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How Neema Naik's weapon-makers became toy-makers?... P8

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T-State Comes Alive

Telangana State Formation signifies Victory of Constitutional Efficacy

Our political correspondent

Finally, the State of Telangana has been formed. This is the culmination of close to six-decade long struggle and the ardent desire of crores of people of this region - now a new state of ten districts. This region has always enjoyed a distinct geographical, cultural and historical identity of its own. Perhaps, no other region in the country would have such a long, cohesive and unique social identity as that of Telangana. The desire to protect that identity has been fulfilled on June 2nd, 2014 with Telangana becoming the 29th State in the Indian Union. Of course, many people in the state as well as elsewhere see this as just a political aspiration. Some leaders from Seemandhra think that the demand for separate Telangana is a mere sign of frustration of some leaders of the region who have either lost or have been kept away from power. We still remember how some TDP leaders ridiculed the then TRS founder K Chandrasekhar Rao when he launched TRS in 2001, saying that it was a party of a jobless political leader. The biggest problem of Seemandhra leaders and even some intellectuals is that they have always failed to comprehend the deep-rooted desire of people of Telangana for a state of their own.

However, as if poetic justice were to be rendered in an appropriate manner; the state of Telangana came into being on 2nd June, 2014 amidst state wide celebrations throughout the ten districts of Telangana State. The swearing-in-ceremony of K Chandrasekhar Rao as the first chief minister of the new state of Telangana signifies the beginning of the new government of Telangana. People of Telangana have fought for preservation of their unique identity. Now the onus is on KCR and his team of ministers to fulfill several assurances made to the people during the past several years. Challenges and opportunities are aplenty. It is the summoning of will that is required to accomplish all that has been undertaken. No excuses will be tolerated anymore.

Saga of Sacrifices:

KCR may have founded a party 13 years ago; risking his assured political future and may have stitched up successful electoral strategies to take forward the movement. But, there has been a long history of Telangana agitation. Many people, some known, many unknown have dreamt of a separate administrative identity of the region and sacrificed their precious lives to achieve it. Elders still remember how groups of youth who marched towards Raj Bhavan on April 4th, 1969 were mercilessly shot by the police, killing dozens of students on the streets. The Raj Bhavan Road turned red with blood.

Interestingly, all forms of struggle were adopted to achieve separate statehood for Telangana. Some took to agitational path and were shot and beaten by police, others followed a political line, first as Telangana Praja Samithi (TPS) which won a majority of Lok Sabha seats in 1971 elections, but soon after it was merged with Congress party led by Indira Gandhi, thanks to the vested interests of late Marri Chenna Reddy.

Some Seemandhra big-shots thought that the Telangana agitation has been suppressed after the merger of TPS with the Congress. But it was not the case. The demand for Telangana has raised its head in different forms, sometimes strongly visible and sometimes dormant. Sometimes, it was just a demonstration by a handful of activists, and at other times it was a grand affair attended by big crowds. The attempts made by several leaders like P Indra Reddy in late 1990s, was a clear sign that the demand for statehood was very much alive. He drew huge crowds and created quite a sensation. However, he lacked a clear vision and also required credibility and besides that was not acceptable since he belonged to Marri Chenna Reddy's caste. But, sadly, the parties which ruled both Centre and the State governments over the years have deliberately neglected, ignored and brushed the popular aspiration under the carpet by suppressing it. Howsoever they tried hard; they failed to kill the desire of people of Telangana to have their own state.

Parallel Movements:

Crushing the Telangana movement in 1969 may have prolonged the grip of Seemandhra leaders in the combined state, but it has fuelled parallel peoples' movements during ever since that time. People of Telangana, who took to guns as part of Telangana peasants struggle, were yet again forced to take to arms once again. Scores of youth, students and intellectuals fresh out of colleges have joined this armed path, as they have lost faith in the Constitutional methods. When they realized that the Constitution has failed to redress their problems, they had no other go but to go underground and fight from jungles, and achieve a democratic set up in the region. The educated youth were hugely disappointed with the defection of TPS MPs into congress fold soon after the 1971 elections. The subsequent events that revealed the complete surrender of TPS MPs shocked the conscience of the people in Telangana. The brighter elements were so frustrated with the treachery; they simply got attracted to the slogan unleashed — power of the ballot failed; but power from the barrel of the guns would not. This inspired those brave hearts to take up arms prophesied by the left-wing extremist ideology of eliminating the class enemy.

If we observe the history of Telangana struggle and the Indian Independence movement, there are many similarities. Indian freedom struggle too started in 1885 as a small stream of activity, seeking more rights and better living conditions to native Indians. Full-scale Independence was not on their agenda in the beginning. It came much later, after Mahatma Gandhi and other legendary freedom fighters joined the movement. Likewise, Telangana movement too started as a "Mulki rule" agitation, demanding jobs for the locals – Mulk of Nizam. As more and more people from Seemandhra have migrated to Hyderabad and surrounding areas and started buying lands and captured industries, properties and built business empires, thus denying legitimate opportunities to locals, their resentment has gone up. As the successive governments in the combined Andhra Pradesh have turned a deaf ear to Telangana people's demands, the locals began the separate statehood agitation. They thought that nothing short of a separate state can solve their problems of this region and provide employment to them. The discriminatory treatment to Telangana in irrigation and agriculture sectors too has added fuel to fire.

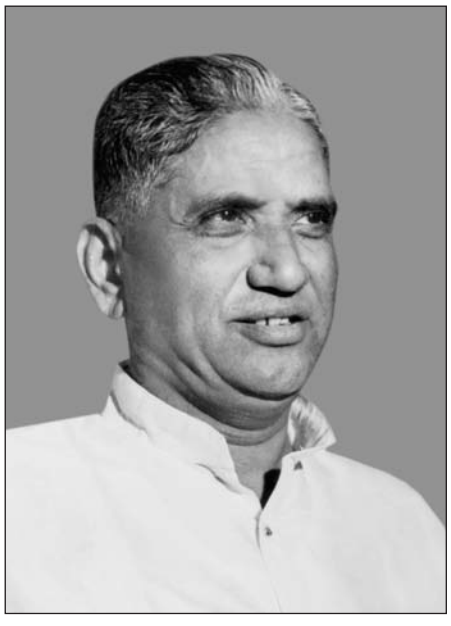
Logo approved by Governement of Telagnana State

Logo suggested by Deccan Post

Triumph of Constitutionalism:

But, the wonderful thing is that Telangana State has been achieved through Constitutional means. This is the greatness of Indian Constitution framed by a battery of scholars led by Dr BR Ambedkar. Contrary to fears of many, the Constitution has provisions for addressing concerns of all sections of people, if those who are seeking to fight the might of the Indian Government to achieve a legitimate demand then impressing the political set up in national political scenario followed by a committed struggle would guarantee success as per the scheme of the Indian Constitution. In the past, the Mizo insurgency problem was amicably resolved within the scheme of the constitution. A chai-wala (Narendra Modi) could rise to the position of a prime minister with supreme mandate.

After a long struggle by TRS led by K Chandrasekhar Rao and others, including all the major parties in the country, including Congress led by Sonia Gandhi, BJP led by Rajnath Singh, CPI, BSP of Mayawati have recognized the legitimate demand of people of the region and have used the provisions envisaged in the Article 3 of the Constitution to fulfill their wish. The Andhra Pradesh State Re-organization Act 2014 is a result of that.



So, what is the message this historic occasion sends out to people? There is a hope that each and every problem of people of the country can be solved through Constitutional means and there is no need to adopt violent and parallel methods of governance to achieve the same. All the bright minds that joined the parallel struggles can come back and participate in the democratic process. Currently, Telangana formation is a reminder that people of India can achieve any of their problems including those pending ones – rights of Tribals, Dalits and women – through the several means provided in the Constitution. The democratic process in the country may have certain deficiencies, but it cannot be considered useless. If necessary rectifications are made with patience and commitment, the system can work to the fullest satisfaction of many.

At the same time, political parties or pressure groups working in the larger interests of the people must exhibit faith in the constitutional scheme of the government. Civil society too should shoulder its gigantic responsibility and educate the people and also seek due policy changes in the larger interests of the common public. This is the lesson one can learn from the manner in which the Telangana State formation had happened– where patriotic people agitated in a Gandhian manner consistently for a long period and eventually forced the responsible political agents to follow the Constitution scheme and resolve their long pending demand. Finally, for scores of intellectuals who embraced the left-wing extremist ideology; its a historic opportunity for them to come back and take the reins in a democratic manner.

The granting of statehood to Telangana further signifies that popular people's movements that are pursued within the ambit of constitutional arena will surely achieve the desired social and economic changes without having to wage a jungle war with the State. It is expected that many leftist leaders who left us must come back into the mainstream and contribute their superior wisdom in shaping a better future. Times are changing- the future society in the world is promising to be a knowledge society. It is all the more important that every kind of talent must be available to the society we live in. With hopes blossoming its time for a rethink.

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SOCIETY AGAINST CORRUPTION

We congratulate newly elected
Prime Minister of India
Mr. Narendra Modi,
Chief Minister of Telangana
Mr. K Chandrashekar Rao &
Chief Minister of
Andhra Pradesh
Mr. N Chandrababu Naidu
and expect that they will
successfully ensure transparent
governance and eradicate
corruption from the Nation

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"Alas, Judiciary can also become a Scapegoat"

By Arcot Chandra Shaker,
Advocate AP High Court

The accused are going scot free due to the failure, lethargy and callousness of the investigating agency and improper conducting of trial by prosecuting agencies. The verdict in criminal cases wherein accused are acquitted due to lack of evidence is ever increasing and as the courts stand at the end point, the judiciary is often becoming target for criticism. The Sensational case wherein the downtrodden victims were massacred are ending up with the accused persons charged with the crime getting acquitted. The recent Tsundur episode has once again brought into limelight the failure of the State in preventing such incidents and taking proper action against the investigating agency which failed to investigate the case properly and put forth the evidence before the courts for rendering justice to the victims. This is not the first time that hue and cry is raised after the court acquits the persons charged in the crime. Karamachedu case also witnessed the same reaction. Still there is no remorse in the investigating mechanism or the State mechanism which deals with criminal administration of justice system.

How far we can justify the attitude of making accusations or targeting the judges who duly render judgments basing on the material and evidence and records placed before them. People who play an active role in the criminal jurisprudence are well aware of the fact that any criminal case stands or falls like a placard depending upon the material gathered by the investigating agency and the depositions of the witnesses made on oath, before the trial court. In a criminal case based on circumstantial evidence the law laid by the land is that "when two views are possible on the evidence adduced in a case of circumstantial evidence, one pointing the guilt of the accused and the other to his innocence, the court should adopt the view favourable to the accused".

The judiciary which decides a case basing on the material placed before it, the evidence placed before it is often becoming an unwarranted scapegoat. One should not ignore courts, especially appellate courts of the country that are High Court and Supreme Court decide a case basing on the records placed before them and the evidence available on the record. The courts are not liable to traverse beyond the material placed before them while sitting as an appellate court. Moreso, while deciding a criminal appeal. The courts may commit error in deciding the case. It is the judgment which needs to be criticised in the event the same is against the sound principles of law or against the settled law. The judgments are subject to the criticism but not the judges who delivered it. It is for the appellate court to decide whether the judgment is right or wrong. The judgment is open to public criticism but attributing motives to the judges and attacking the integrity of the judges who render the judgment would be detrimental to the very Judicial system. If the same is permitted to be continued unabated a situation would arise wherein the Judges would not be in a position to render justice in a free and fair manner.

The recent attacks on the judges who rendered judgment in Tsundur case that too against a Senior Judge of impeccable track record who is known to have rendered series of judgments to protect the rights accrued to the needy is absolutely unfortunate. Justice L Narasimha Reddy who is known for rendering judgments in Srikrishna committee, Police atrocities against the Osmania University students, media personal and in several other cases of great Human Rights importance is being targeted without any justification. The same need to be condemned by the legal fraternity and the intellectuals of the society else people would often mistake that judiciary is responsible for the misdeeds of the State machinery. The narrow line should not be ignored. One should not forget that it is the "court that delivers the judgment but not the Judges in his individual capacity". Criticism should be against the judgment but not against the individual. The system should not suffer due to an individual.

Excerpts of the judgemtns in Tsundur case would clarify many a doubt whether it is rendered in proper perspective or not.

The trial in a criminal case is not something ike a mathematical exercise where the common minimum factors from various numerical can be taken and put outside a bracket. Once the Court finds that the evidence of a particular witness that a particular set of accused attacked the deceased; cannot be accepted; part of that evidence cannot become acceptable, simply because, some accused occurred common in the depositions of other witnesses. With the finding of the Trial Court that the version of a witness with a particular number of accused attacked the deceased cannot be believed, the evidence of that witness become shaky. A thread from the evidence of such witness cannot be picked up, to make a fabric with the similar threads picked up from other truncated depositions"

The reading of the material in the case would establish that there are severe discrepancies in the depositions of the witnesses in the case. Proper material is not placed before the court by the prosecution, to substantiate its case and to see the accused do not go scot free. It is high time the prosecution should be made responsible in the event of failure of any criminal case. Else the same episode keeps repeating and the investigating agencies laxity would never be corrected.

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Farmers crop loan waiver: Is KCR riding a tiger?

By Suryaputra

Those who ride the tiger cannot get down. KCR finds himself in an unenviable position. He raised expectations by promising farm loan waiver. But it seems he cannot implement it, for want of resources. As a via media, KCR government tried to tighten the eligibility criteria for availing loan waiver. The waiver was limited to the loans taken in 2013-14. Gold loans were excluded from the waiver. The loan amount waived was limited to Rs 1 lakh. The opposition congress party including a stung BJP-TDP combine, pounced upon the opportunity and staged protests.

But more worrisome for KCR is the unbridled anger of the farmers in Telangana. The protests continued third day running. Three farmers died of cardiac arrest after learning of KCR's 'Conditions Apply' clause although not formal.

In Nizamabad, farmers squatted on the NH-44 and blocked the traffic. The protests were most severe at Kamareddy, Gargul, Sadasivanagar, Mamidipally and Bussapur. In Adilabad's Jainath, Gudihatnoor, Medak's Shankarampet, Kalher, Narayan Khed and Zaheerabad - all boroughs of TRS. The farmers burnt KCR's effigy, destroyed party flag staffs and tore down the pink flags. Having raised people's expectations so high, the backlash to the backtracking was expected. But, the severity must have surprised even KCR. However, a similar poll promise made by TDP leader Chandrababu Naidu to the Seemandhra people at the time of elections. Ironically, the same is getting an official nod with Andhra CM-designate all set to sign the loan waiver file amidst lakhs of farmers gathering to grace the swearing in ceremony of Chandrababu Naidu as chief minister of residual Andhra Pradesh state.

There are other lofty promises that the TRS had made in the run-up to the elections. Two bedroom tenements in 125 sq yards is another promise that is bound to rebound on the TRS. Despite the prized Hyderabad and all its revenues, the TRS government has to devise ways and means to fine balance welfare and development and ensure speedy and effective development of Telangana region. Will KCR demonstrate the gumption to get down from the tiger? That indeed is a million dollar question.

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Challenges ahead for new T-State

Telangana state, the decades-long dream – sometimes but a distant bleep on the radar and yet another time a powerful poll star – has ultimately become a reality on June 2nd. K Chandrasekhar Rao, more popular as KCR, who was the vanguard of the movement for the last 14 years, has become its first chief minister. It was curtains drawn on decades-long intense struggle littered with police killings and supreme sacrifices by young men. Over 1200 youth perished for Telangana. From the midnight of June 1st, the whole of Telangana erupted in joy and the people became ecstatic. The people danced and cried in joy. Like ceaseless waves, celebrations still continue in most parts.

However, euphoria apart, the CM and his team of ministers now realize that there are problems and problems in the cupboard, tucked and ready to tumble out. While it is too early to pass a judgment on or even criticize the KCR-led government, it is not entirely out of place to ponder over the challenges facing this first government of Telangana. Sure, the challenges being faced by the new government are mainly due to the legacy bequeathed by the combined Andhra Pradesh. It is also important to realize that it takes time to overcome them.

Entire nation, which watched in awe and admiration as life was breathed into the nascent Telangana state, is equally eager to see how the new state overcomes the challenges. It is important for the KCR Government

that the goodwill and euphoria will not last long and it should get down to the task of administering Telangana state in the right earnest.

Telangana may have gotten the metro city of Hyderabad. But, that is not going to be enough. One mega city alone cannot solve the problems of the whole region beset as it is with a slew of seemingly insurmountable problems. Preserving Telangana dialect and cultural identity, which binds the people of Telangana, is an urgent challenge before the new government. In fact, Telangana agitation is essentially a cultural one.

Another major problem before the Telangana region is the scarcity of adequate number of experienced IAS and IPS officials. Most of the senior bureaucrats allotted to this new state may not have any or enough experience in handling the districts of the region. For example, what will happen, if an IAS officer put in charge of famous Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara in Warangal, doesn't know anything about the festival?

Similarly, there may be several officials, who may have worked in Telangana districts as collectors and in other positions, but are now allotted to Andhra Pradesh. In such case, the new Telangana government can requisition the services of such experienced officers for effective functioning of the administration.

Some of the proposals mooted by KCR like clubbing of all special wings of police force under one roof may not be possible and even advisable. But, granting one day off in a week to police staff is definitely a good idea. Similarly, KCR's opinion that Telangana can be developed as a seed bowl of India, as this region has excellent climatic conditions to supply enough seeds to the entire country, is commendable.

Telangana is stated to have right climatic condition like Arizona of the US to grow seeds. This is a wonderful idea. If Seemandhra is rice bowl of India, Telangana can become the seed bowl of India. Moreover, growing seeds doesn't require much land. The Telangana state can focus on this clean business of seed-growing and IT industry for its economic development. One hopes that the KCR Government will rise up to the occasion and take Telangana on path of progress and prosperity.

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letters TO THE EDITOR

Can KCR show pragmatism?

The long cherished dream of Telangana came true on 2nd June. People from all walks of life and irrespective of their age group, social and economic background all participated in this festivity with much enthusiasm. Many Telangana protagonists like me hoisted national flag on the occasion. The day 2nd June was also marked the oath taking ceremony of the first chief minister of Telangana. KCR took the charge on this very auspicious day along with his team of ministers. KCR has made many promises to the people of Telangana and he must deliver his best to develop Telangana in every aspect. With the KCR taking charge the President's Rule came to end in Telangana and the new born state is hoping that the welfare of the people will be done in an unbiased manner and all sections of people will be happy and prosper in the new state. Congratulations to one and all.

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Prime Minister Modi begins his era in grand style...

Can KCR show pragmatism?

By Our Political Correspondent

Come June 2nd, the state of Andhra Pradesh that we know for the past six decades, will cleave into two states – Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Two new dispensations would take reins of power. While it would be KCR and his TRS in the Telangana state, it would be Nara Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh. If it is a historical struggle for 13 year historical struggle for KCR, it is a 10 year eventful wait for Chandrababu for returning back to power although with the pain of settling for residual state of Andhra Pradesh having conceded 10 districts towards formation of new state of Telangana.

Continued on ... P2

Satyanarayana Reddy, E-mail

Modi & KCR must waive all taxes on Petrol

I am a regular reader of Deccan Post and I like it the most because of its innovative and exclusive stories and analysis. With reference to your last week's article on waiving all taxes on petroleum products I must say that the writer was right to say that if petroleum products' rates come down then the inflation also can be easily controlled and all the daily essential commodities will be more cheaper. The writer also suggested that the union government as well as the state governments must build petroleum refineries so that we can buy oil and natural gases whenever their rates are cheaper and whenever the Indian Rupee is strong when compared to the US Dollar. These suggestions must be considered seriously and should be implemented to its maximum extent then I strongly believe that the Indian economy will not only boom but it will strengthen every Indian family which consumes petroleum products in its every manner.

Jagruti Acharya, Ameerpet

Tread cautiously Modi

Soon after Narendra Modi took the oath of office of the Prime Minister of India, the people of India have got a lot of hopes and expectations from him. But within no time the controversy of revoking Article 370 has been raised. The journey of Modi was not so easy and even after winning with thumping majority he had been criticized for inviting Pakistani and Sri Lankan premier from various political quarters. I strongly agree with your last week's editorial story that there are plenty of other urgent people's problems which need the attention of Modi. There are immediate problems like price rise, unemployment, inflation, irrigation, drinking water shortage, bad roads, poor medical and health services, shortage of power supply, scarcity of schools and colleges in rural and remote areas, sanitation etc must be addressed first. Modi government must also ensure that his officials, administration machinery and his cabinet colleagues will be ready to tackle any natural calamity like Earthquakes, Tsunami, Floods, etc instead of touching controversial issues.

Ghouse Mohiuddin, Nampally

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Thorny path ahead for KCR

By Dr T Siva Prasad Reddy - Special Correspondent

After a long yet peaceful struggle, the people of Telangana have achieved statehood and a son-of-the-soil rule. However, even the die-hard T backers are finding the going tough and the early indications point out that the road ahead is potholed.

Telangana state became a reality mainly due to the strong attitude and character shown by AICC president Sonia Gandhi and an equally dynamic role played by the BJP in living up to its commitment on Telangana. However, both could not take advantage and failed to come to power. This was fully exploited by the TRS, which went to the town telling that it was the TRS agitation and its consistent advocacy that led to the state.

The BJP's Achilles heel was the TDP, which was essentially seen as anti-Telangana. It was its association with the TDP that proved to be BJP's nemesis. Instead of benefiting, it badly hit its electoral prospects. The Congress too made several strategic blunders and lost the initiative to the TRS.

The TRS on its part had doled out unending list of promises to woo the voters. The cumulative fund support needed to implement these sops ran beyond the actual T state plan outlay.

TRS promises include farming loan waiver, employment generation in all districts, regularisation of contract employees, salaries and emoluments on par with Central Government, free education from KG to PG to the students from the deprived sections, 2 bed room independent houses for the houseless poor, interest free loans to SHG's, financial package to all martyr families, increase of power generation, improving irrigation opportunities, promoting industrialisation, generating funds for Hyderabad and other cities/towns, promises to minorities etc. These generous sops were mainly responsible the TRS victory. It managed to get 35% of vote share and win 63 Assembly & 12 Parliament seats..!

As for the TDP-BJP combine, their performance was creditable in Telagana. They did not lag behind and polled 20 per cent votes. They also managed to win 20 seats. This augurs well for the combine. It showed that the TDP could hold on to its base among the upper crust of the BCs and the upper castes in Telangana. While the traditional Congress base is the SC, ST, Minority and upper caste combine, the TDP managed to hold on to communities like Yadavs and Gouds, who have a distaste for the Congress. The BJP-TDP with its 20 per cent vote share would try to weaken the government.

It is in this context that one has to look at Chandrababu Naidu's statement that he would stay put in Hyderabad to see that the TDP-BJP combine comes to power and that the TRS government would fall much before the actual completion of its tensure.

To add to this, ordinance on Polavaram was immediately brought in by the Centre after the first union cabinet meeting. This is indication that the TDP would try to pin-prick the TRS government. KCR made a false start when he tried to get pally with the MIM. This has naturally angered the BJP. The TDP and its chief Chandrababu Naidu have seized this opportunity. He has made very opportunity to ensure that BJP and NDA stalwarts attend his much-hyped swearing-in. Even here, Chandrababu upstaged KCR by ensuring that most BJP-NDA leaders are in Vijayawada-Guntur when KCR is in Delhi to meet them.

As if these false starts weren't enough, KCR's penchant to promote his community/ family by giving it four ministries, too added to the trouble. The row involving TRS's pet promise of waiving farm loans has led to acrimony as disgruntled farmers resorted to suicides. This too was exploited by the opposition. When the first Telangana Assembly session will begin on June 9, KCR-led govt is certain to face the litmus test as Seemandhra media would go all out to nail the government. TRS' selective preference to some Telangana media organisations, ignoring others too has added to the problems.

In such a scenario, crisis management becomes difficult what with at least 31 first-time MLAS. Even the Cabinet appears inexperience. The TDP leader Chandrababu Naidu is exploiting these weaknesses. KCR is already on the back-foot when he failed to keep the promise of making a Dalit as the first CM of Telangana. KCR's deliberate slighting of T protagonists like Prof Kodandaram, advocate S Satyam Reddy, Deccan Post and Namaste Telangana too would prove counter-productive.

Can KCR with a few handpicked from his community run the show? There would be many more twist and turns in the tortuously long plot. Four crore people of Telangana staunchly believed that KCR Government is our government. Will KCR live up to those expectations?

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How Neema Naik's weapon-makers became toy-makers?

By Jaywant Naidu

The Nirmal art form originated in the 14th century and the artisans were known as 'Nakkash'. The evolution of the Nirmal art and craft can be traced back to old days of Kakatiya dynasty.

Nirmal toys are named after Neema Naik, a village headman, who manufactured weapons during the 14th century. He had a workshop where he manufactured weapons. Among his craftsmen were artisans who did wood carving and portrait painting. The artists first study the physical features of different birds, animals and shapes of fruits.

The Nawabs of Hyderabad tapped the skills of these craftsmen and became generous patrons of this craft. Interiors of royal residences were embellished with intricate glided designs that soon grew to be eponymous with Nirmal.

These creative artisans painted scenes from Hindu epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, as well as legends from the Puranas. During the Mughal era, the emperors were extremely enchanted by this art form and this resulted in the rulers patronising this art form. The credit for spreading word about Nirmal paintings goes to Lady Hyderi, who brought the artisans to Hyderabad five centuries later.

The weapon-makers turn toy-makers

The subsequent generations of Nirmal artisans did not restrict themselves to mythological themes. They forayed into other styles using motifs from Ajanta, Ellora, Kangra and even Mughal miniatures. The artistes also create figurines and creatures with inspiration from nature. They include statuettes' of birds, flowers, animals and trees.

It is said that when Nizam of Hyderabad visited the village of Nirmal, he was warmly welcomed by the artisans. They created an intricately carved banana bud and placed spectacular golden petals inside the bud. This was placed on the royal seat and when the Nizam opened the bud, he was showered with the golden petals. Highly impressed with this, the Nizam began patronising the artistes and their craft.

Global craft – local resources

Nirmal paintings use local materials to paint. Wood forms the basis for the paintings and locally available soft white wood called 'Poniki' is used. This wood is strengthened by coating it with a paste of tamarind seeds, fine muslin and pipe clay. Herb extracts, resins and minerals are used to create the vibrant colours. The golden colour that is synonymous with Nirmal paintings and art is created using herbal juices. The technique involves lacquering the wood surface and then painting the precise design. The conventional designs are traced and drawn in chalk on any composition board or smoothened wood and then painted in bright and flat colors with a touch of gold.

The different parts of the toys are created individually and then stuck together using specially prepared glue. Thereafter the toys are coated with white clay to give it a smooth look. Once the clay dries, natural dyes and colours are used to paint them.

Unique use of paints

Teak Wood is mainly used to prepare the frame of the product. Spray paints are used as it works as water-proof shine. Varnish is coated on the wood to obtain glossy effect and luppa paint is coated on the wood sheet so that it avoids color absorption when the actual oil paints are painted on the wood surface. These days, the artisans are using enamel paints in the painting process. Wall plaques are nowadays also made from teak wood and sprayed with Duco paint to give the plaques the preferred background colour. Once the spray dries, exquisite paintings are painted on the plaques using natural dyes and paints.

Today, Nirmal work has evolved to cater to the new needs. Besides the wall hangings, Nirmal craftsmen also crafted exquisite lacquered furniture, large screens, boxes, bowls, trays, toys, and pictures. Assortments of decorative and utilitarian articles are crafted in Nirmal.

Nirmal Toys Industrial Cooperative Society is situated on National Highway No – 7 in Adilabad District of Telangana State, which was established in 1955 and houses about many artisans the main toy making unit while the Hyderabad branch manufactures furniture and miniature paintings. In the year 2009 Geographic Indication (GI) status was awarded to Nirmal toys. But even today, the artisans have to be satisfied by earning not more than Rs.10,000/- per month. E-commerce has not made much headway and traditional arts are still not having the much needed demand.

Ganjifa Cards

Exquisitely painted Ganjifa playing cards have also been a very important form of dying art of this region. The Nakkash craftsmen in Nirmal have been some of the few in the country to take this art forward. This craft needs to be protected and preserved before it disappears.Ganjifa, an ancient version of the modern card games, was popular among the royalty and the commoners. While the nobles during Mughal period enjoyed a game with the Mughal Ganjifa set, the Hindus preferred the Dasha Avatar Ganjifa, an Indianized form of the game. These rounded paper mache sets of cards have the Mughal Ganjifa with 96 cards each. The Dasha Avatar set consists of 120 and depicts the ten avatars or forms of Lord Vishnu. The Ganjifa cards and the box for the cards are specialities of the craftsmen.Nirmal designs have distinctive floral patterns and the forms are bound by gold outlines. The main aim of the Ganjifa card game was to teach, learn and tell stories from our ancient scriptures and holy books.

Style was set to stories and shlokas from the Hindu Puranas, stories from the Ramayana, the chapters from Mahabharata and many more scriptures. The formation of the new state of Telangana brings in hope that these traditional art forms are given a big boost so that the future generations are not deprived an opportunity to carry on the legacy. ◆

editor.deccanpost@gmail.com

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Lord Govindaraja Swamy rides a top Kalpavruksha Vahanam

namo VENKATESAYA

Processional deities of Lord Govindaraja Swamy along with His consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi were taken out in a grand procession atop Kalpavruksha Vahanam as part of fourth day ongoing nine day Annual Brahmotsavam in Sri Govindaraja Swamy Temple, Tirupati on Saturday morning.

H.H. Sri Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamy of Tirumala Mutt, H.H. Sri Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, and large number of devotees took part in this function.

The TTD Joint Executive officer Sri K.S.Sreenivasa Raju administered the oath of office to Smt Y.V.Anuradha at the Bangaru Vakili of Tirumala temple on Saturday morning at around 11.53am. After fulfilling the formalities, Smt Y.V.Anuradha offered prayers to Lord Venkateswara. Later the vedic pundits offered Veda Asirvachanams inside Ranganayakula Mandapam. TTD JEO offered prasadams and Lord's Photo to the new ex-officio member.

LAUGH OUT LOUD

LOVE FOREVER

Girl: Do you love me?

Boy: Yes Dear!

Girl: Would you die for me ?

Boy: No, mine is Undying Love!

* * * * * * * *

A Santa sees lot of guys running on the highway. Asks a bystander as to who're the guys?

The bystander : A Marathon race is going on.

Santa: What do they get from that?

Bystander : The winner will get a prize

Santa: Then why are the others running?

* * * * * * * * *

Shaadi ke pehle ladki: Darling tum nahi toh main nahi... Aur main nahi toh tum nahi!

Shaadi ke baad ladki: Aaj ya toh tu nahi ya main nahi!!

* * * * * * * * *

Waiter: Ur Bill Sir.

Santa: Take My Card.

Waiter: But Sir, This Is Ration Card.

Santa: To Phir Bahar Kya Majaak Me Likha hai.. All Cards are Accepte

HEALTH TIPS

Natural Home Remedies for acid reflux:

1) Drink water: Drink a full glass of water as soon as you get up in the morning to neutralize stomach acid. Drink 8 glasses of water daily. Water will help in flushing out the excess acid inside your stomach.

2) Mint leaves: This humble leaf has amazing properties that make it just the medicine to treat acidity. It also lowers the acid content of the stomach and improves digestion. Plus its cool effect helps to reduce the pain and burning associated with acid reflux. If you feel an attack coming on chop some mint leaves, add them to a pot of boiling water and drink this water after it cools.

3) Fennel(saunf): Fennel helps aid digestion and thus provides relief from acidity. It is rich in volatile oils containing flavanoids, plamitic acid and many others, it is known to have very potent anti-ulcer properties. Apart from that it acts as a coolant for the lining of the stomach helping it to heal faster. In fact, this is why fennel is served after meals at restaurants in India.

4) Clove : It has a pungent taste when bitten into, and the taste buds react to this taste and secrete excess saliva, which in turn aids digestion. In case you're suffering from acidity, bite a clove once so that the juice is released and then keep it in the mouth. The slowly escaping juice will immediately lower acid reflux and give you some relief.

5) Ginger: Ginger juice can also neutralize stomach acids.It also helps break down the proteins in your food. Ginger protects your stomach against ulcers by promoting mucus secretion thereby reducing the effect of the acid on the stomach.

SUDOKU 324

8	1						7	9
		4	7	9	6		3	8
7	6		1		3	2		5
4	7	6	5	3	2	8	9	
	2	1	8			4		3
	8			1	9			2
5	4		9	7	1	3	8	6
6		8		2				7
1	3			5	8		2	

How to play : Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You cant change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

ANSWERS Sudoku-323

8	1	3	2	4	5	6	9	7
4	2	6	3	9	7	1	5	8
5	7	9	1	8	6	2	4	3
2	5	7	4	1	8	9	3	6
3	4	8	5	6	9	7	2	1
6	9	1	7	3	2	4	8	5
9	8	5	6	2	1	3	7	4
1	3	2	8	7	4	5	6	9
7	6	4	9	5	3	8	1	2

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Answer 323: Joseph, West Maredpally

ASTRO FOCUS

ARIES: You will have to do much to get good at career opportunities. Several good professional opportunities are likely to come your way, you may also derive the maximum benefit from the available opportunities. Those in love will manage a few moments of togetherness, full of passionate intensity. Evenings with friends or family members would keep you in a relaxed mood.

TAURUS: There could be a technical hitch in implementing your plans initially. Since a quick solution is required. Old and outstanding or held up money will be recovered. There are indications that past efforts would bring expected success. For some, a change in job is also on the card. There are possibilities that you may hurt the feelings of someone who cares for you.

GEMINI: A venture capitalist may encourage you to start an independent venture. You are required to take decisions after deliberating all pros and cons carefully. Your meeting with some important persons will infuse you with joy and zest for life. Your abilities may take you to the peak of your professional growth.

CANCER: This week you will try to move ahead. Conjugal relations will be quite warm. You may be drawn towards spiritual matters. You may be ditched by your close associates. You would start the week with your energy levels peaking and should be able to inspire greatness in your peers. You could meet someone just about anywhere and do not need a romantic environment to get that loving feeling.

LEO: You may also have a few little changes you would like to experiment with and now is the time to try them out. Professionally you will continue to grow and will keep coming across new opportunities one after another. You may have stress due to hard work or mental conflicts. You may want to spend time on yourself this week.

VIRGO: This week is all about change and you can be quite influential. Start off looking around for inspiration. You may have a good cash flow this week. You may save your costs by aligning with your existing resources. Some health problems may occur at the mid of the week and thus take care of yourself.

LIBRA: Networking is vitally important early this week make sure that you spend as much time as you can deal with clients, ringing up colleagues and generally strengthening your working relationships. Friends are most helpful this week when they provide inside career tracks. Letting the softer side of your personality show lets someone come closer to your heart.

SCORPIO: This week you will be very busy with your tight job schedule. You may face some new challenges which you can easily manage. Money wise you will do very well this week, business will grow at fast pace and you may be offered a partnership in recently started venture. It may chance to meet someone new or bring new life to a current relationship. Your health will need more attention this week.

SAGITTARIUS: You will spend money mainly on medical grounds. You have to control your temperaments else, you may land into trouble. In the second half of the week, any amount due to you from governmental organizations may add your bank balance. In service persons and professionals may not get cooperation from subordinates. Travels will be fruitful and fetching. Do not give scope for misunderstanding with your Love or spouse.

CAPRICORN: The entire week will be just normal for you giving normal situation. Your financial position improves boosting your confidence and morale. Some of your higher officials will do a favor to you. Some one will help you escape from getting trapped into some trouble. Interpersonal relationship needs to be handled tactfully even a slight misunderstanding might cause a dent.

AQUARIUS: Good week to plan your savings and make future investments. Your work and business prospects will improve. Businessmen shall make new contacts. Your willingness to help others would leave you tired and exhausted. You may likely to attend interview and seminars. Love life promises having an enjoyable time in this week. Your Partner will support you.

PISCES: You will spend majority of your time in earning money and searching ways to achieve the goal. Your sincere efforts are going to bless you with favorable results. You will get good recognition for the work you have done earlier. With your prudence, you will get the things with much easier. Your spouse lends support, while children bring in happiness

I love to present myself to the World

Ruchika Sharma, celebrated Chef, culinary host and Mrs. India Popular, is a quintessential Hyderabadi and is hugely popular. The Deccan Post caught up with her when she organized an exhibition. Here are the excerpts.

How does it feel to be a chef in a man's world?

It's very important to follow your heart. When I became a chef, my family and the society at large did not approve of it. However, the mindset of the society has changed now. Today, everyone understands the potential of a woman. There are many professions which are no longer 'Mens only'.

Where all have you conducted your cookery shows?

I have hosted more than 600 shows on the television and places like National Industrial Security Academy, MCEME and National Police Academy.

How did your life take a U turn?

I was doing a Goldman Sachs Entrepreneur Skills Course at Indian School of Business (ISB) and met with a serious accident in December 2012. And got stuck to a wheelchair for 4 months. It was a very tough time with a five inch screw in my left leg. I completed my course and also won the Best Business Plan award.

What about the beauty pageant contest?

I participated in the Mrs. India contest and got the Popular award. I have always loved to present myself to the world. It's not to win any contest, but to motivate women to come forward and aspire to showcase the compassionate beautiful woman to the outside world.

What's the USP of your culinary treats?

I believe in looking into the nuances of cuisine, be it the visual appeal or the gastronomic delight that it offers. There is equal importance for preparing a low calorie diet and a colourful presentation of the same. Of course, there is some relaxation for the choices of people at home.

What about the equipments in use?

I have set up two culinary institutes and they have all the latest equipment needed to groom the aspiring chefs. As far as my personal kitchen is concerned, a Kenwood machine helps me to do all pre-preparation work and does around three chores in nine minutes flat.

What is your message to society at large?

Every girl is a woman the moment she is born. She is born strong. Since childhood she takes care of everyone in the house. She has an equal empathy towards her father and her mother. She also is very gentle towards her siblings/cousins. She has the capacity to take care of the home and also show her potential in the outside professional domain. There is tremendous talent, patience and skill in a girl child. She deserves every new opportunity in this fast changing world.

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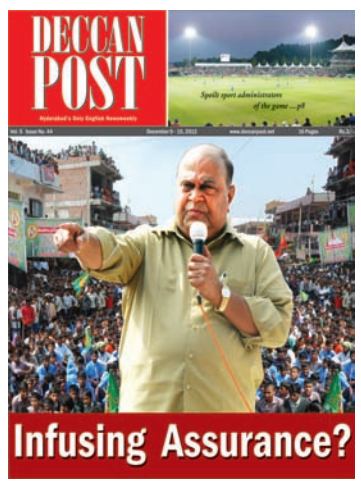
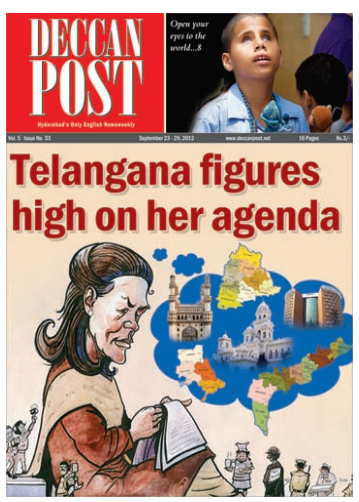
Dear Readers
Atlast we are experiencing the birth of Telangana State. The journey has been extremely tough, yet the destination has been reached. We cherish our participation in the historic struggle for the statehood of Telangana despite several challenges. Here is a glimpse of our common duty.





With best wishes
Dr. Goka Sridhar, *Editor-in-Chief, Deccan Post*

Tread cautiously in the market

By Mahesh Malekar

With the BSE Sensex scaling the new all-time high and crossing the psychological barrier of 25,000, some sort of euphoria seems to have pervaded the market. But be careful: some fraudsters are taking advantage of the euphoria, trying to lure investors and dupe them of their savings.

The Sensex surpassed its previous all-time high of 25,375.63 mark registered on May 16th to log its new intra-day historic high of 25,419.14 during the last week before settling the week at 25,396.46, showing a sharp weekly gain of 4.87 percent or 1,179.12 points, the best in the last five years.

In the past few days, there has been a rise in short messaging service (SMS) from unknown numbers giving free advice to trade in certain stocks and make 25 per cent return in a week and double the money in one month. Another lot of bulk SMS from HBJ Capital even guarantees assured returns of a minimum profit of Rs 15,000 to Rs 30,000 for a fee of Rs 1,999.

The sentiment also remained positive after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) pleased markets by unlocking about Rs 40,000 crore of banking funds by cutting the statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) by 50 basis points. Boosting investor sentiment, the RBI also allowed foreign portfolio investors to participate in the domestic exchange traded currency derivative markets. However, the apex bank kept the key policy rates unchanged in the second bi-monthly monetary policy review 2014-15.

Shares of realty, metal, PSU, refinery, capital goods, power, consumer durable, banking and auto sectors firmed up sharply on good buying enquiries. Meanwhile, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley will meet heads of Indian industry to elicit their views on the budget, which is likely to be presented in the first week of July.

Construction and engineering giant L&T rose by 9.02 percent after the company announced better-than-expected Q4 results last week-end. Similarly, the wide-based 50-issue CNX Nifty of the NSE also jumped to new intra-day peak of 7,592.70 before ending at 7,583.40, a sharp gain of 353.45 points or 4.89 percent.

Market also got the tonic following decision of the European Central Bank to cut its benchmark interest rates to unprecedented lows to pump money into the sluggish euro zone economy.

Onset of Monsoon is expected to ease prices of food grains, helping RBI to control sticky inflation, say experts. Fertilizer stocks rallied on reports that the Fertilizer Ministry has prepared a road-map for rationalization of subsidy for the sector.

Major gainers were ONGC (22.67 percent), Tata Steel (17.95 percent), Hindalco Ind (14.35 percent), Hero Motocorp (14.15 percent), Gail India (11.44 percent), SSLT (9.66 percent), BHEL (8.46 percent), Axis bank (7.51 percent), SBI (7.48 percent), Tata Power (6.69 percent), HDFC (6.67 percent), HCL (6.23 percent), Tata Motors (5.56 percent), Coal India (5.35 percent), Maruti Suzuki (5.31 percent), Reliance Ind (5.13 percent), Bajaj Auto (4.75 percent) and Bharti Airtel (3.43 percent).

Among the S&P BSE sectoral indices, realty rose 12.34 percent followed by metal 11.50 percent, PSU 11.09 percent, Oil & Gas 10.44 percent, capital goods 9.56 percent, power 7.42 percent, bankex 4.92 percent and auto 4.77 percent, while only IT index finished in the red.

Small-cap and mid-cap indices continued to outperform the Sensex, rising by 8.41 percent and 7.46 percent, respectively in view of sustained buying from retail investors. Both indices closed at their multi-year peaks. Total market turnover on the BSE and the NSE dropped to Rs 22,255.15 crore and Rs 1,12,965.06 crore, respectively, as against the previous weekend's level of Rs 28,453.44 crore and Rs 1,18,105.08 crore.

mail@deccanpost.net

Note - Investors should be aware of risks in the stock market.

Mission Accomplished

Dear esteemed readers,

Nearly Eight years ago; a frustrated Kalvakuntla Chandrasekhar Rao resigned from the Union Ministry. The TRS which won five seats in the then Lok Sabha was part of the UPA-I coalition government headed by the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. KCR who held the Labour ministry resigned along with Ale Narendra who was a MoS (Rural Development) on 10th of August, 2006. Their exit instead of annoying the congress leadership; appeared to have gladdened the party in view of their non-seriousness over granting statehood to Telangana. KCR went on a token fat at Jantar Mantar which was largely ignored by the political set up in Delhi. It was also to some extent ridiculed by the media in Delhi as well back home in Hyderabad. KCR who went by his instincts got back to the basics. He quickly announced a public meeting at his home town to get back in touch with the people.

As was our habit to boost T-sentiment in whatever way it was required; I attended the public meeting held in Siddipet with a group of enthusiastic friends sometime in September 2006. It was a historic meeting wherein KCR also announced his resignation as MP from Karimnagar just because a senior congress leader (MSR) demanded so ridiculing his continuing as MP when he won the seat with an alliance with the congress party. It was a sheer provocation from the typical congress and KCR was quick to accept the challenge and as such promptly resigned his Lok Sabha seat. It was another challenge for the people of Telangana to re-elect KCR yet again and reiterate the popular demand for the formation of Telangana state.

Ever since that election process was underway; there was tremendous mis-information; anti-KCR propaganda overall a strategic anti-Telangana campaign silently unleashed by all manner of people opposed to Telangana attaining statehood. It was sad to see many Telangana leaders belonging to either ruling congress or opposition TDP blindly falling prey to the dangerous agenda of the Seemandhra political masters who desired to ensure the defeat of Telangana sentiment by hook or crook by taking on KCR, who unwittingly offered a dangerous gamble to the likes of YSR, KVP and Chandra Babu Naidu who all had one common agenda of preventing KCR from getting re-elected. YSR who was the chief minister then had the audacity to state that "it was going to be a referendum for Telangana".

The Telugu media which was wholly in the hands of the Seemandhra entrepreneurs unleashed a vociferous campaign to ensure the defeat of KCR in the by-election. Even the English media which was partially controlled by the Andhra Businessmen also openly joined the anti Telangana campaign. All this of course energized the T-protagonists to such an extent that people like me had to spend about two to three weeks soliciting support for the cause. Everybody knows the outcome of that famous by-election where one slogan prevailed "Telangana ki Ijjat ka Sawal Hai" resulted in KCR's handsome majority.

However, the pain of seeing the entire media getting caught in the cesspool of 'vested interests' was highly disturbing phenomenon. It felt like --something needed to be done urgently. Media was always known to have played a great role in shaping numerous events. Several times it exhibited its bias for under dogs. It had strived to uphold social responsibility too. But as times are changing --- the role of media and its responsibilities too are changing faster than anticipated. For a great length of time, the content gathered by a journalist was considered as an undisputed King. Of late, the role of a journalist or someone working as a Reporter or News Editor has changed completely with the active involvement of the 'newspaper owners' in shaping the editorial policy. With this trend, the editorial policy has become His Master's Voice.

With many leading newspapers being run by corporate honchos and businessmen belonging to Andhra region, it was difficult to expect objective presentation of news and analysis with regard to "Telangana Movement". Their personal views prevailed over actual public opinion. Willingly so the political masters who were running the government were also in perfect sync with their ideology. The bottom line of the story was all those Andhra gentlemen heading various branches of the government including the fourth estate had openly turned hostile towards the aspirations of T-people and without hesitation adopted a common agenda for obstructing the birth of Telangana state at any cost.

That's when I felt the need to start a publication to present factual position about Telangana movement and espouse the genuine cause of millions of people. That's when the idea of a news publication with "Deccan Post" title as an English daily newspaper and then later on "Namasthe Telangana" title for our proposed Telugu daily were finalized. Trusted friends like Ravi Chander Ponnala, P Raghunandan Reddy, and V Raghavendra Reddy were too magnanimous to offer their goodwill and tremendous support for my vision to ensure justice for the Telangana people.

We consulted experienced journalists like S Ramakrishna and others. Their enthusiasm further propelled us into quick action faster than we actually were prepared for. They took great pains to explain the nitty-gritty things involved in establishing a newspaper and running it. In course of our frank evaluation of comprehending the mindset of the then YSR government; we soon realized that there can hardly be any support from such a government which was completely anti-Telangana.

We soon realised that a daily newspaper was not feasible as it required a lot of funding that was beyond our estimate. Many friends from Andhra were willing to fund and also to partner with me provided I give up our openly stated 'Telangana Agenda'. On the other hand, friends from Telangana hardly understood the economics or even the significance of running a news publication to espouse the cause of Telangana. Of course, they are not to be blamed for their lack of interest. It is just that the business model seemed quite stupid and also crooked for their comprehension. We nevertheless settled for 'such stupidity' but consciously avoided every kind of crookedness till the end. We are glad and take pride in the fact that we never resorted to crooked methods of blackmailing or even liasoning with influential bureaucrats who were ready to offer sops.

True, the business model of running a newspaper is really stupid. Every newspaper that is offered on a particular sale price is much below the actual production cost. The cost of news print, printing, circulation, price involved in collection of news content, editing, copy editing is a big chain of regular meticulous activity. The cost of production of a news copy is double than the sale price stipulated to the subscriber/reader. The only manner in which one makes-up the deficit is by selling the 'space for advertisements'. This again is an intricate math linked to circulation. Tariffs are directly linked to circulation. The higher the tariff is desired - the higher the circulation must increase. The whole thing is like a vicious cycle. Then how numerous newspapers are running successfully? Not to explain in detail - crooked practices alone are the self evident answers.

In short, we preferred to be stupid not crooked. Our passion for Telangana was in sync with the aspirations of millions of voices in Telangana. Our task was to present regular happenings in true form. We chose to highlight the struggle from village level to analyzing things taking place in our national capital in New Delhi. Besides, we also bore the moral brunt of exposing the misdeeds of the powerful people in both the government and business. We had faced consequences. That's part of the business. We didn't give credence to mere sensationalism that could have taken us away from our avowed goal. We stuck to our mission of covering events that were taking place in the Telangana movement, for the statehood of Telangana and by various sections of the Telangana society.

We prided ourselves in presenting regular news features, views of the eminent persons and analysis of things taking place. Support in the form of sensitive information came to us from many quarters. Unbelievably, sometimes straight from the horses' mouth. A huge quantum of information has been provided to us and most of which could not be published as it meant taking on big rogue organizations. It was a risky proposition. We were conscious of our goal and as such didn't deviate from our mission.

Information is power. For any media organization, a lot of information comes easily to their table provided "one commands true credibility". I take pride in the fact that many who indeed passed on such sensitive information gave us all that purely acknowledging our credentials. Although they gifted us with a lot of explosive news material that could mar big wigs in the society; we frankly admit that it wasn't our cup of tea. It was no mean task to resist temptation. It was pure pragmatism that determined and dictated our choice.

Deccan Post has been in the forefront of presenting all that was happening with regard to formation of Telangana. We befriended many top politicians for acquiring authentic information on things deliberated over T-affairs. On umpteen occasions, these so-called top leaders argued and finally were convinced and as such relied on the information provided by us. Thus, the division of the state and consequent formation of Telangana State became constitutionally inevitable on account of both congress party led by Smt Sonia Gandhi and BJP led by Shri Rajnath Singh remaining committed despite several hurdles. A million thanks to them and a billion best wishes to them.

Today, Telangana State is a wonderful reality. A dream come true situation. The sacrifices of many and especially those hundreds of martyrs have become the rock-solid foundation for a great prosperous welfare state in the making. I realize that my role as Editor-in-Chief of Deccan Post and Captain of Team Deccan Post is not any more exciting. Pace has to be kept with changing times. A new team is getting ready to take up the mantle of Deccan Post leadership. I therefore consider it appropriate to exit from my editorial responsibilities and enable my successors to plan accordingly. I wish them best of luck and sense of wisdom while playing the role of a vigilant watchdog in the system. I thank every colleague of mine who served me with affection. Mahesh Malekar has been a great companion from day one till today. As our Special Correspondent Dr T Siva Prasad Reddy accomplished many complex assignments with absolute ease maintaining confidentiality.

Finallly, I thank God - Lord Sri Malola Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy of Ahobilam for his almighty's eternal blessings and guidance. May Lord Narasimha bless each one of us in our journey of lives here and everafter.

With warm regards and best Wishes,
Yours faithfully,

Dr Goka Sridhar, B.Tech (Mech), LL.M, Ph.D in Law
Editor-in-Chief, **Deccan Post**

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