Contributed by Correspondant
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Adilabad: A missionary has been allegedly implicated and taken into police custody in Adilabad of Andhra Pradesh, at the instance of a leader belonging to Bharatiya Janata Party.

According to Pastor Ratnam at Utnoor near Adilabad, Paul Jamson a missionary from Australia came to visit Joyce, an instructor working at Government College, JP Complex at Utnoor. On 24 November 2009, while the missionary was interacting with local people in the open place between JP Complex and Government College Employees Quarters, District Tribal Welfare Officer Dasarath Nayak, who happened to be there, alerted Adilabad Division BJP Leader Sriram Nayak. In turn the BJP leader complained to the police, alleging the missionary was indulging in forcible conversion activities in the area. The police immediately came and took the missionary into custody.

Interestingly no case has been filed against the missionary. "A decision to that effect will be taken only after the arrival of the District Superintendent of Police," a police source said. However the local pastors were trying to go for a compromise with the BJP leader, sources said.

All India Christian Council (aicc) has condemned the arrest of the missionary and demanded that he be freed immediately.