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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN TELANGANA STATE – A STUDY IN WELFARE SCHEME'S

Bandiga Rakesh

Department of Political Science, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana.

ABSTRACT:

Although rapid economic growth in India has led to steady progress in reducing poverty, it is still much higher in rural areas given the low growth potential in rural and agricultural sectors. Governments expend a large portion of amount on welfare schemes because there is a high number of people in poverty. Thus, social safety nets have to be created to protect the vulnerable weaker sections. However, the situation is not favourable among the poorest people in India, particularly the people from scheduled and backward categories. Think Telangana, and the vision that struck a chord was of dried lands, successive power cuts, absence of drinking water, low farming creation and a general feeling of distress among individuals. That was during the time of total disregard going before Statehood for the district on June 2, 2014. Slice to 2021, and Telangana is viewed as a brilliant illustration of what can be accomplished inside a brief period with visionary initiative, arranged execution of thoughts and projects and a determined way to deal with improvement of the State and government assistance of individuals. After various fomentations and penances, the State was accomplished in a vote based way and is currently making the whole country pleased with its accomplishments. Peruse here a portion of the government assistance plan and projects started by the Telangana government over the most recent seven years.



KEYWORDS: Social Development, Welfare Schemes, Telangana.

INTRODUCTION:

Since independence, the government of India has claimed that it has wanted to work towards social development. On the eve of independence, Jawaharlal Nehru, while addressing the constituent assembly, declared that the independence meant the redemption of a pledge. But he also stated that this achievement “is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the great triumphs and achievements that await us, the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity”. A lot has been achieved in the past half century. The incidence of poverty has declined from over 50 per cent in the 1950s to less than 30 per cent in the late 1990s.² The literacy rate has increased from less than 20 per cent in 1951 to 65 per cent in 2001. According to the recent Human Development Reports of UNDP, India has moved from the category of “low” human development to that of “medium” level and its present rank is 127. Nevertheless, the performance of India in social development is far from satisfactory, and could have been much better.

In the last few decades, it became clear that India and other developing countries had neglected social aspect of development. As Amartya Sen says in his writings, social sector development has both

instrumental value (means to development) and intrinsic value (an end in itself in terms of increasing capabilities, opportunities and freedom). The UNDP's global and national Human Development Reports since 1990 focused attention on various aspects of human development. The concept of social development is supposed to be broader than that of human development. The Council for Social Development (CSD), New Delhi has now brought out a volume entitled India: Social Development Report. The difference between this report and UNDP's reports is that the present one analyses social processes, social attitudes and institutions. The social problems of contemporary India including the exclusion problem are rooted in history and culture. Many of these problems have not been seriously addressed by government policies and strategies since independence. In the post-reform period, while there have been improvements in economic growth, increases in foreign exchange, the IT revolution, acceleration in export growth, etc, social exclusion has continued in terms of low agriculture and employment growth, concentration of poverty among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, an increase in inequalities and regional disparities. Liberalisation and globalisation have not improved social development in general, and social exclusion in particular.

The infrastructure development of any country includes both economic infrastructure development that is the development of various sectors and also the social infrastructures. Development of economic infrastructure cannot usher in overall development at the desired level if the social infrastructure is not simultaneously developed. The capacities and technical refinement of the economic infrastructure like roads, sewers, electricity, open spaces, gardens and the evolving requirements of social infrastructures like shopping complexes, restaurants, medical facility zones, schools etc, are clearly delineated. Education, Health, social security, water supply, shelter and sanitation etc, has to be developed to ensure proper social infrastructure. In this sense both economic and social infrastructure are interconnected and interdependent and in these terms and perspectives both economic and social infrastructures are crucial element for development of an economy and even growth is linked to infrastructure as infrastructure is linked to growth. Hence, the development of India is incomplete without social development and that would require focus on the infrastructure strategy for social research in India.

MAJOR AREAS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Turning to major areas of social development, the analysis of poverty and unemployment shows that they are concentrated both geographically and in terms of social categories. The rural poor are being concentrated in Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and the urban poor are concentrated in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, poverty is being concentrated among agricultural labourers, SCs and STs. Poverty alleviation strategies adopted in the last five decades can be classified in to four broad groups: (a) institutional reforms; (b) empowerment of the poor;

Development of resource deficient areas; and (d) special employment programmes and safety nets. The study advocates that improving agricultural growth in the semiarid regions is important in order to meet the challenge of poverty and unemployment. It also argues that poverty alleviation programmes must go beyond the minimalist approach of safety nets and the schemes can be made more effective through decentralisation. The study should have elaborated much more on east Asian, particularly the Chinese, experience in reducing poverty and unemployment.

In the health sector, there are significant inequalities in expenditures across classes, regions and gender. A review of policies and programmes shows the well known fact of deterioration in the quality of services in public healthcare system. The poor cannot afford the private health systems because of high costs. Reviving health care deliveries requires not only higher expenditures, but improvements in management and technical innovations. One has to wait and watch whether recent initiatives like the Rural Health Mission, etc, can improve the health delivery systems in the country. In education, significant achievements have been made in terms of the number of schools, teachers, students and skilled manpower through governmental programmes. While one can appreciate these impressive achievements, we have to admit that there are also shocking failures. The failure to universalise

elementary education, wide disparities across gender, regions and social groups are the major failures in this sector. Poverty, the high cost of good education, low quality of education are the major factors at the household level for high dropout rates among the poor. It may be argued that while poverty may be one of the causes for dropouts, inequalities in quality education are a major factor for dropouts. The study on education argues that the government must play a major role in providing quality education to all in order to make education a tool of social change. Similar to health and education, wide disparities can be seen in drinking water and sanitation in both rural and urban areas.

The analysis of socio-economic development attracted the attention of classical as well as neoclassical economists. Earlier the economists largely focused on the problems of developed countries. The initial concept of economic development was focused in terms of time profile of expansion of output of goods and services and after that in terms of output per capita. In the past, the concepts economic growth and economic development were used interchangeably. National income has usually been used as an indicator of development and for measuring overall economic welfare of a nation. In reality, empirical definition based on gross domestic product per capita income is not satisfactory because it does not include many valuable goods and services which must be taken into account for measurement of the progress of the society. In the words of Villard (1963) economic development means leisure, better health, more to read, even more time to think of good life.

The problem of exclusion is most visible if we look at the social and economic development of marginalised groups such as SCs and STs. There have been many programmes and legal provisions and yet they failed to bring about significant improvements in the social and economic conditions of the marginalised social groups. It is argued that necessary changes in policies are needed in order to enhance access to productive assets including land, employment opportunities, education, and health and eliminate discrimination for ensuring fair participation in the public and private sectors. Recently, the government has proposed extending reservations for other backward classes (OBCs) in the central educational institutions and also job quotas for marginalised sections in the private sector. This type of "affirmative actions" is important for a fair participation of socially disadvantaged groups. In order to have more sustainable socially inclusive policies, inequalities in the opportunities in employment, health and education have to be removed.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Krishna (2004) analyzed the growth variability and volatility in across different states in India. The volatility was estimated using coefficient of variation of in yearly growth rates at state level. Orissa, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were categorized as most volatile states. Punjab, Maharashtra and Kerala were reported as least volatile states. At the national level, a declining trend was observed in the level of volatility during the 1980s and 1990s. During the post reform period, the variations in growth rates of states raised significantly. The farm sector positively affected the growth in industrial and service sectors. It was also noted that the investment decisions had been significantly affected by the level of social infrastructure.

Rai and Bhatia (2004) used composite index for estimation of the status of development of different districts of Assam. They found wide disparities in the level of development in different district of the State in overall socio-economic development. The district of Sonitpur was found to rank first and the district of NC Hills is on the last position in the overall socio-economic development. It was also found that the levels of development in agriculture and overall socio-economic fields of the State were directly associated.

Choudhary (2008) examined regional disparities in terms of educational development in India over the decade of 1981, 1991 and 2001. the study used seven parameters for the measurement of educational development. The study was based on a composite index and ranking method for measuring regional disparities. EDI (Educational development index) was calculated for measuring the level of regional disparities in educational development. Results of the study revealed that only Kerala had a high level of educational development.

Kumari (2014) applied principal component analysis inter-district disparity in Bihar. The study found that Bihar failed to keep pace with the growth rate witnessed by the country at large. The north part of Bihar state lagged behind central part in terms of socio-economic development. A significant direct association was observed between economic and social development during 2000s.

TELANGANA SCHEMES AND POLICIES FOR WELFARE DEVELOPMENT

Telangana Schemes and Policies for Welfare Development, are working very effectively and awarded by central government. telangana schemes and Policies are performing better than central government schemes. Government of telangana introduced various welfare schemes like aasara pensions, arogyalaxmi, Kalyanalaxmi, shaadi mubarak, and she-taxi programme for securing women. These Telangana schemes and policies of telangana state has been working effectively and giving better results in development in telangana government.

KALYANA LAKSHMI

To alleviate financial distress of SC/ST/BC and minority families, Government decided to sanction a one-time financial assistance of Rs. 51,000 at the time of marriage for brides who are residents of Telangana State. Accordingly, Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubaarak Schemes have been introduced with effect from October 2, 2014 for unmarried girls, who have completed 18 years of age at the time of marriage and whose parental income does not exceed Rs. 2 lakh per annum.

In 2017-18 Budget, the financial assistance under Kalyana Lakshmi and Shadi Mubarak programs was increased from Rs 51,000 to Rs 75,116.

DISTRIBUTION KCR KIT

To reduce Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates in the state and to promote institutional deliveries, the Government of Telangana has initiated a scheme called 'Distribution of KCR Kits' to the Pregnant Women who were admitted in the Government hospitals.

Under this Scheme, the government is providing Rs 12,000 for the pregnant women who got delivered in any government hospital in the state. If a girl is born, an additional Rs. 1000 will be given under this scheme.

The government will distribute this money in three installments. First installment of Rs 4000 will be given when the women admitted in the hospital for the delivery. Second installment will be given when the women is discharge from the hospital and the last installment will be given when Polio vaccine is given to the baby.

Apart from this monetary support, the government is also giving a Rs 2000 worth KCR Kit which contains 16 essential items for the mother and infant like Diapers, Napkins, Baby Oil, Towels etc.

Rice distribution (PDS Reforms)

A whopping 87.57 lakh eligible families, approximately 2,86,00,000 (two crore eighty six lakh) beneficiaries, are being supplied rice from 1st January, 2015 at 6 kgs per person at Re. 1 per kg without any ceiling on the number of members in the family. More than 1.80 lakh MT of rice per month would be required for this purpose. Rs. 1,597 was being spent on the subsidy. To arrive at the eligibility of the BPL families, the family income limit in rural areas has been increased to Rs. 1.50 lakh and in urban areas to Rs. 2 lakh. The land ceiling has also been increased to 3.5 acres of wet land and 7.5 acres of dry land.

Government started supplying superfine rice, or Sanna Biyyam, to schools and hostels benefitting 56 lakh students annually with an additional outlay of Rs 120 crore. More than 12,500 MT of rice is being distributed for the purpose.

Arogya Lakshmi

The Arogya Lakshmi programme was started by the State government on 1 January 2015. The main objective of this scheme is to improve the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and

to reduce malnutrition among children below six years of age. Undernourishment and anaemia among pregnant women are the important causes for high-risk deliveries and high infant mortality rate. The State government, through this scheme, is providing a sufficient quantity of food with improved nutrients to below poverty line (BPL) beneficiaries. For the women, 200 ml of milk for 25 days a month and one egg each day will be given with meal. Children, aged between seven months and three years are provided with 16 eggs a month in addition to a 2.5 kg food packet. For children aged between 3 and six years, one egg a day in addition to rice, dal, vegetables and snacks is supplied. During 2016–17, the benefits of this scheme reached 9,45,341 children in the age group of seven months to three years, 5,25,439 children in the age group of three to six years, and 3,69,677 pregnant and lactating women. Apart from this 35,700 malnourished children are given special care under this programme.

CONCLUSION

Social advancement is focusing on human requirements in the development and progress of society. The emphasis is on working on the existences of individuals, particularly poor people, to make society a superior spot for everybody. The Public authority of Telangana is endeavoring to elevate the socially impeded areas of individuals in the state by sending off a few strategy drives. Towards this end, the Board for Social Turn of events (CSD) was relegated the errand to set up a report on Friendly Improvement in Telangana to assess, and make strategy proposals in the field of social turn of events, which is pertinent to the core value of Supportable Advancement Objectives (SDGs) i.e., 'abandon nobody'. The Telangana Social Advancement Report 2017 (TSDR) will introduce an examination of the social area in the Territory of Telangana. This report is the first of its sort for any state in India and is on the lines of India Social Advancement Report, distributed biennially by CSD. The summation of the review is introduced here, as a drapery raiser of this one of a kind distribution taken up as a team with the Arranging Branch of the state.

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