



## A REVIEW ON REGIONAL PARTIES DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR PERFORMANCE IN ELECTIONS IN TELANGANA REGION

G. RAMU

MA, LLB, (LLM)

Research Scholar Osmania University

**Abstract:** *This paper aims to provide an overview of recent research on Political Developments in Telangana in India. In the state of Telangana, the party that spearheaded the demand for statehood enjoys massive support and became the heir to the movement and the throne. Generally speaking, the effects of international political party assistance are viewed negatively, or at least controversially. So far, the TRS (Telangana Rashtra Samiti) has deftly managed the politics, meeting some expectations of the people. Political favoritism affects the allocation of government resources, but is it consequential for growth? Other research findings emphasize the coexistence of different types of party organizations, and the possibility of different organizational developments. Furthermore, they enrich local politics with new political dividing lines, smoothing the entry of new demands, themes, and issues onto the political agenda. Finally, they are proving to be more resourceful in recruiting citizens to stand as candidates for municipal councillorship. The contribution of the paper is to provide an overview and perspective of political developments on political economy problems affecting performance of state and local governments in Telangana. Political parties remain fundamentally bound to the political systems in which they operate. They reflect processes of state formation, political and institutional development and how social cleavages have translated into political settlements. Success in this approach seems to lie in targeting the right audience and individuals, at the right point in time, and establishing specific purposes for policy or political dialogues. Some of the examples of better practice follow a more conventional 'development' approach, including the development of large scale aid programmes. Development actors can and do exert greater influence on political processes and actors. Moving in to more explicitly political engagement brings with it new risks and requires new skills. Greater attention needs to be paid to some of the inevitable trade-offs this might involve.*

**Key words:** *Growth and development strategies, Political economy of growth and development, Telangana political parties, Local politics.*

**1.0 Introduction:** The objective of this paper is to examine the politics in the state of Telangana. The geographical scope of the paper is limited to Telangana and the temporal scope to the period starting from the formation of the state till date. The data and interpretations of the paper evolved out of the long primary acquaintance of the author with the society and politics in Telangana, and recent media reports, supported by secondary literature. The methodology of the paper is basically interpretative. The new 29th state of Telangana was formed on 2nd June 2014 within the Indian Union. The Telangana demand basically sprang from the identity of the Telangana people, culture, and dialect and their overall character. It is not based on the grievances of backwardness. For, the districts of what forms Telangana today were well developed even before the formation of the state. What was important in the demand for a separate state was the identity of the Telangana people. Political factors influence the timing and distribution of government inputs, in both rich and poor countries. While these studies systematically show politically motivated changes in government behavior, there is little evidence that these distortions affect economic outcomes. Yet identifying the economic impacts of these distortions is essential to understanding whether they are minor or consequential. We use a close election regression



discontinuity design—comparing locations where ruling party candidates narrowly won to locations where ruling party candidates narrowly lost—to identify the impact of ruling party representation on economic growth. An important aspect of Telangana state politics today is the absence of a credible opposition. We say credible opposition because during their long rule of the state previously, both Congress and Telugu Desam party consistently opposed the state's bifurcation though in the end it is the Congress party at the Centre which acceded to the demand for statehood. Democracy requires that there be an opposition to critique and counter-balance the ruling party. The two main opposition parties, Indian National Congress and the Telugu Desam Party, have some presence in the new state. Congress and TDP+BJP together have 41 seats in the legislative assembly and had 47.1 per cent vote share in the 2014 elections. But their main weakness is that they are not sufficiently vocal and do not enjoy the symbolic political capital that TRS has.

## 2.0 Literature review:

**Kathleen Bawn, (2012)**, We propose a theory of political parties in which interest groups and activists are the key actors. Coalitions of groups develop common agendas and screen candidates for party nominations on loyalty to their agendas. This theoretical stance contrasts with currently dominant theories, which view parties as controlled by election-minded politicians. The difference is normatively important because parties dominated by interest groups and activists are less responsive to voter preferences, even to the point of taking advantage of lapses in voter attention to politics. Our view is consistent with evidence from the formation of national parties in the 1790s, party position change on civil rights and abortion, patterns of polarization in Congress, policy design and nominations for state legislatures, Congress and the presidency

**Megan Sheahan, (2014)**, Are ostensibly demand-driven public programs less susceptible to political clientelism even when private goods are allocated? We investigate this conjecture using expenditure data at the local level from India's National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. By focusing on one state where accountability and transparency mechanisms have been employed and implementation efforts have been applauded, we do not find evidence of blatant vote buying before the 2009 election but do find that patronage played a small part in fund distribution after the 2009 election. Indeed most variation in expenditures is explained by the observed needs of potential beneficiaries, as the scheme intended.

**Venkateshwar P, (2014)**, The study is intended to examine the implications of caste system which continues to survive as a significant aspect of our society over the centuries. In Indian politics caste plays a vital role as the political behavior of the masses is often influenced by caste consideration. In India, the British India period was indeed the darkest phase but, it was also the period when reformers dawned on the scene and gave a new sense of direction to society. These reformers gave India a new thought process and helped it rediscover its soul. No country could boast of such a wide array of reformers like India. These social reformers instilled a sense of pride in things Indian and helped in India stand up to the British supremacists. They also strove to rid Indian society of the evils and outmoded practices. Many of them kept aloof from politics and struggle against the British. But, they helped the cause of freedom in an indirect manner.

Leaders and reformers like Mahatma Joti Rao Phule, Sahu Maharaj E.V.Ramsami Naicker, Narayana Guru, B.R.Ambedkar have left their historical mark in the fight for an equal society and self-respect.

**Anil Kumar Vaddiraju, (2016)**, In the state of Telangana, the party that spearheaded the demand for statehood enjoys massive support and became the heir to the movement and the throne. This, however, also comes with an enormous burden to lift the state from social and economic backwardness and poverty. So far, the TRS (Telangana Rashtra Samiti) has deftly managed the politics, meeting some expectations of the people. However, the state's politics happens in the context of a weak opposition and a weak civil society which have failed to provide robust opposition. Besides, the politics in the state is characterized by high stakes on symbolic politics. While the TRS government has so far sufficiently met the symbolic and emotional needs of the people, the real burden of raising the standards of living of the people and meeting their concrete expectations depends on going beyond these, and translating the prolific promises made into reality.

### 3.0 Methodology:

**3.1 Parties' performance in 2014:** The party that led the movement for a separate Telangana has become a ruling party and there is no other party equal in strength or support in the state. It is, therefore, a one-party dominant state, where TRS is the leading party in power with a weak or non-existent opposition in the state assembly. This was also the case with the Congress party when Independence was won for the Indian nation. Gradually, however, democracy and opposition strengthened over time. That is why the party that led the movement for separate statehood enjoys all the support carried over from the movement to the government.

**Table 1: Party Performance in Telangana during 2014 Elections**

Political Party	Seats in Lok Sabha	Seats in Assembly	Vote share(%)
<b>TDP+BJP</b>	1+1	15+5	22.6 (TDP+BJP)
<b>Congress</b>	2	21	24.5
<b>AIMIM</b>	1	7	3.5
<b>YSRCP</b>	1	3	4.5
<b>TRS</b>	11	63	34.7
<b>Others</b>	--	5	10.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>119</b>	

### 3.2 Analysis of 2014 elections:

#### Telangana:

Conducted in Month(s)	Polling Organisation/Age ncy	Sample size	INC	TRS+AIMIM	TDP	YSRCP
Apr 2014	Deccan Chronicle-Aaraa	?	23-25	58-64	12-14	3-5

### 3.3 Phase 1 (Telangana):

Polling passed off peacefully with more than 72% of more than 2.81 crore voters exercising their franchise in the 10 districts in the region. Chief Electoral Officer Bhanwarlal said the polling could touch 75 per cent. In 2009, the percentage was 67.71 in the region.

#### 4.0 Results:

Parties and coalitions	Popular vote			Seats	
	Votes	%	±pp	Won	+/-
Telugu Desam Party (TDP)	15,746,215	32.5	▲4.4	117	▲25
YSR Congress Party (YSRCP)	15,494,076	27.9	▲27.9	70	▲70
Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS)	6,620,326	13.7	▲9.7	63	▲53
Indian National Congress (INC)	5,668,061	11.7	▼24.9	22	▼134
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)	2,000,677	4.1	▲1.3	9	▲7
Independents (IND)	1,485,463	3.1	▼1.5	2	▼1
All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM)	737,134	1.5	▲0.7	7	–
Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP)	458,762	1.0	▼0.1	2	▲2
Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPM)	407,376	0.8	▼0.6	1	–
Communist Party of India (CPI)	254,859	0.5	▼0.7	1	▼3
Jai Samaikyandhra Party (JaSPa)	220,734	0.5	▲0.5	0	–
Lok Satta Party (LSP)	198,246	0.4	▼1.4	0	▼1
Pyramid Party of India (PPOI)	98,149	0.2	▼0.3	0	–
Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)	88,909	0.2	▲0.2	0	–
Yekikrutha Sankshema Rashtriya Praja Party (YSRPP)	68,414	0.1	▲0.1	0	–
Mahajana Socialist Party (MaSP)	66,801	0.1	▲0.1	0	–
Secular Democratic Labour Party of India (SDLPI)	60,598	0.1	▲0.1	0	–
Navodayam Party (NPT)	57,793	0.1	▲0.1	1	–
Majlis Bachao Tehreek (MBT)	55,083	0.1	–	0	–
Praja Rajyam Party (PRAP)	N/A		▼16.3	0	▼18
Other parties	304,444	0.6	▲0.1	0	–
None of the above (NOTA)	308,286	0.6	▲0.6	N/A	
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,400,406</b>	<b>100.00</b>		<b>294</b>	<b>±0</b>

#### Summary of MLAs elected to the Telangana Legislative



<b>Parties and coalitions</b>	<b>Seats won</b>
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Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS)	63
Indian National Congress (INC)	21
Telugu Desam Party (TDP)	15
All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM)	7
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)	5
YSR Congress Party (YSRCP)	3
Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP)	2
Communist Party of India (CPI)	1
Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPM)	1
Independents (IND)	1
Total	119

### 5.0 State Parties of Telangana:

**All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (Telangana):** The party has roots back to the days of the princely State of Hyderabad. It was founded and shaped by Nawab Mahmood Nawaz Khan Qiledar of Hyderabad State with the "advice" of Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan, the Nizam of Hyderabad and in the presence of Ulma-e-Mashaeqeen in 1927 as a pro-Nizam party. Then it was only Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (MIM) and the first meeting was held in the house of Nawab Mahmood Nawaz Khan on November 12, 1927. The MIM advocated the set up of a "Muslim dominion" rather than integration with India. The AIMIM as a political party purports to protect and advance the rights of Muslims in India. It bears true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India. It purports to believe in the nation's secular democracy and that it strives to protect and enhance its quality by effective representation from local municipal councils to the Parliament. Asaduddin Owaisi is an Indian politician, who is the President of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen. He is a three-time Member of Parliament (MP), representing the Hyderabad constituency in Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament.

**Telangana Rashtra Samithi, (Telangana):** Telangana Rashtra Samithi (abbreviated as TRS) is an Indian regional political party based in Telangana. Founded on 27 April 2001 by K. Chandrashekar Rao, with a single point agenda of creating a separate Telangana state with Hyderabad as its capital. It has been instrumental in carrying forth a sustained agitation for the granting of statehood to Telangana. In the 2014 Telangana Assembly Election, the party won the majority of seats and formed the first Government in Telangana State. K. Chandrashekar Rao became the Chief Minister of Telangana. In the 2014 general election they have won 11 seats making it eighth largest party in Lok Sabha. It also won 3 seats in Rajya Sabha.

**Mahajana Socialist Party:** The Mahajana Socialist Party is a political party in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, India. The party was founded by Manda Krishna Madiga on January 5, 2014, who became its president. The party fielded three candidates in the 2014 Lok Sabha election, standing in Eluru, Peddapalli and Rajampet.

**Telugu Desam Party (Telangana):** Telugu Desam Party (translation: Party of the Telugu Land), abbreviated as TDP, is a regional political party active in the Southern States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The party was founded by N. T. Rama Rao on 29 March 1982. Since 1995, the party is headed by N. Chandrababu Naidu, the incumbent Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. The



party's headquarters is located at NTR Bhavan in Hyderabad. N. T. Rama Rao became the 10th Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in 1983, within nine months of the party's formation, thus forming the first non-Congress government in Andhra Pradesh. TDP was the first regional party to become the main opposition party in 8th Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989. On March 16th 2018, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) lead by its leader N Chandrababu Naidu walked out of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's coalition on over financial support for Andhra Pradesh.

**YSR Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (Telangana):** YSR Congress Party or Yuvajana Shramika Rythu Congress Party (literally means: Youth, Labour and Farmer Congress Party) is a regional political party in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in India. It was founded by Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, the son of former Andhra Pradesh chief minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy (popularly known as YSR) in 2011. Both YSR and Jaganmohan Reddy (called Jagan by his followers) had been members of the Indian National Congress. Jagan was also elected as the national president of the party

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**Majlis Bachao Tehreek:** Majlis Bachao Tehreek (Save Majlis Movement) is an organization in the Indian state of Telangana. Majlis Bachao Tehreek (MBT) was founded by Mohammed Amanullah Khan Amanullah Khan (politician) as a result of President Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, formed the MBT (Save Majlis Movement) in 1993 after being suspended for protesting against the weak stance that the AIMIM took during the demolition of the Babri Masjid. Mr. Majeedullah Khan alias Farhat Khan son of late Amanullah Khan founder president of Majlis Bachao Tehreek (MBT) was elected President of MBT Party.

**Nava Telangana Praja Party:** Nava Telangana Party (NTPP) was a political party in Andhra Pradesh, India. The party was founded by Tulla Devender Goud to achieve separate statehood for Telangana. According to the party the people of Telangana were being treated as second class citizens, due to lack of drinking water for in spite of having two major rivers (Krishna and Godavari) flowing in the region.

**Telangana Communist Party:** The Telangana Communist Party (TCP) is a political party in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. TCP works for the creation of a separate Telangana state. The leader of TCP is S. Venkat Swamy.

**Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee:** Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee or TPCC is a state unit of the Indian National Congress (INC) in the state of Telangana. Ponnala Lakshmaiah was the first president of Telangana Pradesh congress committee. Later the Congress high command on Saturday 28th Feb 2015 announced Uttam Kumar Reddy as New Telangana PCC Chief, Also, senior Dalit face of the party Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka is likely to be made the working president.

**Telangana Jana Samithi:** Telangana Jana Samithi, abbreviated as TJS, is an Indian regional political party based in Telangana, India founded by Telangana activist, M. Kodandaram. He was also the chairman of all-party Telangana Political Joint Action Committee (T-JAC), which lead



the separate Telangana state movement from 2009. He was a professor in Political Science at Osmania University.

**Telangana Janata Party:** Telangana Janata Party (Telangana Peoples Party), a political party in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh working for statehood for the Telangana region. TJP was launched in March 2004 by dissident Telangana Rashtra Samithi leader Muralidhar Rao Deshpande. Deshpande is the president of TJP.

**Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress Committee:** Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress or TPMC is a state unit of the All India Mahila Congress (AIMC) in the state of Telangana, India. The All India Mahila Congress (AIMC), also referred to as Mahila Congress is the women's wing of the All India Congress Committee and Ms. Sushmita Dev, Member of Parliament (Silchar) is the current President of the AIMC.

**Telangana Praja Front:** Telangana Praja Front (TPF) was a regional political movement in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. It was formed as a Telangana separatist organisation, demanding statehood for the Telangana region that was then a part of Andhra Pradesh. TPF was launched on 9 October 2010 with Gaddar as president.

**Telangana Praja Samithi:** Telangana Praja Samithi or Telangana Peoples Convention was an Indian political party which fought for statehood for the Telangana region. TPS was founded in 1969. The founding president of the party was Pratap Kishore.

**Telangana Rashtra Party:** Telangana Rashtra Party (Telangana Nation's Party), TRP, is a political party in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. TRP works for the creation of a separate Telangana state. TRP was founded in Hyderabad on October 11, 2002 by G. Innaiah (alias Gade Inna Reddy). Innaiah had been the district secretary of People's War Group and the general secretary of Telangana Rashtra Samithi. A.R. Ramesh Kumar is the TRP president.

**Telangana Rashtra Sadhana Front:** Telangana Rashtra Sadhana Front, a front of dissident pro-Telangana statehood parties in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, formed ahead of the 2004 general elections. The member party of Telangana Rashtra Sadhana Front was at that time Telangana Rashtra Party, Telangana Janata Party and Telangana Communist Party. The convenor of Telangana Rashtra Sadhana Front was Katakam Mruthyunjayam. G. Innaiah of Telangana Rashtra Party was the co-convenor.

**Jana Sena Party:** Jana Sena or Jana Sena Party is an Indian political party in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, founded by actor turned politician Pawan Kalyan on 14 March 2014. Jana Sena means People's Army in Telugu. The motto of the party is to Fight for The Rights of every Common Person. On 10 March 2014, Pawan submitted an application for registering the party name. Pawan Kalyan formally launched the party at Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Madhapur on 14 March 2014. The party has been approved by the election commission on 11 December 2014 and will contest elections in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states for the upcoming 2019 local body elections. Pawan Kalyan campaigned for the Telugu Desam Party and BJP at the beginning of 2014 general election.

**Communist Party of India (Marxist):** CPI(M) emerged from a division within the Communist Party of India (CPI). The undivided CPI had experienced a period of upsurge during the years



following the Second World War. The CPI led armed rebellions in Telangana, Tripura, and Kerala.

**Lok Satta Party:** Lok Satta is a political party in India, founded by Nagabhairava Jaya Prakash Narayana, a former I.A.S. officer and renowned activist from Andhra Pradesh. Since 1996, the Lok Satta Movement functioned as a non-governmental organisation, but on 2 October 2006, the movement was reorganised into a formal political party. The party intends to further the causes of the Lok Satta Movement, including a reduction in the size of the cabinet, promotion of the Right to Information Act, and disclosure of criminal records and assets by political candidate.

### **6.0 Conclusion:**

The foremost responsibility of the state, and the need of the hour, is to uphold the law of the land, provide security of life and property and a secure environment for development and economic growth. These benefits include: employment, irrigation, agriculture and further decentralization. Some success on these fronts has been achieved but a lot more needs to be done. The question of farmers' suicides in Telangana is perplexing. It is only two years since the state has come into existence. However, we have argued that the prominent features of state politics relate to managing Telangana identity, meeting popular expectations after the formation of the state, coping with pressures from political movements within the state and dealing with the politics within the Union. We have argued that these pressures lead to the adoption of a more pro-poor or 'populist' development policies and politics, under the overarching rubric of the development policy adopted within the Union. For a considerable period from now, politics will likely be led by the regional party TRS, and therefore, politics and development are likely to look like any other regional party dominated state, such as Tamil Nadu or Punjab. The only exception might be that unlike Tamil Nadu, Telangana might have only one regional party, and so might look similar to the other regional party led states which have only one regional party. The development model will be a capitalist development path tinged with heavy identity and symbolic politics combined with pro-poor policies. This is still a developing story, which is happening in the context of a weak opposition in the state assembly, a weak civil society and an agriculture-dominated peasant economy. Telangana still has miles to go before it meets all the popular expectations.

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