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The Politics of Separate Telangana Statehood and the Role of Telangana Rashtra Samithi Party

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Abstract: This paper tries to analyze the background of the demand for separate statehood for Telangana region and impact of the failure of various promises, agreements to address the grievances of Telangana people. The people of Telangana have been demanding a separate state even before the merger of this region with Andhra state. The movement has been consistently rising frequently by political parties and other organizations. Moreover, it broadly examines the electoral politics of national parties namely Congress party and Bharatiya Janatha Party and Telugu Desam party within the state in case of Telangana. It also covers the emergence and significance of TRS party and its struggle in the process of realizing its ultimate aim of separate state of Telangana. In particular TRS party electoral politics with Congress party and TDP in view of attract public attention and get solution for its demand of separate statehood. All the time majority of Telangana people rallied behind these movements and political parties supporting the demand for Telangana statehood in such a way the issue of Telangana has become a tool in the hands of all the political parties only to gain political mileage except Communist Party of India and CPI (M) Communist Party of India (Marxist). It also provides an overview of how the political parties both national and state playing politics over the demand for smaller in India

Key Words: Separate statehood, electoral politics, movement, exploitation, suppression, identity.

Introduction

Telangana people have been demanding a separate statehood even before the merger of this region with Andhra state and later also frequently agitated on the various issues of employment and development. Telangana issue may be discussed for the reasons relevant as an issue of inequality, backwardness, lack of development, discrimination in allocation of funds for irrigation and creation of employment, in view of the consistent deception of leaders as well. Ever since the formation of Andhra Pradesh, there has been discrimination against Telangana in terms of the resource allocation, developmental schemes and employment generation. Injustice and discrimination are also evident in denying spaces for Telangana and Telanganites in decision making in economic, political, social and cultural spheres. Actually Telangana is not merely a geographical dispute. (B. Janardhan Rao 1997:20) It is not individual land dispute. It is a result of unequal development through several historical phases”.

The agitation for a separate Telangana was first started by the students and employees as protest movement against the injustice done to the Telangana region. (Rasheeduddin Khan 1969: 89) Later political parties took advantage of the situation and led the agitation. As Narasimha Swamy said that we the people struggling for the separate Telangana are not extremist or separatist and we are in fight to prove our existence and struggling for our basic livelihood. Our forefathers had given us the responsibility of struggle and fight and we are enthusiastically taken on our shoulders to get our rightful share from water to education and jobs to funds. The separate state of Telangana is never a demand, it's our right and we are fighting for that right. In this movement of struggle nothing matters neither lives nor blood and sweat, the one and only thing matters is the state of Telangana

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and which has to be achieved now itself, as we do not want to pass the struggle to the next generation. (Narasimha Swamy: 2004) We aspired that the next generation has to live in peace regardless of exploitation and discrimination of any kind and where they can proudly say this is our state of Telangana. Thus, we are fighting for the better and bright future of tomorrow for the people of this region.

Separate statehood Movement of Telangana: 1969

Legitimate rights of employees from Telangana region have been denied in view of the benefit of Andhra based employees in Hyderabad. The dissatisfaction among the students and employees over the violation of the earlier promises led to the movement in 1969. It was started for the implementation of safeguards of Gentlemen's Agreement but the movement became severe within a short span of time and later transformed into a demand for separate state of Telangana and then it spread to some extent, almost all the regions of Telangana region due to the incident of students were died in police firing. (Keshav Rao Jadav: 2007) The movement aim was to get fair share in employment and educational facilities. Later, this mass movement was continued effectively for a year. However, then the leaders of the ruling party had tried severely to control and suppress the movement by using its police forces. This movement was described by Keshav Rao Jadav as the first fight for economic and cultural independence of the people of Telangana meanwhile the non-party movement as well. It was a powerful articulation of the demand for responsible governance.

Emergence of Telangana Rashtra Samithi

The demand for separate Telangana statehood has been an agenda of the intellectuals, employees and student youth, even after the suppression of 1969 movement, in view of the fight for the discrimination, injustice and humiliations affecting Telangana people and employees. Several organizations, forums have been formed like Telangana Mahasabha, Telangana Janasabha, Telangana Teachers Forum, Telangana Intellectuals Forum, Telangana Information Centre, and Telangana Study Forum to take up the issue of Telangana statehood in the late 19th of 20th century. These organizations were proceeded to struggle irregularities against the interests of Telangana people including violation of Gentlemen's agreement, six point formula, Utilization of irrigation water and budget allocations establishment of schools and colleges and so forth. With this background during 1980's and 1990's especially during the rule of Telugu Desam Party, once again the demand separate Telangana state picked up in view of political conditions and paved way for the emergence of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) party.

Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) is a political party fighting Telangana statehood in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Mr. K. Chandrasekhar Rao was formed the TRS party on 27th April, 2001. The main agenda of the party is to achieve separate of state Telangana with Hyderabad as its capital city. Those who were joined with the TRS party are from almost all the political parties, organizations which are existing in the region of Telangana. (TRS officerecords: 2010) It is clearly shows that the founder and president of TRS party KCR is from TDP and most of the other MLA candidates are from several political parties such as Indian National Congress, Telugu Desam and Communist parties. The supporters of the party mostly including rural unemployed youth, employed sections of the towns, self-employed middle class people. Students are its main supporters. The people from several artisan sections were also supported TRS party due to the reason that, they felt it was the policies of the TDP and Congress party which made them to lost their traditional employment opportunities.

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As Prof M.Kodand Ram stated that, there is no potential or scope for the people of the Telangana region in the political sphere to express their problems because the administration system and the political parties in the state are dominated by the Seemandhra political leaders. The movement for statehood emerged due to the efforts of the middle class intellectuals and social activists. Thus, once the movement gained big support from the public, and then only the political leaders responded to the demand for separate statehood and tried to make use of this demand for their political gains. (M. Kodanda Ram 2007:93) However, The Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) was formed at this context only, when the movement was strong in 2001.He clearly stipulated that the TRS party has given political expression to the Telangana movement.

The Telangana movement was started with the Mulki agitation in 1952 when students protested against the entry of outside people (Seemandhra) into government services in the region of Telangana. (2010:11)As Rama S.Melkote, E.Revathi pointed out that, there have been dozens of political and social formations that emerged to express the demand of separate statehood since 1950's.But, many of them were disappeared. The TRS is the oldest political party formed with the single aim of achieving separate statehood among the existing political parties in support of Telangana. There was no other political party with mere goal of achieving a separate state had lived for such a long time in electoral politics of Telangana. The emergence of Telangana Rashtra Samithi's (TRS) shows the latest phase in the movement for statehood of Telangana. It is very unusual, if we observed with the TPS which emerged in view of Telangana demand and won the elections but no longer survived, very soon merged with the Congress due to political lobbying. Whereas TRS party was participated in elections on the issue of Telangana statehood and performed very well in various elections of local government, Assembly and parliament elections as well. It has been strongly worked to make aware of the people and attract public attention towards the demand of separate statehood both across the Telangana region, at the national level also. It has played a crucial role in showing the importance of separate statehood in view of the injustice, negligence and discrimination that the people of this region has been confronting in the state of Andhra Pradesh and effectively utilized every space available at different situations to the party.(M.Bharath Bhushan ,N.Venugopal 2009:47) It became the centre of hope for various sections to rally and agitates at various events of the movement in support of the demand for separate Telangana state.

As Prof. G.Haragopal stated that the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) party was emerged at the situation of the Telangana people's dissatisfaction and deprivation and the movement for a separate statehood was took a shape in the neoliberal model of development. The demand came up at a time when there were necessary conditions for the demand of statehood and the entry of TRS party lead to the improvement of the Telangana self-identity which was inactive and not bright till then. (G.Haragopal 2010:57) As he said, it was Chandrasekhar Rao who brought the Telagana identity of sub region and provided a political space to the movement of Telangana region.The TRS party has It provided all the needed ideological and logistical support which an ability to continue the Telangana cause. In this method of struggle, the party has tried to utilize the electoral politics both at the state level and at the Centre as well.

TRS Party on the issue of Telangana

According to TRS (Telangana Rashtra Samithi) Party has submitted a brief report to Sri Krishna committee in response to the notice of the committee on the issue of Telangana in 2010.It stated that the reason for the apprehension of people to merge with Andhra then was the fear of exploitation,

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neglect and injustice in the unified state of Andhra Pradesh. The merger of Telangana was the result of influential politics with a number of promises and constitutional safeguards as a protection to the people of Telangana. These promises were made several times, but none of them was ever honoured and implemented really. In the process, Telangana became a victim of broken promises such as the Gentlemen's Agreement of 1956, the All Party Accord of January 1969, the Eight Point Formula and the Six Point Formula etc.

This issue of Telangana State has different dimensions of political, economic along with socio-cultural and linguistic dimensions. It is combined with a feeling of self respect and the desire for self rule.1. The financial and natural resources of the region are diverted for the development of the other regions. Hence, this region is remained more backward than the other regions of Coastal Andhra in the realm of economic development;2. In the political front, the leadership from Telangana region totally becomes less significant and powerless. The party felt that there has been discrimination in political presence. The lack of political voice causes neglect and discrimination of this region by the powerful leaders of Seema-Andhra region.3. The electronic and print media and the cinema industry have belittling the people of Telangana and their identity. Meanwhile their traditions, customs have been always interrupted which damage the self respect of the people.

In short, the TRS party specified that Telangana people have not received their rightful shares in the sphere of development and political arena and administration as well. Moreover; people were belittled on the social, cultural and linguistic grounds. All these problems can be solved with granting of separate statehood and power to rule their homeland with themselves.

Telangana Movement and Politics

The formation of Telangana state by bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh depends on the initiation of National parties like Indian National Congress, Bharatiya Janatha Party, Communist Party of India and CPI (M) Communist Party of India (Marxist). And other regional parties in the country. The Congress party has been at the steering of Andhra Pradesh state affairs since from the Unified state of A.P formation. This party was in power in the state from 1952 to 1983, 1989 to 1994 and 2004 to 2008 and 2009 onwards. This is the only state in South India, Congress party is able to form state government on its own majority. The role of Congress party for the state formation becomes very prominent. But, the party has gained a doubtful name for mischievous tactics to gain political advantage and suppress the movement of Telangana statehood. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is also playing its role on the Telangana statehood since 1998. Communist Party of India and CPI (M) Communist Party of India (Marxist) being national parties opposed the formation of Telangana state. However, CPI changed stand and participating in the Telangana movement in recently after 2009 movement.

Telangana Movement - Politics of Telugu Desam Party

Telugu Desam Party was established by the former Telugu film star N.T.Rama Rao on March 29, 1982. This party was formed on the concept of self respect of Telugu people on March 29, 1982 by veteran famous Telugu film star N.T.Rama Rao. It is basically an integrationist party. He wanted an alternative to the ruling Congress party in the state. He became the Chief Minister of A.P by winning 202 seats out of 294 and it also won 30 out of 42 Lok Sabha seats in the 8th Lok Sabha elections. Then, it was the first time a regional party became the largest opposition party in the Indian Parliament.

Hereafter, TDP lost in 1989 Assembly elections. Afterwards, Telugu Desam Party came to power in 1994 by winning 219 Assembly seats out of 294 seats. N.T.Rama Rao was elected as the Chief Minister

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of A.P for the third time. It was N.T.Rama Rao who issued G.O 610 in 1984 for repatriation of about 58000 employees working on Telangana region to the respective districts in Seemandhra region. for repatriation of about 58000 employees working on Telangana region to the respective districts in Seemandhra region. (Hugh Gray and Bernstorff 1998:210)But the G.O was not implemented till date ignoring legitimate rights of Telangana unemployed youth to get these opportunities. The Telangana supporters persistently demanded for implementation of G.O 610 while Sri Chandra Babu Naidu was Chief Minister during 1995 to 2004.He has been delayed and prolonged the issue instead of implementing through appointing of committees such as Jaibharath Commission, Gilglani Commission and legislature committee headed by Mr.Prakash Reddy MLA.

Telugu Desam Party lost its power to Congress in the 2004 elections in a way; it won only 11 seats of Assembly out of 100 and 12 MP seats in 2004 General elections. It was a fact that the TDP has played an active role in the formation of NDA government (1999-2004) was instrumental by pressurizing BJP not to accept Telangana demand for separate statehood while creating three Northern states Jharkhand, Chattisgarh and Uttaranchal in the year 2000.

The TDP after miserably defeat in General and Assembly elections 2004, slowly changed its strategy of politics on the issue of Telangana. It lost political power in the state and its role of king maker at the centre as well by opposing Telangana State. The TDP is back to basics and is concentrating on strengthening its power. The party's stand about Telangana was switched over to strategic neutrality. Like other counterparts in Congress, TDP leaders from Telangana also have taken the slogan of Jai Telangana only to get votes during local body elections and by elections to the state Assembly and parliament. The people could not understand the real stand of the TDP party with regard to Telangana state formation. As general elections of parliament and state assembly elections coming closure, the TDP party announced a major shift in its policy towards Telangana, after long rounds of discussion with the polite bureau of TDP, declared that it would favour a separate state of Telangana fearing that it would lose the elections on 9th October, 2008Previously TDP strongly opposed the separate statehood as it stood for a unified Andhra Pradesh.Sri Chandra Babu Naidu also gave a letter to Pranab Mukherjee committee that his party is also in favour of Telangana statehood.

It believed that division of the state will definitely disintegrate and weaken the party. In view of the nature this nature of the party, its stand towards formation of Telangana state appears to be negative absolutely and trying to be neutral frankly.

However, the dual stand taken by the T.D.P was completely exposed when the Union Home Minister Mr.P.Chidambaram has announced central government policy about the issue of Telangana on 9th December, 2009.The leaders from TDP party openly opposed formation of Telangana state. Meanwhile MLA's and MP's of Telugu Desam party from Andhra region have resigned collectively resigned to their membership in parliament and state Assembly. In view of Telangana agitations at peak, then the Chief Minister of A.P K.Rosaiah convened all party meeting on 7th December, there the president of TDP party declared that his party will abide the decision of the state and Central government with regard to formation of Telangana state. But he has reversed his eelier stand after Union Minister's announcement in favour of Telangana state. Like Congres party, the Telugu Desam Party also tried to its level best to avail electoral gains on the eve of elections o get people's votes and reversing their stand immediately after election results are announced. Thus TDP party has been adopting a wait and sees policy with regard to the issue of Telangana state formation.

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B.J.P Party and its Stand on Telangana Statehood

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is basically in favour of smaller states for convenience of governance and its electoral gains. In its political policy, the party resolved for formation of smaller states. As a part of extension of its policy, the BJP has adopted a resolution that one vote for two states (Telangana and Seemandhra) at its Kakinada state executive meeting in 1998, on the eve of General elections. However, it could not included Telangana state while forming three new states of Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand from the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar respectively in the year 2000 during the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. It was due to intervention of Mr Chandrababu Naidu and Venkaiah Naidu against the formation of Telangana state. However, the party after defeated in General elections 2004, realized its mistake and taken a positive stands and adopted a resolution at state and central executive bodies. The BJP party also coming out with open stand in regard to the reorganization of states. The parliamentary party leader Mrs.Sushma Swaraj raised the issue of Telangana at many times in Lok Sabha and offered party support unconditionally in formation of Telangana state.

However, BJP party again recommended the demand for smaller states in its election manifesto of 2009. Moreover; it has asserted that the party always in favour of creation of smaller states in India and it was during the NDA's (National Democratic Alliance) regime only that the three small states were created as stated above. (BJP Manifesto: 2009) The BJP party in future also keeping in mind its promise to good governance and all round development, would encourage the cause of smaller States. The party was emphasized and supports the creation of Telangana as a part of the commitment to its policy on new states.

Telangana Statehood and Politics of Congress Party

The Congress political leaders from Costal Andhra region have been playing very suspicious role both at the Central and State level. Right from the regime of Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, most of the Chief Ministers from Seemandhra region considered to be powerful and lobbying against the interests of the people of Telangana region. The Gentlemen's Agreement was failed in implementation in favour Telangana. Whenever the movement for Telangana came into force, the Seemandhra leaders manipulated the opinion of the central government against the formation of Telangana state and implementation of safeguards to the people of Telangana as well. The movement of Jai Telangana 1969 was oppressed by the then Chief Minister Mr.Kasu Bramhananda Reddy who was also issued the G.O.36 in view of transfer nearly about 25000 employees of Andhra region in Telangana to their respective districts but could not implemented.

When separate Telangana was at peak level in 1969 which led by employees and students but the Congress leader Mr.Marri Chenna Reddy with his followers joined in the main stream of agitation for Telangana and founded a party called Telangana Praja Samithi (TPS) 1969 while contested in elections through this party in 1971 which won 11 out of 14 Parliamentary seats and subsequently joined in Congress party again to get personal benefits only like Governor post, Ministerial berths. However, the TPS was merged with the Congress. Afterwards, a reorganized TPS was formed but could not able to led the Telangana movement. Congress party through its manipulations tried to crush the Telangana movement by offering political positions to its leaders. The popular sentiment of the people for separate Telangana state was enchased by the Congress party itself and the disguised leaders like G.Venkata Swamy, Mallikarjun, MadanMohan and M.Sthyana Narayana Rao enjoyed

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political positions for long time in the Congress, through the leadership of Mr.Marri Chenna Reddy.Lakhs of employees and students those who participated in the movement for Telangana got upset and lost patience felt dissatisfied which further caused these people to fight for separate statehood.

Six point formula was also failed to protect the interests of Telangana region and it turned as the most favourable way out for Andhra region in making illegal appointments to legalized .Thus, lakhs of educated youth from Andhra were got jobs under non-local quota in the vacancies of Telangana districts and Hyderabad as well. This practice has been habituated by the Congress party and successive governments in the state also. Moreover, leaders were continued to make use of the sentiment of Telangana people before elections and thereafter they for about it.

The demand for Telangana statehood was often raised by few organizations and expressed the aspiration of Telangana people at that time the Congress party in opposition at both Parliament and state assembly. The congress party took the advantage of the situation and sentiment of Telangana for electoral gains since 1999. Moreover, participation of the Congress has slowly enhanced in movement of Telangana. In the local body elections, the congress party had an alliance with TRS party and formed Zilla Parishads by promising to support for Telangana statehood. Thus, the issue of Telangana has become useful Congress party.

The leader of the opposition party Y.S.Rajasekhar Reddy during the period of 1994-2004, encouraged some 41 MLA's of Telangana region to project themselves as a group lobbying for Telangana state. This group of MLA's went with Dr.K.Jayashankar and submitted a memorandum to Mrs.Gandhi, Pranab Mukherjee and other key leaders at the centre to take a decision in favour of Telangana state formation. Meanwhile, keeping in view of the 2004 elections, their electoral gains and capture power at the state and centre also, Telangana Congress leaders formed "Telangana Congress Forum" under the guidance of Mr.Chinna Reddy so as to give an impression to the people of Telangana and TRS party at the state and central level that Telangana state is possible Congress party when it came to power.

TRS party was also joined the both state and central government cabinets. A committee was constituted under the chairman of Sri.Pranab Mukherjee of UPA government. Moreover, the Congress party was also included the Telangana issue in the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) in 2004.The TRS party was agreed to make alliance with the Congress party in keeping view that they will accept the Telangana state if they came to power. Similarly, TRS parties keep on insisting the UPA government regarding formation of Telangana state. But The UPA government declared in CMP that, it will take the issue of Telangana statehood with the consensus and approval of the members its UPA alliance.Thereafter, the President of India A.P.J.Abdul Kalam while addressing the both houses of the parliament referred the issue of Telangana on 7th June, 2004.He said that Telangana issue was included in the agenda of UPA government.

As a result of the leaders of Congress party from Andhra region have raised the voices in case of Telangana issue, the real inclinations of the party has changed. State in charge leader Gulam Nabi Azad has reversed his beginning stand by saying that Mrs.Sonia Gandhi never talks about Telangana issue except election campaigns. The Congress party delivered its intention under the influence of Y.S.Rajasekhar Reddy that Telangana state could be possible through consultations and consensus among National and state political parties as well.

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Congress party always kept on raised the sentiment of Telangana before general elections only and continued to change and forgot its stand soon after the electoral gains. The T.R.S party compelled to come out of both Centre and state governments in view of attract people's attention to show how the Congress party is misleading the people of Telangana.

The Congress party changed its policy in connecting to the issue of Telangana. The leaders from Andhra region played a misleading role under the leadership of Y.S.Rajasekhara Reddy for manipulating not to accept the demand of Telangana statehood because they strongly opposed the proposal of Telangana state. The Congress party changed its strategy with the slogan of development and welfare instead of separate state. The YSR led government has established development boards for Telangana, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra regions separately, constituted Universities almost in each and every district of the state and Degree colleges were also initiated. Moreover, Congress tried to divert the Telangana movement through its various tactics and methods like encouraging party defections among TRS leaders and spiteful propaganda divide the organization of Telangana movement etc. The Congress party has faced the general elections in 2009, in the name of development and welfare of the state leaving the issue of Telangana to the party's High command at the Centre in such a way not damaging the sentiments of Telangana people.

Communist Party of India & Communist Party of India (Marxist)

The General Secretary of the state unit of CPI (M), during the meeting of their representation with Sri Krishna Committee, emphasized that in view of the national policy of the party, which is against the division of states, CPI (M) was opposed the division of Andhra Pradesh and thus, it was not in favour of a separate state of Telangana. He was clearly stipulated its party's policy, is based on the ideology that the autonomy of states in relation to the Centre may be compromised in case of demand for smaller states.

Where as in the case of CPI, the General Secretary of the state unit stated that an exception had been made by the national executive of CPI as far as Telangana demand is concerned, because of its wide popular demand for a separate statehood, although the national policy of the CPI is also against the bifurcation of states and not supported to creation of smaller states. (Sri Krishna Committee Report 2010:436)The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in principle, which has supported the formation of smaller states. The party also stated, it seems that political discussion in the country has not arrived at any complete agreement on the important subject of creation of new states.

As I have discussed before the Congress party has been adequately utilized the sentiment of Telangana statehood for its electoral gains and it played all tricks and tactics to deceive the people of Telangana in the form extending dates and appointing different committees and promises as safeguards at national as well as state level. The BJP party also tried to played few tricks stating that one vote for two states in 1998. However, the party has not included the demand of Telangana while forming three new states in Northern India. The TDP party was also preferred to acts as a supporting party for the formation of Telangana state, though it is not willing for bifurcation of the state. In view of electoral gains only, TDP party made alliance with TRS party before 2009 elections. All the political parties national and regional within the state have been played with sentiment of the Telangana people to get electoral benefits rather than to considering and committed to form separate state of Telangana.

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The Sri Krishna Committee report becomes an evident for the claiming of several pending demands like Gorkhaland, Bodoland and Vidarbha in various states. The Committee was noticed that a "National Federation of Small States" has been formally organized in August, 2010, with its headquarters in Lucknow. It was inaugurated in Hyderabad in September 2010, and the participants at this conference have discussed various problems of different regions. The goal of smaller states is to address the regional, socio-cultural, ethnic and economic aspirations of the people, was strongly represented at this conference. In a way, therefore, the Report of this Committee may serve as reference point for political parties and other groups demanding smaller states.

The Telugu regional identity was so expressed that the Telangana identity got hided and suppressed in the larger Telugu identity. The self-respect of Telugu people which TDP raised as a vital issue which prevented the Telangana identity for the time being.(Hara Gopal 2010:55) The influential Telugu identity led to disregard and limitation of other regional identities within state Andhra Pradesh. It is essential that the forms of identity need to consider and fail to come to an agreement with the identities of sub-regions, which gave space and scope for the emergence of politics which are based on sub region identity. As Prof.Hara Gopal said that the rise of Telangana identity was a part of the social and political dynamic of societal change.

Electoral politics of TRS Party

Telangana Rashtra Samithi was emerged with the sole aim of achieving Telangana state. The party often declared that the combination of Telangana movement is political participation and lobbying meanwhile main strategy to achieve Telangana statehood is primary than electoral gains. However, it has been participating in local body elections, Parliamentary elections since 2001.Even though the party was born for the Separate Telangana state, in practice electoral gains were considered as vital.

TRS party has participated in local body elections on its own but shared power in Zilla parishad, Mandal parishad and Gram panchayat with Congress party. Similarly, TRS party forged an alliance with the Congress party for 2004 general elections. The party was considered winning elections as an important strategy. TRS joined an alliance with the Congress party after 2004 and shared power at the state and Centre, deviating from very objective of achieving Telangana state. The TRS party's president KCR and Narendra have joined in Manmohan Singh government and 6 MLA's of TRS in the Cabinet of YSR's government. They have joined with the alliance with the Congress party against the wishes of the Telangana people.

KCR has resigned to his Parliament seat in Karimnagar with the intention of regain the lost faith among the people of Telangana and won the by-election with good majority in 2006. Once gain the TRS party asked his party 4 M.P's and 16 MLA's to resign for their membership in 2008 and went for elections. C.H.Hanumantha Rao has specified that the recent by-election gave an opportunity to the people to express their support for Telangana, where people had the choice vote either for development in the in the integrated State of Andhra Pradesh or statehood for Telangana but people have supported sentiment of Telangana and make won the KCR in that elections. (C.H.Hanumantha:2007) Moreover, he says that people wanted development in terms of equal share in budget allocations, water distribution and jobs meanwhile significant role in decision making such a way the sentiment of people is aspiring for separate statehood

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The TRS party has made an alliance with the Telugu Desam Party which is completely integrationist party during general elections of 2009. People of Telangana did not support the this alliance and described it as an opportunistic and made for electoral gains only rather than to achieve Telangana state. People had rejected the TRS party through defeating majority of its candidates. As result out of the total contested of 8 MP seats and 52 MLA seats, win only two MP's and 10 MLA's with small majority.

The important point one should observe here is that TRS party at all times tries to gain from electoral politics and did not hesitate to make alliances with the parties which dead opposite and against to the formation of Telangana state.

Role of TRS party in By-elections

The great performance of the Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) in the recent by-elections further led to the another step of resignation of the TRS legislators in support of the separate Telangana demand, which is not wonder for anyone because this is the reaction according to the ground situation. It has given the strong confidence to the TRS party to assert that its success in elections is a clear judgment over the issue of Telangana statehood and it can be treat as a referendum on the issue of Telangana. Thus, this election marked an important turning point and influenced greatly the dynamics of party politics in the Telangana movement.

Mr.KCR had had gone for indefinite Hunger strike in view of attract the people's attention and improvise its party's popularity towards the demand of Telangana and slowly the movement picked up and reached to the level of such an extent to forced the central government to make declaration in this regard. Consequently, the Union Home Minister, P Chidambaram has announced that the process of formation of Telangana state would be initiated on 9thDecember 2009. As a result of the mass mobilization, people cutting across political lines have come forward to support the demand separate Telangana which seems to put an end to the long pending issue of Telangana.

The decision of TRS party president K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) to a fast unto death has collected ability in the latest phase of movement of separate Telangana in view of gathered public support. The strive for a separate Telangana has become a wide democratic movement, where people from all walks of life came forward to participate, which not only restricted to a single political party or leader. As E.Revathi, K.Lalita have described that the movement for a separate state of Telangana shows a long standing demand for self rule in social, economic and political aspects , and it has been refused to accept for the last fifty years ,though the region has continuously suffered within the unified state of Andhra Pradesh.

The various factors have contributed to the spread of Telangana movement, such as the prices of necessary goods have suddenly increased, underemployment in the agriculture sector and impact of the international financial crisis over Hyderabad, all of these have instigated the Rural Telangana people who are unhappy and angry with discontentment, led them to involve in the agitations of statehood in December 2009. But the actions of the participants have changed according their interest and reaction during the movement across in the Telangana region. In view of K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) was supposed to tilting to surrender the movement once again like as earlier, which provoked the students in two universities of Osmania in Hyderabad and Kakatiya in Warangal, to intensified the movement through their agitations and emotional mobilization across Telangana region. (Anant Mariganti 2010:79) Consequently, students declared that regardless of KCR's decision in breaking the

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fast, the movement will continue to operate, such a way the movement went into the hands of the people of Telangana across the region.

K.Srinivasulu says that the demand for separate statehood has a lot of impact over the political situation in the Telangana region due to the recent by-elections, where TRS Party was contested and won 12 assembly seats. The people of Telangana were united to support clearly for separate statehood irrespective of their political affiliations.(K.Srinivasulu, D.Satyanarayana 2010:12) The political parties both the Congress and the Telugu Desam party have confronted the dilemma in this context not taking a clear stand and tried to play a game of wait and see both sides of the state.

Conclusion:

The origin and development of TRS party is due to the dissatisfaction of leaders belong this party and felt that Telangana region is being neglected by Andhra Pradesh State mechanism. Moreover, TRS party pointed out that all the agreements and accords, assurances on the floor of Assembly and Lok Sabha are not being correctly implemented such a way Telangana has been neglected. TRS party through its electoral politics make an alliances with Congress party, Telugu Desam Party tried to brought the movement of Telangana at peak level. As such TRS had developed its political structure in the state politics and national level as well.

The movement for Telangana state has always become a political agenda. Though students, employees, people have been joining the movement in 1969-Jai Telangana movement and emergence of TRS party in 2001 onwards it has become a political issue. In 1969 TPS led the movement meanwhile TRS took initiative to struggle and fight for separate statehood. But due to some political tactics the movement was not run properly to express the aspirations of the people at the expected level. Each and every political party in the state of Andhra Pradesh has been utilized the people's sentiment. Political parties in their manifestos supported before and during elections namely (1999, 2004, 2009) respectively and divert and distract the issue of Telangana after won the elections. The Congress party would come first in terms availing the sentiment of the people for its electoral gains on different occasions. BJP party was also encouraged the Telangana before 1999 elections but could not able to formed the Telangana state due to pressure and opposition the its Coalition partner TDP party. Hence, all the political parties have availed the issue of Telangana for their electoral gains and capture power at the both centre as well as states.

As the demand for a smaller state emerges in the name of regionalism and it has inherently political self interests. The political parties are instigating the regional demands for the sake of electoral gains across the country. Meanwhile, state governments are not able to eradicate imbalances of development because of the discriminative policies. Further, the successive governments failed to implement the safeguards, promises, assurances which were intended to reduction of regional disparities. The growing awareness among the people of backward regions that they are being neglected and discriminated against promoted the feeling of regionalism along with the regional disparities. The political leaders completely try to gain advantage of this situation and endeavour to project themselves as the champions of certain regions in order to maintain and preserve their political positions. Demands for smaller states have been regular phenomenon of India politics since the formation of Andhra state in the Indian federation. The agitations for separate statehood based on the claims of neglect or discrimination, regional disparities make them to suffer by the relevant successive state governments and central government as well.

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Through this study an important thing one can understand in the context of demands for smaller states, that the demand for statehood need to be addressed firstly the feeling of discrimination among the people, along with the real and existing discrimination as well. Moreover, it is not possible to suppress the demand for smaller states across the country permanently. Though oppressed for time being, genuine steps need to take to solve the known differences and imbalances between the regions otherwise it is impossible to stop the upcoming demands for statehood.

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