

TELANGANA STATE FORMATION: POLITICAL DYNAMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION**Narsingu Kotaiah**Research Scholar
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Himachal Pradesh**Dr. D. Sucharitha**Research Co-Supervisor
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Himachal Pradesh**ABSTRACT**

The formation of Telangana as India's 29th state in 2014 marked a significant milestone in the country's political and administrative evolution, emerging from long-standing regional demands for autonomy, equitable resource allocation, and recognition of a distinct cultural identity. This research aims to critically examine the challenges and opportunities faced by Telangana during its formative years, exploring the complexities of statebuilding, governance, economic development, and identity consolidation in a newly established federal entity. By analysing the political, economic, and social dimensions of Telangana's journey, this paper identifies key governance issues such as decentralisation, resource management, and fiscal sustainability, alongside the opportunities for accelerated growth in sectors like agriculture, industry, and infrastructure. Moreover, the research discusses how Telangana's distinct regional identity has been reinforced post-separation, influencing policy and political discourse. The study also reflects on Telangana's interstate dynamics, particularly in relation to Andhra Pradesh, and its strategic role in shaping regional development in South India. Through a blend of qualitative analysis and policy reviews, this article provides a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities that new state formations encounter, using Telangana as a lens to inform broader discussions on sub-national governance and regional autonomy. However, challenges such as unemployment, regional disparities, water resource management, rural development, and administrative efficiency continue to require attention for achieving sustainable and inclusive growth. The study concludes that the Telangana movement and subsequent state formation demonstrate the flexibility of the Indian federal system in accommodating regional demands through democratic and constitutional means.

Keywords: Regional Autonomy, Decentralization, State Formation, Regional Development, Public Policy in New States

INTRODUCTION

The creation of new states has been a key element of political restructuring worldwide, especially in countries with multi-ethnic and diverse populations. In India, where regional identities are often intertwined with economic and political ambitions, the demand for statehood has been a recurring issue since independence. Telangana officially became India's 29th state on June 2, 2014. Despite ongoing challenges since the formation of a unified Andhra Pradesh, the political movements and struggles of the two decades leading up to Telangana's creation were characterized by demands for regional autonomy from the much larger Andhra Pradesh. Telangana's formation offers an important case study for understanding the challenges and opportunities involved in the creation of a new state. The decision to bifurcate Andhra Pradesh and establish Telangana as a separate state was influenced by several factors, including regional disparities in economic development, cultural identity, and administrative neglect. However, the formation of Telangana also raised a series of complex challenges related to resource allocation, governance structures, and economic viability. Issues surrounding water

distribution, capital infrastructure, and political tensions between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh became prominent during the transition. These challenges, while daunting, also opened new avenues for growth, political empowerment, and regional development. This paper aims to explore the multifaceted challenges and opportunities that have emerged since Telangana's formation. By analysing key economic, political, and social factors, this study provides a comprehensive understanding of the obstacles faced by newly formed states and the strategies employed to navigate these hurdles. Additionally, the paper examines the unique opportunities for regional empowerment, social justice, and governance reform that new states like Telangana can capitalize on, offering insights into the broader implications of state reorganization within a federal structure like India's. Through this analysis, the paper contributes to the growing discourse on state formation, regional development, and governance in emerging states. The creation of new states has been a key element of political restructuring worldwide, especially in countries with multi-ethnic and diverse populations. In India, where regional identities are often intertwined with economic and political ambitions, the demand for statehood has been a recurring issue since independence. Telangana officially became India's 29th state on June 2, 2014. Despite ongoing challenges since the formation of a unified Andhra Pradesh, the political movements and struggles of the two decades leading up to Telangana's creation were characterized by demands for regional autonomy from the much larger Andhra Pradesh. Telangana's formation offers an important case study for understanding the challenges and opportunities involved in the creation of a new state. The decision to bifurcate Andhra Pradesh and establish Telangana as a separate state was influenced by several factors, including regional disparities in economic development, cultural identity, and administrative neglect. However, the formation of Telangana also raised a series of complex challenges related to resource allocation, governance structures, and economic viability. Issues surrounding water distribution, capital infrastructure, and political tensions between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh became prominent during the transition. These challenges, while daunting, also opened new avenues for growth, political empowerment, and regional development.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Richard Blanton et.al [2022] One of the most frequently repeated claims in the social history literature is that good government and democracy were radical Western departures from traditional forms of pre modern governance mired in autocracy. The prevailing Western theory of human social evolution has been one source validating this kind of Eurocentric and progressivistic thinking. Yet, recent empirical investigations and a turn to new theoretical frameworks challenge the prevailing social evolutionary theory. Data on pre-Colonial state formation in sub-Saharan Africa, that had been largely ignored or misinterpreted by social evolutionists, has been one stimulating source for this rethinking. Good government, thought to be the essence of contemporary democracy, has been understood as a recent contribution of the Western world to humanity (as Charles Tilly expressed it (1975: 608), democracy “moved from the West to the rest of the world”). Western theories of human social evolution have validated this Eurocentric and progressivistic thinking, based on the assumption that pre modern states remained mired in autocracy until the advent of Western inspired political enlightenment.

Kancham Shankar et.al [2022]. Programme also envisages the creation of sustainable community assets besides protecting environment, reducing migration & empowering rural women. The Government of India emphasizes the MGNREGS is the largest anti poverty programme in the world that has the potential to benefit the poor rural household in India. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, always cherished about India's rural beauty, resilient power as much he was concerned about the poverty and living conditions. His pet phrase was India lives in Villages. Rural development as an integrated concept of growth and poverty elimination has been paramount concern in all the five year plans. Traditionally, Rural Development programmes comprise of following basic concepts like infrastructure facilities in the rural areas, namely schools, health centers, roads, adequate drinking water and electrification. This article discusses the awareness among households and the successful implementation of MGNREGS in the Nizamabad district of Telangana State.

Sandhya Tiwari et.al [2021] India occupies second position in terms of tribal population in the world. According to the official census records of 2011, the total population of tribal communities in India is 104.28 million and accounts for 8.27 of the total population. Statistics show that there are around 689 scheduled tribes who speak about 105 languages and 225 tribes speak subsidiary languages. Tribals are the autochthonous people of the land who are believed to be the earliest settlers in the Indian peninsula. They occupy about fifteen percent of the country's geographical areas, such as forests, hills, plateau areas etc.. They lived in isolated pockets for centuries and they were largely untouched by the mainstream society. This seclusion was largely responsible for their socioeconomic and political backwardness. Tribals are generally called as the 'Adivasis', meaning original inhabitants. Unfortunately, these tribals were cutoff from the mainstream. In India, planning machinery came into existence for over eight decades but the tribals have not benefitted from it. They are in the grip of miseries and encounter problems in every aspect-be it socioeconomic , cultural or political. These earliest settlers, considered as weaker section of the society, are striving to join mainstream. This paper examines the cultural and political consciousness among the tribals in the isolated pockets of erstwhile Mahabubnagar District.

Dammani Sailu [2021] The student movement in Separate Telangana movement launched by the student organizations in the state is by far one of the most powerful movements ever considered to have been launched in the state. Demand for Telangana State was relegated backseat till 1995 and again initiated discussions, workshops, seminars and public meetings by intellectuals in Kakatiya University, Osmania University. Students are actually the backbones of the Telangana movement. Besides TRSV several other student wings like ABVP, NSUI, PDSU, AISF, and Dalith Student Organization, etc. also supported the cause of the Telangana movement. Most of the student organizations assembled in the Kakatiya University on the 17th of November 2009 and formed a student JAC and 23rd invited this JAC by the supreme of TRS, KCR, and supported him if he were gone for a hunger strike.

Doris Wydra et.al [2020] During the last decades the map of Europe has changed considerably. New claims for independent statehood were brought forward and demanded for recognition. These claims had to be answered by the European Union and its member states. This article evolves around the idea that state recognition is as much a matter of politics as it is of law. It starts from the assumption that 'who we are defines what we see', claiming, that

European identity, the images the EU and the member states hold about themselves, shape the mental maps they hold of territories and space. Building on this identity a geopolitical imaginary is formed, which can be defined as ideas, allowing actors to ascribe meaning to territories, establish order in a seemingly chaotic world by means of classification and categorisation and allow to develop strategies for action. The geopolitical imaginary of Europe contains the vision, that if all states were more like Europe itself, the world would be a better place: a world determined not by power and coercion, but by rules, norms and values; with conflict mechanisms, not based on the rule of the strongest, but the rule of law; stability, created through common rules, negotiation and economic prosperity; and a determination not to let 'blunt power-politics' prevail.

Epistemic justice and decolonization of state recognition studies

Practices of recognition in world politics are at best institutionalized patterns of exclusion that affect the ability of aspirant states to participate as an equal member of the international community. It is widely known that recognition as a diplomatic practice has its historical roots in the colonial era, where non-European states were required to adhere to a 'civilisation process' before becoming partial or full members of the international society governed by laws of nations. Historically, recognition is affiliated with the discriminatory and racist practices of European states selectively determining who are civilized and uncivilized. Knowledge on state recognition has followed this trend as well. Often the epistemic community (especially legal, positivist and comparatist researchers) arbitrarily defend the exclusionary norms and practices of the international society and seek, through pseudo-intelligent arguments, to retain the boundaries of the status and entitlements of existing dominant states in global politics.

Recognitionality and the re-visioning of state recognition

The existing knowledge on state recognition focusing mostly on the globalized Western legal and political theory is unable to capture the broader politics and practices of state recognition. At its core, scholarly debates on state recognition tend to focus mostly on debating whether international recognition is constitutive or not of independent statehood. Some argue that recognition is acknowledgement of independent statehood and does not impact the existence of a state. Others vest a great deal of importance in recognition, considering it constitutive of statehood. On balance, neither the declaratory theory defended by international lawyers nor the constitutive theory defended by IR scholars and political scientists provides a solid basis for capturing the role, politics and dynamics of international recognition in the state-becoming process. Another major preoccupation among state recognition scholars is the impact of aspirant states on international order, institutions and great power rivalry. Literature in general considers systemic factors that reflect preferences of great powers as well as broader international norms as key determinants of recognized statehood in contemporary times.

Actors, forms and the process of state recognition

A major feature of scholarly debates on state recognition concerns the actors and forms of recognition. The second section of this volume both covers the traditional actors and forms of recognition, namely bilateral and collective recognition and non-recognition of states, and provides new and original insights of alternative forms of recognition both by national, supranational, and transnational actors. As recognition is a discretionary political act with legal

consequences, the oldest and most common form of recognition is bilateral recognition. Bilateral recognition signifies formal or implied recognition of independence and sovereign statehood, along with the legal personality to share benefits and obligations of international law. Brad Roth's chapter ('Bilateral recognition of states') explores the legal and political predicaments behind the bilateral recognition of states. Roth shows that states have a wide range of options in terms of how they can respond to the existence of new states, articulated through overt and express forms of recognition. Securing collective recognition as the very act of recognition is embedded in a legal judgement about the fulfilment of statehood criteria and the possession of the capacity to take obligations under international law.

Case studies of contemporary state recognition

Despite the epistemic value of theoretical, conceptual, and comparative studies, extended case study research remains one of the most reliable forms of understanding the historical peculiarities and contextual nuances of state recognition. Studying individual recognition-seeking states on their own helps not only to show that the birth, consolidation, and transformation of states undergo unique trajectories but also to avoid conceptual overstretching, generalisation, and comparison, which can often become the source of epistemic injustice and exclusionary practices in the real world. The final part of this handbook explores a number of typical and atypical cases of contemporary state recognition and non-recognition. Looks at Palestine's struggle for recognition under the conditions of military occupation and hollow international support. Alashqar first looks at the historical stages which led to the formation of Palestinian state, including failed peace-making efforts, varied international support, and the challenges for establishing political authority and building state institutions under the conditions of the Israeli occupation of most of Palestine's populated areas.

METHODOLOGY

This chapter focuses on the regional disparities in Andhra Pradesh. The demand for separate statehood is basically raised due to the disparities in development. It is generally argued that the region is being neglected in the field of education, irrigation, employment and other sectors. Therefore, the analysis on the nature of regional disparities and extent of discrimination analyzed in this chapter. It also covers importance of language and other cultural differences in case of Telangana region among the different regions in Andhra Pradesh. At the time of merger of Telangana, the Coastal Andhra region was well advanced in respect of education. The Coastal area was under British rule in Madras Province, got developed in education whereas Telangana region has been suffered from domination under Nizam rule for more than two centuries. Surplus. This has attracted the capital accumulation which in turn moved into new avenues of the emerging opportunities and therefore, the economic diversification in contrast to the stagnant economic process of Telangana. The infrastructure facilities like education, roads, transport facilitated the delta people to acquire colonial education and spatial mobility as against the illiteracy and immobility of the people of Telangana. The historical processes have thus led to the creation of two distinct regions with one as capitalist space and the other as feudal space. Banjar lands and grazing lands vanish from the map of the village. Sheep and cattle rearing, the inherent occupations of semi-arid region of Telangana is not a priority for the planners.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The findings of the figure 1 indicates that most of the respondents from Palamoor University out of the total 150 students from both the universities were about 60 percent got highly influenced by the aim of separate statehood, about 21.33 percent were mobilized towards KCR's promises during the movement and before elections. Meanwhile the respondents from Kakatiya University about 61.33 percent influenced by separate statehood, with 22.67 percent were motivated towards KCR's promises during elections; while about 9 percent were attracted towards TRS party manifesto in Telangana movement. Thus main motivating factor for students firstly is the goal of separate statehood and then secondly KCR's promises in both of the universities.

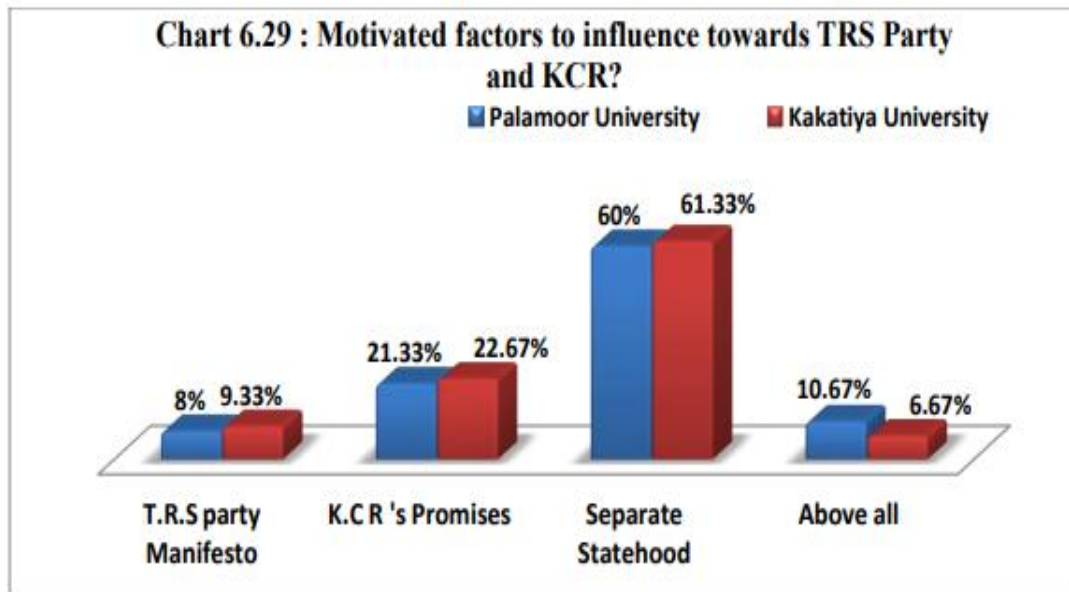


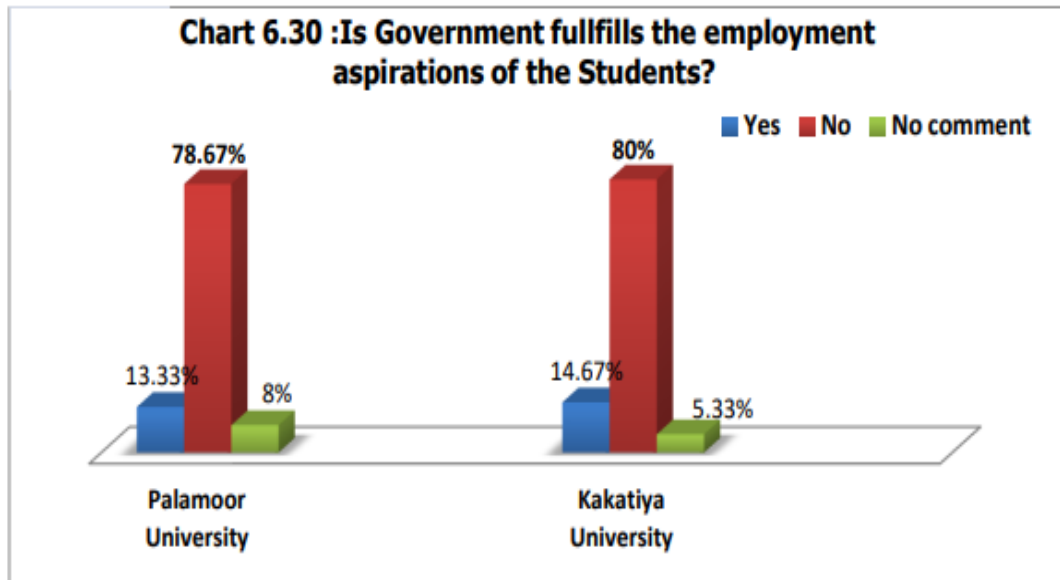
Table 1: Is KCR's Government 34ulfil34 the employment aspirations of the Telangana Students?

S.No	Response on Govt initiative on employment	Palamoor University		Kakatiya University		Grand Total	
		Frequenc y	%	Frequenc y	%	Frequenc y	%
1	Yes	10	13.333333	11	14.666667	21	14
2	No	59	78.666667	60	80	119	79.333333
3	No comment	6	8	4	5.333333	10	6.666667
	Total	75	100	75	100	150	100

Table 1 discusses about the aspirations of the students over separate state of Telangana at university level in both the universities. This table shows that from the Palamoor University out of total 75 respondents,10 respondents with 13.33 percent have felt that their sentiment of separate statehood got fulfilled and 59 respondents about 78.66 percent were got disappointed

due to the TRS government failed in 35 fulfil their aspirations and its promises during the movement and before 2014 elections as well.

Where as in Kakatiya University out of total 75 respondents, 10 respondents with 14.66 percent have felt that their sentiment of separate statehood got fulfilled but 59 respondents about 78.66 percent were got disappointed over the failure of TRS government in fulfilling the aspirations of students.



The findings of the figure 2 shows that majority of respondents from the district of Mahaboobnagar (Palamoor University), about 13.33 percent of respondents have felt that their sentiment of separate statehood got fulfilled but 78.67 percent of respondents were got disappointed with KCR's administration and his promises that "Water distribution, Funds and jobs recruitment", (Neeellu Nidhulu and Niyamakalu) and 11 lakh jobs during Telangana movement and before 2014 elections also. While respondents from Kakatiya University about 14.67 percent of respondents have felt that their sentiment of separate statehood got fulfilled but 80 percent of respondents have responded negatively and felt unhappy with KCR's administration, his promises during Telangana movement..

CONCLUSION

The demand for self-governance gained momentum because many people believed that a separate administrative system could better address regional problems and ensure balanced development. The recognition of Telangana as a separate state was a result of sustained democratic struggle and constitutional procedures. The Government of India carefully examined the issue through committees, political discussions, and parliamentary debates before passing the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The process highlighted the importance of federalism in India and the flexibility of the Constitution in accommodating regional aspirations. State formation in India has often been influenced by language, culture, administration, and developmental needs, and Telangana became an important example of how regional identity and governance concerns can shape political restructuring. From an administrative perspective, the formation of Telangana brought both opportunities and challenges. The new state had to establish its own administrative machinery, reorganize departments, allocate resources, and develop institutional structures necessary for governance.

Hyderabad, which became the capital of Telangana, played a crucial role in providing economic and infrastructural strength to the new state. The government focused on building a separate administrative identity by strengthening public institutions, implementing welfare schemes, and introducing new development policies. Administrative reorganization required coordination between the central government, Telangana, and residual Andhra Pradesh, especially regarding the sharing of water resources, government employees, public assets, and financial liabilities.

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