

SECTION

Dr. CHANNA REDDY ----- A PROFILE

V. KAMESWARI

The rise of Dr. Channa reddy from the humble beginnings in a lower middle class farm family to the position of the head of the state government of Andhra Pradesh is a fascinating saga.

Born 60 years age in Siripuram, a small village in Vikarabad taluk of Hyderabad district, to Lakshma Reddy and Shankamma, Channa Reddy, the only son of his parents did not receive any extra attention from his parents as it was a fairly big joint family. But the parents had one burning desire -- the desire to give their son the best of education available in the State then. They, therefore, sent their son to his maternal uncle, Shri K.V. Ranga Reddy who was then a practising Vakil in Hyderabad city, at a very tender age. Channa Reddy began his schooling under the watchful eyes of his two maternal uncles, Shri K.V. Ranga Reddy and Shri K.V. Narayana Reddy.

Even as a child of 9 years old Channa Reddy nursed a secret ambition to study for medicine so that it would make him economically independent to pursue his political work. He began to throw sparks of his inborn organising abilities when, along with some of his friends not only in the same age group but also those older than him, organised a Debating Association in his locality. To the astonishment of everyone, the maiden speech of Channa Reddy was on " Truth, " a quality which has, in later years, become a passion with him both in his public and private conduct. The activities of this Debating Association were not confined only to organising " debates ". They were extended to organising a library and Channa Reddy was the natural choice for the Secretaryship of the library. He saw to it that books dealing with Ramayana, Mahabharata and other mythological stories were collected and given to the members for reading and assimilating the benefits of virtuous living. This early grounding in what our great epics have taught, made Channa Reddy a great adherent of the noble ideals set by them. In the later years of his life, these have found expression more than eloquently whether it was at home or in his service to the people.

The extra - curricular activities in which Channa Reddy involved himself right from his elementary school days did not divert his attention from his studies, the purpose for which his parents had sent him all the way to Hyderabad braving all the parental agony of living away from their darling son. He began to win laurels in all the examinations he took including the M.B.B.S. ---his sole ambition to sustain him in public life.

Having taken the M.B.B.S. degree from the Osmania Medical College with a praise - worthy rank, Channa Reddy -now Dr. Channa Reddy -- straightaway joined the State Medical Service as at that time the house - surgeency was not instituted. Within a couple of month's time he left the service to set up two nursing homes in the city of Hyderabad. His nursing homes were known more as free nursing homes than as ones where the services had to be paid for. He gave up this " service " to the people after a couple of years in order to honour the higher call of the freedom struggle.

Alongside the studies in the school and college, Channa Reddy was also busy either in organising or captaining Seva Dal Corps or taking part in political conferences as a delegate. His intense political awareness soon compelled him to join the ranks of those leaders who were fighting for the cause of the people against the Nizam. He braved many a critical

situation in such “ fights “ and came out with flying colours to the great satisfaction of many of the stalwarts, quite a few of whom had seen in him the future hope of Hyderabad State’s dumb tolling millions. He became a rallying point -- whether it was in Andhra Mahasabha, the earlier version of the State Congress, or in the State Congress and the various struggles it had launched. In 1946, when the Hyderabad State Congress organised its state - wide conference Dr. Channa Reddy was the obvious choice for the general secretaryship of the Hyderabad people against the Nizam and his autocratic rule.

It was the anxiety of Dr. Reddy that the whole fight against the Nizam should be conducted on Gandhian lines. He drew inspiration from the Congress stalwarts outside like Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Rajendra Prasad. He journeyed all the way to Delhi to meet Mahatma Gandhi and seek his blessings for the manner in which the state’s fight against the Nizam was being carried on.

Soon the movement against the Nizam entered the “ intensive “ phase and, as a natural corollary, the top leaders of the movement were imprisoned by the regime among whom Dr. Reddy was one. After a short spell of imprisonment, the Nizam’s Government released the eight top leaders of the State Congress--of whom Dr. Reddy was one and also the youngest - with a view to exploring the possibility of negotiating a settlement with them. The negotiations having failed, the ‘ regime ‘ encouraged a para-military organisation, the Razakars, to loot and terrorise every anti-Nizam element in the state. This compelled the leaders of the State Congress to think of alternative strategy in order to sustain and reinforce the freedom struggle against the Nizam. As a tactical move, some of them “established” themselves outside the borders of the state and intensified the struggle. Dr. Reddy, on his part, began publishing Hyderabad, a weekly, from Vijayawada and smuggled its copies into the state. This campaign yielded dividends in that the highly explosive writings of Dr. Reddy fired the imagination of many inside the state and the fight against Nizam became more militant.

Happily when the Government of India launched “police action” against the Nizam of Hyderabad, its success marked the beginning of a new Chapter in the history of Hyderabad’s integration with the Indian Union. As a consequence, Hyderabad came to be recognised as a state of the Indian Union and its representatives were invited to join the Provisional Parliament of India. Dr. Channa Reddy was one of the members who thus came to represent Hyderabad State in the Provisional Parliament. Within hardly eight days of his joining the Congress Party in the provisional parliament, Dr. Reddy’s dynamic qualities and his fiery speeches on the situation in Hyderabad attracted the attention of Jawaharlal Nehru and Rajaji, who were quick enough to press him into service as one of the whips of the party. The speeches of Dr. Reddy in the Provisional Parliament were so eloquent and penetrating that they attracted the front-page attention of leading newspapers like the Hindusthan Times, New Delhi. This position of Dr. Reddy in the Provisional Parliament won him many enduring friendships with stalwarts like Rajaji, Moulana Abul Kalam Azad and others which stood him in good stead in the later years of his political life.

Then came the first general election in the country to usher in elected governments, based on universal adult franchise in all the states of the Indian Union. In this election D. Reddy won a seat in the Hyderabad State Legislature and he became the inevitable choice as Minister for the difficult portfolio of Food and Agriculture when the State was experiencing total rationing. His work as Minister is a record which every politician-administrator envies to this day. He brought in many a reform in the set-up-such that they benefited the toiling masses. During his term as Food and Agriculture Minister of the State, Dr. Reddy led the Indian Delegation to the Conference of International Federation of Agricultural Producers held in Rome in 1953, and as Deputy leader of the Indian Delegation to the FAO Conference also at Rome, in 1955. He took advantage of these visits abroad to study the agricultural and

industrial economies of 13 European Countries among whom were France, West Germany, England and Switzerland.

During 1957 - 62, when Dr. Reddy remained outside the Government he, as an important member of the Telangana Regional Committee did yeoman service to the cause of the region by carrying on an incessant battle for the economic and social uplift of the region. Some of the major irrigation and power projects which have now reached the fruition stage were the result of his farsighted efforts put in then. He firmly believes that for all the “differences” and “internal conflicts” among the people of Andhra Pradesh, the basic cause is economic disparities and consequent social imbalances and if these are removed through a balanced development of all the regions, the emotional integration would automatically come. He, more than once, emphasised that he had no acrimony or ill-will against people of any region, As Chief Minister for the past few months, Dr. Reddy more than proved this point .

In the 1962 elections, Dr. Reddy retained his seat in the Andhra Pradesh State Legislature and joined the State Cabinet and held important portfolios like Planning and panchayati Raj Industries and Finance. In 1967, after the fourth general election, soon after he joined the State Cabinet, he was called upon by the then Prime Minister. Smt. Indira Gandhi to join her government in the Centre as Cabinet Minister in charge of the important portfolio of Steel and Mines. Within the short period he remained in the Centre, Dr. Reddy effected several far-reaching changes in the set-up of the steel industry in the country which till today is retained in essence. He resigned his central ministership in April, 1968 owing to the judgment of the Andhra Pradesh High court in an election petition.

Soon after his return to Hyderabad. Dr. Reddy found discontent simmering among the Telangana people against the manner in which the legitimate interests of the people of the region were being trampled upon by the government. The students and youths started an agitation for redressal of the grievances of the Telangana people. As one who always stood by the just cause of the people. Dr. Reddy could not resist the demand of the people of Telangana to lead them in the hour of their distress. When this agitation was sought to be put down through “force”, Dr. Reddy rebelled and wanted a separate statehood for Telangana so that the people could achieve fulfilment of their aspirations under dispensation of “their own”. As always happens with such agitations, the interested persons gave wrong and harmful interpretation to the whole movement which then unfortunately took a violent turn. In spite of repression, the people of Telangana stood their ground and, in 1971 parliamentary elections, vindicated their solidarity with Dr. Reddy by electing his candidates from all but three constituencies in the region. This glorious victory of Dr. Reddy in the cause of Telangana people opened the eyes of the central leaders and soon they took steps to come to terms with the demands of the Telangana people. In the six-point formula that was evolved as a solution by the central leaders in consultation with and approval of Dr. Reddy, steps were taken to safeguard the legitimate interests of the people of Telangana.

When the tempers were cooling down the unwise handling of the post-agitation situation sparked off again an agitation--this time from the people of Andhra region demanding separation from Telangana. The people of Andhra region were dissatisfied with the way things were being handled by the state government. There was disappointment in the Telangana region too that they were still being given a step - motherly treatment. There was crisis in both the regions. Dr. Reddy was convinced that the lurking fears of the people in both the regions should be cleared if the State's integrity was to be maintained; otherwise separation should take place to the satisfaction of people in both the regions. At this juncture the Central Government had no alternative but to seek the statesmanlike assistance of Dr. Reddy to resolve the crisis. When after prolonged discussions the Centre came up with yet one more six-point formula, Dr. Reddy offered to give it a “trial”.

In 1974, Dr. Reddy accepted the office of Government of Uttar Pradesh, the largest state in India, on the insistence of Smt. Gandhi, the then Prime Minister. Till he demitted this office in October 1977, as Governor, Dr. Reddy took up many a good public cause with the cabinet of the State - the most important of them being the reorganisation of the administration of the temples and religious institution in the state. During the short period of President's rule in Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Reddy, unaided by the usual retinue of "advisers," took quick and effective measures to tone up the administration which won encomiums from all including those from the Fourth Estate.

On return to the state politics, Dr. contend with political forces with conflicting interests-- interests not of the people, but of their own -- and decide on the course of action in order to steer clear of the forces of reaction and champion, as has been his wont, the cause of the weaker sections and the oppressed and the depressed. He played a decisive role in clinching the "issues" which led to the break up of the Indian National Congress. He then joined hands with Mrs. Gandhi and carried the party to victory in the general elections to the State Assembly held in February, 1978.

As the inevitable choice of his party, he has accepted the office of the chief ministership in all humility. If the 10 months in office are any indication, the people of Andhra Pradesh can expect their beloved Chief Minister Dr. Channa Reddy, to "deliver the goods."

A FINE PRODUCT OF HYDERABAD CULTURE

MIR AKBAR ALI

KHAN

I am glad that the people of my State are celebrating the sixtieth birthday of my dynamic friend Dr. M. Channa Reddy. I was rather reluctant to accept the vice-Presidentship of the Felitations committee because, I felt that when somebody is in power, such a thing should not happen; but I felt there are occasions when we have to appreciate our people so that they might be encouraged to do better things and dedicate themselves more to the service of the people of this country. With this idea, I accepted the Vice - Presidentship of the Committee in order to express my affection and give my blessings to Dr. Channa Reddy.

Dr. Reddy started his career as a medical practitioner, but his heart was in politics. I think it was the case with some of my friends among whom Dr. Rajbahadur Gour was one. I persuaded him to take up the profession when his father brought him to me. Though he said 'yes yes ' to me, he continued to be active more in politics than in his profession. It was the case with Panditji too. When Panditji became a barrister and came back, Motilaji put him under Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, whose junior I also had the honour to be. But Jawaharlal's heart was not in legal practice but in politics. So, Dr. Channa Reddy belongs to this category of people.

When there was a question of reorganisation of the States and the team under Fazal Ali with Pandit Kunzru, a very respected friend of mine and Dr. Panikkar, who happened to be my teacher at Aligarh, as members had come to Hyderabad, this group under Shri Ranga Reddy and some others was not prepared to have Hyderabad divided into three. But the general feeling at that time particularly in Marathwada region, was so strong that there was

no alternative for the Commission but to recommend the division of the State. Then we felt that we too could have a small State of Telangana and in that situation Shri Ranga Reddy should be our leader. Dr. Reddy was with us in the movement and there was a general feeling in Telangana that we should remain separate; but our friends from Andhra were very anxious that we should join immediately; other wise, complications would arise. Anyhow, under the leadership of Sri Ranga Reddy, we visited Delhi many a time and I took part in almost all those discussions which took place with Panditji, the Prime Minister, with Dhebar, the Congress President, with Pantji, the Home Minister, with Moulana Saheb as one of the very powerful members of the Congress Working Committee and a senior Minister. Of course, things dragged on and our respected ex-President Dr. Radhakrishnan, was very much in favour of forming Andhra State. Opinion was divided on the question whether big States were good or smaller States. At that time the opinion was that big States were better. So, under those circumstances, we had to yield to the dictates of the High Command, Panditji and others. But I distinctly remember that when for the last time. Dr. Channa Reddy and I met Panditji, he mentioned to us the suggestion at the Congress Working Committee that Bihar and Bengal should be combined. He, therefore, pleaded with us not to insist on a very small state, which will hamper economic progress. So, we came back to Hyderabad House in Delhi where Shri Sanjeeva Reddy and his colleagues from Andhra and Shri Ranga Reddy, Shri Ramakrishna Rao, Dr. Channa Reddy and their colleagues from Telangana discussed mutually and signed an agreement under which certain safeguards were provided for the development of Telangana.

The people of Telangana consider Dr. Channa Reddy as a product of old Hyderabad culture and traditions -- traditions which meant brotherhood among all communities, love and affection among all castes and maintaining greater affinity in social, cultural and political matters. Whether it was a marriage of any other ceremony or festival. We never felt that the festival of one community or caste was different from those of others. I never felt that a marriage in Dr. Reddy's family was something different from one in my own family. We were just like very close friends and brothers. This tradition, I am glad to say. Is being kept up to a great extent by Dr. Channa Reddy. That was also one of the reasons why I accepted to be the Vice - President of the Felicitations Committee. We have Won our freedom through the sacrifices of our great leaders. The question now is how is, how to preserve this freedom and utilise it to achieve social and economic freedom and justice especially to the poorer and backward sections. For this, it is necessary for us to have a dynamic man as our leader. It is also necessary that this leader should be respected by all the communities and I feel that Dr. Channa Reddy enjoys this privilege and he has in him the necessary drive to take the whole State on progressive lines and accomplish things which will be in the best interests of the people particularly the poorer sections. I wish him best and I do hope that when he leaves his present post, the people will say that Channa Reddy has really accomplished what many others did not. That is what I am looking for and I am sure this tribute by the people will encourage him, will help him to accomplish many things in the interests of the state.

I would like Dr. Reddy, as Chief Minister to concentrate the efforts of his government on the poorer section belonging to both the regions. The criterion should be the economic backwardness.

Secondly, I would like him to consider how best he can help the growth of Urdu language. I concede Telugu language as my State language. Every one born in my State should learn Telugu; but after that, I would give precedence to Urdu, because in this region, and in a way in the whole of India, it is the spoken language. By helping Urdu, we will be helping Hindi. By helping Hindi, we will be helping Urdu. The antagonism that was created between Hindi

and Urdu was an imperialistic move as it was to create differences between Hindus and Muslims, between Urdu-speaking people and Hindi-speaking people, between Harijans and Brahmins, and so on. We have to do our best to remove these antagonisms.

As Chief Minister, it has fallen to the lot of Dr. Channa Reddy to tackle the problem of unemployment among youth. The youths feel that there is no future for them. It is for the Chief Minister to create conditions so that our young boys and girls do not fall a prey to the anti-social elements and become, in the real sense, an asset to the State in its march towards prosperity for all. So is the case with our village artisans. I am aware Dr. Reddy has all sympathy and consideration for the plight of these artisans who, before the advent of the British, flourished as a prosperous community. I am sure under his dynamic leadership, his Government will do everything possible to bring happiness in the homes of these thousands of artisans spread all over Andhra Pradesh.

His experiment in introducing Abhyudaya Education right from the primary level, is a novel effort. If it succeeds, in the years to come, we will have boys and girls who have a purpose in life and who are disciplined to march forward. Even in the matter of school timings, Dr. Reddy's idea of having the schools from 7-00 in the morning upto 12-00 noon is worth experimenting. It will leave the whole afternoon for the children to do their homework and attend to other needs of their homes. I feel it will also improve the health of our children.

In the present political context, Dr. Reddy, who is heading a Congress [1] Government in the State, will have many problems with the Central Government to sort out in order to usher in an era of prosperity in the State. His excellent command over Urdu and Hindi would stand Dr. Reddy in good stead to establish the much needed rapport with the people in the North and with the Central Government.

On the happy occasion of his completing 60 years on the 13th January, 1979, I offer my good wishes for the health and strength of Dr. Reddy. I give him my blessings for the fulfilment of the tasks he had taken up as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

ADHERENT OF KISAN, MAZDOOR PRAJA IDEAL

N.G. RANGA

It was in 1947 - 48 that I came across Dr. M. Channa Reddy at the Hyderabad State Peoples' Conference soon after I returned from my second world - tour on behalf of the Indian peasantry. I was told that he hailed from a kisan section of the rural community and clear to me how much he admired the kisan - Mazdoor rural orientation that I was trying to give to the Congress thanks to Mahatma Gandhi's support.

He was bold enough, even in 1947, to declare himself as an adherent of the philosophy of Kisan Mazdoor Praja Raj ideal which was blessed by Mahatma Gandhi in 1944. The leadership of Hyderabad State Congress was based much upon urban peoples and their interests. Dr. Reddy founded the K.M.P. Raj Party and sought the cooperation of Shri K. Obula Reddy, the then General Secretary of the Andhra Provincial Congress. On my return

from Europe after attending the World Food and Agriculture Conference, I was able to bring him into contact with Sardar Patel and persuade him on one side to work through the State Congress and the late Swami Ramananda Tirtha, and on the other to welcome the rural orientation that Dr. Reddy stood for. During the Razakar days, Dr. Channa Reddy and so many of his colleagues had to take shelter in Vijayawada and other places and our Provincial Congress and Shri Obula Reddy gave them full political support. Like so many such other patriots, he too had to undergo many a hardship due to Razakar repression. After the liberation of Hyderabad, Dr. Reddy was taken into the State Congress Working Committee. When the opportunity came for the Hyderabadis also to join the Provisional Parliament, I was glad to have been able to persuade the Sardar and the Swami to include both Dr. Reddy and Sri Harischandra Heda among the Hyderabad contingent to Parliament. Both of them proved to be good parliamentarians, the Doctor being accepted as one of the whips of the then most powerful Congress Party and thus joining the ranks of those of us who constituted the leadership of the Party around Jawaharlal in Parliament. When the Hyderabad State Government was formed after 1952 elections, the Doctor, who had by then gained his spurs in the state leadership was invited into the Cabinet as Minister for Food and Agriculture. By that time, I left the Congress to found the Krishikar Lok Party in order to develop separate political leadership for the rural people. In spite of my being away from the Congress, Dr. Channa Reddy was good enough to head my demand for removal of controls over foodgrains thanks to the initiative shown by Rajaji in Madras. He was also courageous enough to invite me to inaugurate their State Farmers Forum, sponsored by himself and the late Ramakrishna Rao, the then Chief Minister.

It was during that period that our Federation of Rural People's Organisations sent him as its delegate to the Conference of International Federation of Agricultural Producers held in Rome. Again, his cooperation was available to me in 1957 when both of us were in the Congress, in our struggle against Gram Dan campaign, which aimed at the abolition of self-employment of peasants and the proprietorship of their holdings, and also in 1959 against the cooperative farming campaign. Such have been his contacts with our Kisan movement.

It is true that he favoured the implementation of the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission for the separate existence of Telangana for such time that it made enough socio - economic progress and modernisation of administration, before it could think of merging with the greater Andhra. I too thought that such a move would be beneficial to both Telangana and Andhra People. But the late Ranga Reddy and Ramakrishna Rao, the Telangana elders, agreed on the compromise proposals offered by Nehru and Pant. So, when after 20 years of experience of merger, the Telangana people wanted separation and sought his leadership, long after earlier violent outbursts were over and their movement was sagging to dead stop, Dr. Channa Reddy provided just the competent leadership that was then needed. During his period of leadership there was no more excesses. But he had to go to jail along with a few of his associates. It must be said to his statesmanlike leadership, the separatists gained a large number of seats in Parliamentary election of 1971. When, however, compromise formula was sponsored by the Centre and integrationists, Dr. Channa Reddy was wise enough to accept it and thus paved the way for unity between the two regions. It should also be remembered that when later the Andhra Separatists were aggressively demanding separation from Hyderabad, Dr. Channa Reddy did not play any active role on either side and allowed the integrationists to have their triumph and the Andhra Pradesh to remain intact. Such has been statesmanship.

Like all post-independence political leaders, Channa Reddy has been patient, with all his temperamental impetuosity, and wise, despite his occasional outbursts, in playing a leading role in parliamentary politics of power. He too has had his share of disappointments. When he was unseated for six years because of electoral malpractices, he was not helped, as he

deserved to be., by Indiraji's administration to get over that disqualification by suitable amendment of the relevant laws.

When Channa Reddy was appointed Governor of Uttar Pradesh, most of his friends all over India felt disappointed that he was being sent into political quietude. But he began to display his innate drive for constructive work; he soon took a measure of the needs of that State and his opportunities for good work.

One of the most outstanding of such a public need that was crying for attention was the reform of the control and management of tens of thousands of Hindu religious Maths, temples and other centres of popular worship. Dr. Reddy, who has known how the South Indian religious institutions have come to be managed through statutory authorities for forty years, soon visualised his opportunity to make a progressive contribution to the Hindu religious institutions. He succeeded in persuading the Cabinet on the urgent need to regulate and control the management of finances and the day-to-day working of the U.P. Religious Endowments. On his advice the U.P. Cabinet arranged for studying the working of the Hindu Religious Endowment Acts of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka States. He was able to speed up the processing of the reports obtained on such studies during the few weeks of President's Rule in the State. The happy result of these initiatives and his success in persuading the Cabinet in this constructive direction was the promulgation of an Ordinance for constituting a statutory body to control, regulate, manage or/and utilise the resources, properties and activities and establishments of the Hindu Religious Endowments in U.P. It was indeed a unique but long-awaited achievement. It was universally welcomed. Dr. Reddy has thus demonstrated what a dynamic, democratic and a progressive Governor can do even when the institution of Governor is considered to serve as the figure-head.

Channa Reddy has now gained the much valued opportunity to serve the five crores of Andhras, as their Chief Minister at the head of the Congress [1] Ministry of Andhra Pradesh. He has attained this high position after twenty years of experience in the ministerial sphere. He has already placed Andhras in the vanguard of the post 1972 - 77 Garibi Hatao movement. If the Twenty - point Programme has placed a high accent on the service to Dalit Lok, and the Kerala Government tried to build a lakh of houses for Harijans and other homeless people, he has offered to build one lakh houses every year and five lakhs in this period of five years, at the enormous cost of Rs. 125 crores. If the Janata's new orientation to the national planning has offered to favour rural development, he has gone several steps forward by offering to spare more than 50 per cent of the state's resources for various services and developmental activities catering to rural people. He responded to our long -time demand for tax-relief to the poorer peasants by exempting their small holdings from land tax. If the Janata's educational Plans have begun to lay special emphasis on anti-illiteracy and adult education campaign, he has already begun not only to implement them more vigorously, and quickly on a broader scale but also offered to convert the maximum number of elementary schools into model schools after the fashion of non-denominational but morally forward-looking Vivekananda-cum-Whitefield Gurukul Schools.

These are points to his pro-kisan, pro-Dalit Lok and pro-Grameen approach and let us hope that the whole-hearted support of the State Cabinet and the legislature, he would be able to usher in a truly rural-oriented Kisan Mazdoor Socio-economic regime.

Dr. Channa Reddy is a man of imagination, initiative and dynamism .

He has to gain the cooperation of the ever-expanding and multi-sided administration. Rajaji and Sardar Patel knew how to gain its enthusiastic support and constructive comradeship. I trust that with all his varied ministerial experiences in the State and Union Ministries, and also as a Governor, he would find it possible to win its confidence and respect and succeed in humanising and maximising its services to the general public.

Ours is a country of caste-minded public and official folk and it is extremely difficult to help the administrators to overcome their caste prejudices and predilections and be patient with all the compromises that the political leaders have to make in order to help the Backward classes, Harijans and Girijans and make up for the past neglect of their interests in the official hierarchy. The upper caste officials have to be persuaded, in a considerate manner, to learn to accept their comparatively junior colleagues as their equals, and sometimes as their seniors. This is an extremely sensitive side of our present-day politics.

I hope that Dr. Channa Reddy will succeed in steering clear of the usual assumptions of Chief Ministers and the Prime Minister of themselves being so much more competent, responsible, responsive and wise than their colleagues and burdening themselves with the need to make all the decisions on both the big and petty issues and Cabinet colleagues. He should hold before him Jawaharlalji's excellent example of inspiring his colleagues to make their best contributions. He should also try not to allow the so-called favourite friends to clutch the approaches to him as had troubled Jawaharlalji.

Cabinet colleagues have to be helped to grow into competent and constructive colleagues with security of tenure for all obviously popular, honest, energetic and efficient ministers. Since Dr. Channa Reddy has himself had the experience of what it was like to be a minister under so many different chiefs, I hope he would be able to inspire his colleagues with the necessary zeal and confidence and ennoble his cabinet in its service to the people and especially the Dalit Lok.

DR.REDDY AND THE TELANGANA REGIONAL COMMITTEE

T.

HAYAGRIVACHARI

New that Dr. Channa Reddy is the Chief Minister of a state that continues to be united, some may wonder whether it is appropriate to discuss, let alone extol, his role and achievements in the Telangana Regional Committee and, in particular, as Chairman of one of its important committees. Such people do not understand the processes of social integration. The integration of the strong and the weak in a social situation cannot take place without an initial period of struggle and if it does, it will result in submergence and assimilation of the weaker to the detriment of their individual interests and personality. If one sees a picture of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers with the Queen, one cannot fail noticing that all the present Prime Ministers at one time or the other were in Her Majesty's prisons. An enduring process of social integration has to go through the stages of struggle, recognition and redressal. In the initial stages of the existence of Andhra Pradesh, the Telangana Regional Committee was a step necessary towards the full integration that has been subsequently achieved. This is not to say that the process followed a correct path or that mistakes had not been committed on one side or the other. It is only to assert that this was a necessary stage and however much one may regret certain aspects or developments, historically this stage cannot be either overlooked or forgotten.

At that critical stage, Dr. Channa Reddy was ideally suited to play an active role in the evolution of this particular institution. Institutions acquire a character and a life of their own from the type of leadership that is available to them in their formative periods. We have had

too many examples of institutions, intended to be the sentinels under the Constitution, becoming weak and ineffective because those at their head happened to be themselves indecisive and supine. It was the dedication to a cause and the dynamic leadership provided by Dr. Channa Reddy in the functioning of the Regional Committee in its early formative stage that gave it its strong character. Dr. Channa Reddy is by nature a champion and a crusader and he found a natural opportunity for these qualities in the problems which the Regional Committee confronted in its earlier years.

According to the terms of agreement entered into by the leaders of Andhra and Telangana regions at the time of formation of the Andhra Pradesh State, known as the 'Gentlemen's Agreement', there was to be a Regional Standing Committee of the State Assembly for the Telangana region consisting of the members of the State Assembly belonging to that region including the Ministers from that region but not including the Chief Minister. The expenditure of the new State on central and general administration was to be borne proportionally by the two regions and the balance of income from Telangana was to be reserved for expenditure on the development of the Telangana area. The Andhra Pradesh Regional Committee was accordingly constituted in February 1958 by a Presidential Order under Art.371 of the Constitution. It had three Sub - Committees---on local Administration and Public Health, one on Education and another on Planning [later changed as Development].

Dr. Channa Reddy was the presiding-member of the Sub-Committee on Planning and Development for the period from 1962. He was also presiding - member of the Sub - Committee on a "White Paper on Telangana" in 1961.

As presiding - member of the Sub - Committee on Planning and Development he had submitted 35 reports including supplementary reports covering the entire Plan and its financing and also individual reports on each sector of development included in the Plan. These reports, submitted continuously, included two each on Pochampad Project and development of the capital. He also led a delegation to the central government for inclusion of Pochampad Project in the Plan which was vital for the economic development of Telangana region. This paved the way for the subsequent inclusion and execution of this project under the Plan. In addition to the 35 reports on Planning and Development he had also submitted four reports including three supplementary reports on "White Paper on Telangana". Thus, in all, he had submitted a record number of 39 reports almost continuously during the period from 1958 to 1962. He championed the cause of Telangana services in the first and third supplemental reports of the Sub-Committee on White Paper on Telangana.

He was also a member of the Sub - Committee on Education from 1959 to 1962 and was responsible for several of the decisions of the Committee especially on reservation of seats in technical educational institutions in Telangana region. He also strived for the development of the Osmania University by arranging Rs. 3 crores for its Foundation Grant from the Telangana surpluses.

During this period, he was also a member of the Estimates Committee for 1959 - 60 and later its Chairman for 1960 - 61 and 1961 - 62 and submitted twelve voluminous reports covering all important projects and schemes ranging from Nagarjunasagar Project and Allwyn Metal Works to the Printing Department.

One need not dwell here on the various intricate issues connected with the Telangana surpluses such as what exactly constituted a surplus ; whether these were to be taken only as Revenue surpluses and if so whether they were to be set off against the capital expenditure ; what should be the method of allocation of state - wide schemes, etc. With the abolition of

the Regional Committee and the non - maintenance of accounts separately for Andhra and Telangana these have become now academic issues of purely historical interest. But the basic issue involved viz., that each area should get its due share in the development plans giving due weightage to the relative backwardness of the different areas concerned remains an important issue in planning even today. It is an issue that is important not only for our State but at the All - India level also, whether it be in the division of central of assistance between the states or the devolution of taxes by statutory commissions or the allocation of other funds for developmental purposes, The major issue that has to be faced and resolved is the issue of weightage for backwardness.

Arising out of the issue of surpluses raised by Dr. Channa Reddy's Committee at that time, the surpluses were finally determined as a total amount of rs. 45 crores and these became available to the Telangana region during the Fourth Plan period over and above its normal share in the developmental expenditure of the state. In the Fifth Plan period, this procedure was replaced by the Six - point Formula and once again the Government of India were good enough to allocate additional funds for backward areas. This time such areas were to be identified not only in the Telangana region but in all the three regions of the state and a total amount of rs. 90 crores given by the Government of India was divided between Telangana, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra in the ratio of 5:3:2. Thus ultimately, the backward areas in the entire state benefited by an idea and a trend which was launched by Dr. Channa Reddy as chairman of the Sub - Committee of the Telangana Regional Committee.

The other two major issues that used to agitate the members of the Regional Committee at that time were matters relating to service conditions of Government employees in the different regions and rules for admission to educations of Government employees in the different regions and rules for admission to educational institutions. As mentioned earlier, Dr. Channa Reddy in dealing with the White Paper on Telangana and as a member of the Committee on Education was intimately connected with the resolution of these two issues also. Insofar as the service matters are concerned, it was not merely a question of reserving jobs in the region for people from that region but also one of redressing certain grievances that had arisen and creating an atmosphere of confidence. In regard to education, the safeguards were essentially intended to protect the interests of the people of the region who were backward educationally and who could not therefore straightaway face open competition. In these two cases also, the Six - point Formula replaced the then existing situation and the basic principle, viz., protection of the interests of the people belonging to a particular region in regard to opportunities arising in that region both in matters of employment and education, has been accepted and extended to all regions of the State.

Another aspect which was initiated in a sense in those days and which is reaching its fruition now is the development of the capital city. There used to be in those days a great deal of bickering as to how expenditure on the capital city was to be allocated between the regions. This has fortunately given place now to a feeling of partnership and common belonging in the city which is after all the capital of the entire state. The development of the capital city also received a fillip due to the additional assistance of rs. 10 crores made available for it by the Government of India during the Fifth plan period.

In the case of any other person it could have been stated that the experience in the Regional Committee and its Sub - Committees was a good training ground for becoming a minister. But this could not be said of Dr. Channa Reddy as he had already been a minister in the State of Hyderabad. But this work did help him inasmuch as when he joined the administration he

could bring to his work an intimate knowledge of these problems which could not have been gained but for his working in these sub-committees

When one reviews historical events, it is always interesting to speculate as to what might have been if the events had taken a different turn or certain individuals had adopted a different role. Dr. Reddy was not part of the administration and was an active leader of the Regional Committee during the first years of the formation of the new State of Andhra Pradesh. One may be tempted to speculate as to what would have been the position if this were not so. On balance it would appear that events as they actually took place gave him a better opportunity of service and for the unfolding of his talents than otherwise. The issues the Regional Committee tackled were important issues and it would have lacked proper leadership if at that moment Dr. Channa Reddy was not available because of his having been forfeited to the administration. The shape that the Regional Committee took and the strength it acquired would also have not been there but for him.

Nor perhaps would a position in administration at that juncture and in that combination of circumstances have given him an equal opportunity for the development of his own personality. As mentioned earlier, Dr, Channa Reddy is by temperament a champion of and a crusader for causes . It is the struggle for a cause that brings out the best in him and permits the full development of his various talents. The Regional Committee provided a forum for this aspect of his much better than administration would have at that stage. To be in administration is to accept limitations. More time is spent in delivering and defending than in crusading. Administration in the best sense has place for vision; but even in that sense it has no place for a visionary. Dr. Channa Reddy accepted these limitations earlier and later. But that interregnum was perhaps essential both for him and for the Regional Committee.

Dr. Channa Reddy ultimately joined the administration at a more propitious time and during a period when development was picking up in the state. 1964, when he was planning Minister and later Finance Minister has a peculiar place in the history of Andhra Pradesh. Agricultural production and per capita income reached the highest level that year -- a level which was not reached again for several years thereafter. Due to various unfortunate circumstances, This momentum began to be lost just about the time when he left the State administration and did not pick up again till 1974. When Dr. Channa Reddy returned to the state it was again at a time when the development of the state had gathered unprecedented momentum and was in its upswing. Looked at in this perspective it would appear that the intial work of the Regional Committee under the leadership of men like Dr. Channa Reddy was a necessary step in the direction of enduring integration which was subsequently achieved. Similarly in Dr. Channa Reddy's own career this was a necessary experience which had its own contribution to make in the acquisition of mature experience and the evolution of a dynamic personality that was destined to lead the state at a later and higher stage of its development .

A FIRM BELIEVER DEMOCRATIC DECENTRALISATION

M. BAGA REDDY

As one who has been closely associated with Dr. M. channa Reddy who leaves the stamp of his personality and makes enduring contributions in whatever field he chooses to tread, it was a little difficult for me to make a choice of what I should write on the happy occasion of his ' Shashtipurthi '. My association with him dates back to my student days when he was already the youngest Minister in the first popular Ministry headed by Dr. Burugula Ramakrishna Rao in the erstwhile Hyderabad State.

Community Development has been defined as “ a movement to promote better living for the whole community with the active participation and, if possible, on the initiative of the community, but if this initiative is not forthcoming, by the use of techniques for rousing and stimulating it in order to secure its active and enthusiastic response to the movementIt includes the whole range of development activities in the districts where these are undertaken by government or unofficial agencies. “ Few persons at the helm of affairs of the state have understood better the fact that people’s participation and initiative is the preponderant aspect of community development and that without their active participation and full involvement nothing tangible can be achieved in transforming the rural economy of this vast country and to lead it speedily in the path of democratic economic growth, During his tenures as the first minister in charge of Community Development and then of Panchayati Raj, he was instrumental in generating unforeseen popular initiative and active public participation in rural development programmes.

Dr. Reddy, by his actions, appears to have convinced also of the statement of Ensminger that “the success of community development must be judged not by the achievement in the short run of targets, but rather in the long pull by the evidence of growth and development of the competency of the people of increasingly looking to solve of the people in the rural areas and to develop traits of leadership in them.

The concept of community development was widened with the introduction of Panchayati Raj. Though its introduction, as Nehru said, the foundation of the real democracy was laid. As a true democrat, Dr. Reddy fully understood the fact that community development is the object of which the real instrument is the Panchayati Raj. Dr. Reddy is one who has undiminished faith in the efficacy of this instrument in transforming the rural economy in spite of the general weakening of this faith all over the country in the recent past after the initial euphoria, and the mounting criticism of the Panchayati Raj.

While delivering the valedictory address to the Southern Regional Seminar on Panchayati Raj held at Hyderabad in August 1978 Dr. Reddy observed : “ When we say that power should be passed on to the people, it is not merely out of our love for them. Not that to have love for them is anything bad. In addition, we feel that a system can be built in the country where people can be involved to look after their own affairs .. The best prime minister, the best chief minister, the best leader of dignity is not the one who keeps on passing orders, but the one who can get everything done by all the concerned and by involving all people. Panchayat is not that old conservative type of a thing . Panchayat, I would consider, is the greatest representative system. What is needed is how many people are we asking to take responsibility for the welfare of their fellow citizens. Without creating this type of feeling. Whatever orders we might pass, whatever action and amendments we might do, whatever administrative staff and structure we might create, and whatever training institutions we might establish, they will not fulfil Gandhiji’s thoughts about the panchayats.”

We have also people in our administration, the ministries, in the assemblies and in the Parliament, who say that we cannot entrust Zilla parishads and panchayats to the inexperienced people from villages. What is the difference between these people and the British ? The truth is that the British did not want to part with power. The same kind of vested interest, the same kind of want of conviction seems to be pervading through our people in position now. If we look back, even Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel were at one time the presidents or the chairmen of municipal corporations of the councils either at Allahabad or ahmedabad. All the great leaders of our country. At one time or the other, had occupied positions in the local bodies. Some of our Chief Ministers and Ministers were at one time or the other either the panchayat presidents or the zilla parishad chairmen. It is an irony of fate, that the same persons have no confidence or boldness to pass on power to others. People ask whether the chief ministers and the prime minister and the ministers were immune from committing mistakes. ? Are we perfect ? Who has given us this certificate ? What excuse have we to think in those terms ? Therefore, I would say that we have our masters, and they are the people. We talk in their name; we talk of democracy. It springs from the people. Therefore, you hand it over to them, you talk to them. You ask them, you subject yourself to them. We have to think on the lines of complete reorganisation of the panchayati raj set - up. There are many experts who can work out the details on what powers should be given etc. But about one i thing we should all be clear. Powers should be given to these bodies. That's all. What power should be given is a matter to be thought of . And I am not one of those conservative type of people with fixed ideas and views. If tomorrow morning I find even after the experts tell me that a particular thing is not really in the interests of the people. I shall not hesitate to scrap it and end it all and try to give more powers to the people and ask them to take responsibility. That should be our approach.”

One of the legitimate criticisms of the Panchayat raj system, we all know, is that the rural elite who assumed authority through this, tended to ignore the interest of the weaker sections and buttress the political hold of the vested interests. But Dr. Reddy, being one who has wholesome respect for democratic political process, continues to “ counsel faith in the self - correcting mechanism of democratic politics “. Being one convinced of the fact that community development has “a definite input of the democratic values, principles and procedures” he has set about correcting the weak links. I am referring to the recent amendments which the Government of Andhra Pradesh have brought. To the Panchayat Raj legislations taking the 1976 amendments as the starting point. The Acts have now been further amended to make the panchayat raj institutions more democratic and broad based by altering the structure of the set - up, by providing franchise to persons above 18 years of age., introducing reservations in favour of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the chairmen, Zilla Parishads. These measures are calculated to reduce the hold of the rural elite and the vested interests on these institutions and to protect and promote the interests of the weaker sections.

Dr. Reddy has also been seized of the need for adapting the bureaucracy to the democratic ethos, and making it an effective instrument of development. In the words of Sri S.K.K. Dey “ we know, Dr. Reddy, that the yet struggling child of panchayati raj is utterly safe in your hands and will receive all the care it deserves. We feel confident, panchayati raj in Andhra, under your stewardship, and in the emerging context of India. Will surge forward in consonance with the position this great state occupies in India.”

Under Dr. Reddy's stewardship my mission, as minister for Panchayati Raj will be to prove that the panchayati raj system is the most important " political innovation of independent India. "

Before I conclude let me quote from Gunnar Myrdal: " the simple truth is that India badly needs to make rapid progress in the whole vast countryside by changing all undesirable conditions ." Judging by the programmes which have been initiated by Dr. Reddy and the instrument he has chosen to achieve this I have no hesitation to say that he has understood this simple truth well. The tasks he has set for himself are those of a statesman and he has shown himself to be one. I wish and pray godspeed in his life's mission.

THE MAN AND THE MYTH

K.V. NARAYANA REDDY

Few men in public life have been able to accomplish a number of things, each different from the other, and fewer still have become a legend or a myth in their life - time. It is not difficult to explain how a public figure becomes a myth, since it is invariably due to a fortuitous congruence of certain qualities in the man that turns him into a symbolic figure in the public imagination. Very often the myth becomes an excuse for neglecting the man and the man an excuse for investing the myth with a sentimental appeal. It is, therefore, necessary to separate the man from the myth in order that justice may be done to him:

To be an astute politician and parliamentarian, a distinguished and dedicated minister of government, an eloquent speaker, a successful Governor and an unflinching champion of the down-trodden and under-privileged classes would seem too idealistic to be realisable. Yet, such is Dr. Channa Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and his present position is but yet another milestone in his distinguished political career spanning over four decades. He has, indeed, become a myth because, unlike many other politicians, he has not made just a splash and disappeared, nor does he owe his success to any tell-tale manipulation of provincial or regional passions and group loyalties. Even his severest critics--there are quite a few of them--concede that there is at the base of all his public activity incredible courage, generous impulses, a fierce hatred of humbug and sham and, above all, a tenacity of purpose that brooks no interference from any quarter.

Ever since he became General Secretary of Andhra Mahasabha way back in 1942, he has not looked back ; and it became apparent even at that time that Dr. Channa Reddy might be denied due political recognition but could never be ignored. The qualities of leadership that have found such an eloquent expression in his political career have created what may be called the Channa Legend, which has been haunting the conscience of his admirers and detractors alike. This explains why he has been hailed by the public at large despite his advocacy of opposing attitudes and views. It may seem ironical that one who opposed tooth and nail the creation of the integrated State of Andhra Pradesh should now lead its government. But to those who have known the man and who have not fallen under the spell of the myth, it would not cause any surprise, since Dr. Channa Reddy's principal concern has not been and is not with any particular governmental or administrative set up but with the well-being of his people to which everything else is subordinated. His charisma, indeed, is no

more than his ability to focus public attention on what relates to latent questions of survival or security and has little to do with messianic aura.

Though trained for the medical profession, Dr, Channa Reddy was too restless to keep himself from entering into the pulses and passions of the political life. Believing that he had a part to play in the world of public affairs, he unhesitatingly plunged into its very mainstream. What amazes his political opponents is his extraordinary resilience and his uncanny ability to make his presence felt even when he is seemingly espousing a lost cause--be it a separate State for Telangana or the Congress--1. Their amazement stems from paying too little attention to the man and too much to the myth. Dubbed a stormy petrel fairly early in his political career, Dr. Channa Reddy has shown a rare courage to make any sacrifice in the achievement of his objectives, which in historical retrospect appear impeccable in that they have tended to promote virtues, which the people could ignore only at their peril--virtues like self-sacrifice, self-respect and sense of justice. His political success has not been 'a flash in the pan' but the outcome of an agonizing, unremitting struggle for the realisation of what in the ultimate analysis would make for dignified and progressive living for the people at large. If he has been one of the most misunderstood men of our time, it is because of the sedulous propagation of the myth, which highlights the authoritarian and the ambitious as against the generous and the self-sacrificial that expresses the man.

MAN OF RESULTS

K.V. KESHAVULU

A leader should be able not merely to receive change but also anticipate it or even forecast it. But what distinguishes him most and marks him out from others is his ability to create change and, above all, to manage it successfully. And change not for its own sake. Dr. Reddy belongs to that category of leader statesmen for whom change is, to use Plato's language, the pursuit of virtue; change that will materially alter the quality of life. For him change is achievement, results, a Promethean passion embracing every activity, every idea. And, in that passion, every moment for him becomes a life time and every milestone yet another challenge.

In this pursuit of change, power to Dr. Reddy is a means for its attainment, not a goal in itself. If power was an end in itself, Dr. Reddy would not be spending restless days and nights to achieve results as if time was fast running out, but resting on his laurels.

This desire to change things for the better has guided his endeavours throughout his political career. In this pursuit, he has always displayed a highly practical and pragmatic approach. Ideology has not blinded him, nor theories clouded his vision. He asserted recently at a function releasing a new range of domestic appliances, some of which are considered items of luxury, "Socialism for me does not mean distribution of poverty. In a Socialist state of my dreams, I would like prosperity to reach every home." This statement in a way sums up

his social and political philosophy. Very few political leaders would have the courage to make such categorical statements which can easily be distorted. Courage, Kennedy has said, is the stuff of which leadership is made. Courage of conviction, courage to take the leap forward, courage to take two steps backward when necessary, courage to accept reality, courage to pluck success from failure etc. Courage in all these meanings, is one of the highlights of Dr. Reddy's character.

This highly pragmatic approach to the affairs of the State and Society may be described, in respect of its strict discipline, as " the enlightened industrial culture ". Such culture is associated with abjective results, contribution, yardsticks, accountability, quantification, costs and benefits, productivity, quality, an open intelligent mind and modernity of ideas and is reflected in various fields of activity he is concerned with.

Dr. Reddy's greatest contribution as Minister of Industry in the State during 1964-67, as Union Minister of Steel and Mines subsequently, and now as Chief Minister in charge of industry is not so much in respect of new industries and projects he has helped to promote, though these are in plenty, but the industrial culture' that he has fostered around himself and in the ministries under his charge. This culture is built on the bed-rock of results and those who have worked with him remember him for this contribution. Such a culture is bound to be associated with 'strictness'. That explains Dr. Reddy's impatience and abhorrence for laxity and sloth.

As a man of results, he is naturally attracted by quality and effectiveness, rather than by quantity and numbers. The multiplier effect was possible in small industry he realised, by encouraging the growth of units which would act as catalytic agents for, there is nothing more infectious than an example of success. It is for this reason that he always, during his tenure as Minister of Industries from 1964-67, laid stress on growth of ancillaries, industrial estates and intensive industrial promotion campaigns. The growth of ancillaries, especially around major public sector industries was given a big push. In addition to normal industrial estates, co-operative and technocrats, industrial estates were conceived and given shape. One of the most successful intensive industrial promotion campaigns in the country was implemented during this period. This was practically the first intensive attempt to identify feasible projects throughout the State and locate and persuade entrepreneurs to establish these. Almost 15 years back, this was the first entrepreneurship campaign which swept across the State and it is gratifying that some of the units which were set up during that time have gained maturity.

It is again because of this stress that the Directorate of Industries was asked to prepare a number of project profiles based on local potential. Export potential surveys were also carried out. A Technical Cell was specially set up in the Directorate of industries for this purpose. The Directorate was reorganised with regional offices under senior officers equipped to render local advice. Industrial Development areas, the nuclei of today's infrastructure corporation, were extensively developed with full facilities to attract large and medium industries. The major projects located in Hyderabad today, i.e., IDPL, HMT and BHEL were set up during this period. Realising the importance of agro-based industries, the Agro-Industries Corporation was formed.

Industry to Dr. Reddy was not a question of adding prestigious units in the State but an instrument of employment, upgradation of skills and multiplying social benefits. It is because of the early foundations laid during this period that the State can today boast of substantial

progress in industrial field with 262 medium and large industries with an investment of Rs. 478 crores and employing more than 2 lakh persons.

The problem of unemployment, particularly in the old city, drew his special attention and a number of schemes were implemented under his guidance. With his elevation as Chief Minister, this is receiving added attention. This is another proof that his philosophy, his thinking is basically rooted in the welfare of the people.

The inadequate exploitation of the mineral wealth of the State was a matter of pain with him and is so even today. He is, therefore rightly encouraging the growth of both private and public sector effort to ensure its speedy exploitation without allowing public sector to sit on resources without being in a position to exploit them. Thanks to him. A major project, based on exploitation of bauxite --one of the richest deposits the country has - is being located near Visakhapatnam.

It is because of his initiative that the question of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant which was hanging fire for quite some time, has now been settled. The Nagarjuna Fertilizer plant with an investment of 232 crores has also been cleared by the financial institutions. Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation and other developmental and promotional agencies and public sector companies have come to be invested with a new zeal to promote new labour-intensive as well as high-technology industries in the State. The growth of ancillaries has been given a fresh impetus. In order to exploit its extensive marketing infrastructure, Hyderabad Allyn has launched an intensive campaign to sponsor a number of ancillary industries in various fields such as domestic appliances, electronics, machine building, entertainment equipment, light engineering, electrical goods, etc. Plans are afoot for a second coal-based fertilizer plant in kothagudem belt. Two large paper plants are being put up. One at kurnool and another at Bhadrachalam. New cement factories are being promoted. Electronics Development Corporation for promotion of high technology industries is being set up.

As a creative leader and administrator, he is deeply aware of the importance of organisation in a large organised society. A properly shaped organisation is the prerequisite of successful action and achievement of objectives. One of his most important contributions as Union Minister of steel and mines was the reorganisation of Hindustan steel and other major public sector organisations under his control which he set in motion. For this purpose he visited United Kingdom and studied the steel and coal industry there.

It is once again this industrial mind which makes him seek 'resource optimisation in every walk of life. It is a tragedy of our daily life to witness the wastage of resources. Or their sub-optimal utilisation- material financial, human, etc., our country would have achieved many a revolution had we introduced an element of greater discipline in our resource utilisation the discipline of cost effectiveness. When such laxity begins from the top, whether in the name of ideology or otherwise the rot is endless and those whose duty it is to point out the potfalls become most subservient partners in sin. It is therefore fortunate to see that Dr. Reddy not only reflects this attitude in his own thinking but demands it of others. In this regard, therefore, he is a builder of modern Government.

Productivity is a common casualty in our life, while talking of the volume production, we often forget the contribution in terms of unit of input. Pursuit of productivity provides the best means of self-appraisal. But very few in political life have the courage to allow

themselves to be subjected to such discipline. It is gratifying to see a Chief Minister recommending optimisation of resources through cultivation of interspace between trees in reserve forests, intensive research for increasing the productivity of dry lands. Water conservation etc. these may appear small things but they display the sharpness of the mind of Dr. Reddy who wants to get the optimum from the minimum. What a transformation can be brought about if such an attitude of mind permeates every sphere of economic activity and every layer of administration If poverty has to be banished from our country and-quickly-it is this scientific mind that is necessary in leadership at every level, in every office and factory, every field and home. Dr. Reddy is richly endowed with such a mind. His emphasis on optimum utilisation of industrial capacities set up either with public or private funds is an extension of the same spirit. His scheme for extension of bus to every village should be viewed not only as an instrument of providing transport facilities but - what is more important and which only a leader with economic discipline can see-also of vast social benefit through inter-connection of markets and production centres and its multiplying effect on generating employment and economic activity. This is another attempt to optimise the use of resources by bringing out the potential of areas and the people who inhabit them. His proposal to dispose of extensive temple lands and use the receipts for financing educational programmes in villages is another example. Here again, his conception is that it is through education that we can harness the best of human resources.

The modernity of outlook is displayed in his eagerness to receive and try new ideas and techniques. He has opened all the windows on the Secretariat -the traditional bastion of status-quo, with a view to make it more result -oriented.

In doing this, he has adopted once again the industrial approach of asking external consultants, i.e., the Administrative Staff College of Hyderabad to look at its organisation and practices. He has encouraged a number of public sector industries to let their organisations be studied by competent outside consultants. This external assistance., he believes, is not a sign of lack of faith in internal competence but an extension of the thinking process within, the process of self-appraisal and self-improvement which constantly should go on in any living organisation. It is, on the contrary, a sign that it has nothing to hide and that is prepared to be told what it may have missed to see. organisations,Dr. Reddy is aware, tend to inbreed, are apt to construct walls around themselves to defend and perpetuate themselves and even to delink themselves from the purpose for which they were originally created. Organisations are created, Dr. Reddy keeps constantly reminding, to serve people and it is their changing, dynamic needs and interests that should govern their structure, shape and purpose. And it is in the interest of their creator -the people -that fresh breeze of ideas should constantly be blowing across its doors and windows.

Pursuit of excellence is another attribute of leadership. In our mistaken interpretation of egalitarianism we are apt to level everything down . all great scientific achievements, discoveries and inventions have been results of individual excellence and merit. The promotion of such individual excellence through selection is not an antithesis of socialism but is necessary for its success. What is needed, as Dr. Reddy has been emphasising, is the widening of the base of such selection so that as large a number as possible can get equal opportunities for growth. This is the motivation behind his idea of extending the public school system to villages. In keeping with this thinking he has suggested that a managerial cadre should be built for management of public sector units through a process of independent selection.

Dr. Reddy is a visionary a dreamer. This is necessary to be able to do great things. To have one's feet on the ground is not an excuse for not having ones eyes fixed on the stars. That alone provides a measure of one's challenge and the worlds one wants to discover or reach, in our onsession with realism we may often sell our souls away to pettiness people who may call him impractical should look at the breadth of his vision. Great things are possible only with visions. Those who do not have dreams can never achieve big things.

Dr. Reddy is a rare combination of a thinker, a visionary, a manager, an administrator a politician, a statesman. This is what marks him out as the Man of Destiny.

DR. REDDY, AS I SEE HIM

GOPAL RAM EKBOTE

Lear is made by shakespeare to say Age is unnecessary. And how true it is in the case of Dr. M. Channa Reddy ! He completes his 60th year on the 13th january, 1979 and yet there are no signs of any decay or decline in his enthusiasm and energy in serving the people though a white patch of hair appears on the front part of his head betraying a little of his age.

Dr. Reddy entered active politics when he was 23 years old. It was the time when he was unanimously elected as the General Secretary of Andhra Mahasabha, essentially a political organisation albeit, in view of peculiar circumstances then prevailing, it had put on the mask of a socio-cultural organisation working for the welfare of Telugu-speaking people of the erstwhile Hyderabad State.

Frank Collins, in one of his books, says that when any member of a society behaves unjustly the balance and its health get disturbed. It is restored only when the person, however high or low causing injury to the society is punished in one form or the other. If nobody cares to come forward to annihilate the social injustice, a person or a group of persons who has social conscience must consider it his duty to punish the guilty and set right the social imbalance so caused. To take law into one's own hand is considered sinful and uncivilized, but in extraordinary situations the society has to organise peaceful resistance with a view to bringing about a change in the social order.

Andhra, Maharashtra and karnataka mahasabhas were organised to check the misrule of the Nizam and compel him to allow the three regions and their people to enjoy their social, cultural economic and political rights. These three organisations were subsequently merged into Hyderabad State Congress, a purely political organisation which was banned by the Nizam before it actually took its birth.

True to the axiom that a man is shaped and fashioned by what he loves young and vigorous Dr. Channa Reddy who loved politics moved fast into the political field. In 1946 he became the secretary of the city congress committee. After we obtained our freedom from the Nizam's rule, Dr. Channa Reddy became a member of the provisional parliament and served the congress parliamentary party as one of its whips..

In the first general elections to the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly in 1952, Dr. Reddy was elected from Vikarabad Constituency. He was taken into the first ever popular ministry with Dr. Burugula Ramakrishnarao as the Chief Minister. He was the youngest minister in the cabinet. I joined the cabinet at a late stage and had the occasion to work with Dr. Channa Reddy in the cabinet and in the Congress Legislature Party. Dr. Reddy efficiently and successfully handled several portfolios. These were some of his very fabulous achievements.

In spite of strong opposition and even flying in the face of the recommendations made by the States Reorganisation Commission, Telangana was merged with Andhra and they together constituted Andhra Pradesh from the 1st November, 1956. Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddy could not find a place.

The Telangana Regional Committee was, however, constituted. Dr. Channa Reddy took a very active part in various sub-committees. He made a perceptible and notable contribution as chairman of the Development sub-committee of the Telangana Regional committee. I had occasion to work with him in several sub-committees of Telangana Regional Committee. Numerous reports presented by the Regional Committee highlighted discriminatory treatment meted out to various sections of Telangana people, in spite of several promises and agreements. It looked as if we had forgotten the lesson of History that discrimination leads to frustration and frustration inevitably leads to violence. As a result of the discriminatory treatment, an unpalatable atmosphere was created. Incendiary articles were written and inflammatory speeches made in one region were repeated in the other region. The process of stirring up hatred, suspicion, and fear reached such an extent that it revived the demand for separate Telangana State in 1969 and its counter production was the agitation carried on in the Andhra region in 1971 for the establishment of a separate Andhra State.

Although Dr. Channa Reddy had led the separatist movement, he had not lost his balance in his political thinking. At a time, as was then prevailing forbearance and calm counsels accompanied by a spirit of fairness and give and take had to prevail. The leadership both at the Centre and in the State showed magnanimity and a compromise was evolved. As a result, the integrated Andhra Pradesh State continued. It is, however difficult to state whether the process of emotional integration was rightly evolved and its implementation is taking firm roots in both the regions.

Dr. Channa Reddy moved on to the Centre and dealt with an important portfolio like steel and mines in the union government. He subsequently worked as Governor of Uttar Pradesh. Returning to the state politics he has now become the chief minister of the integrated Andhra Pradesh. It is really creditable for him to have earned the goodwill and confidence of the representatives of both the regions of Andhra Pradesh.

This in brief has been the rapidly moving career of Dr. M. Channa Reddy. Much has been said all these years and much will certainly be said on the occasion of celebrating his 61st birth day, of the many achievements in the long course of his public service. One may, however dwell for a moment upon one single pervasive quality which he has possessed throughout the four decades of his political career. It is his tremendous courage. Never in public affairs did he shirk from taking the unpopular side. But trusted his faith in the rectitude of his own convictions. That has been an integral part of his vigorous nature.

He was for quite some time, misunderstood by his contemporaries, but has grown in reputation with the years. He is accessible to everybody and keeps an open mind in all issues. recognition of the work of others, courtesy to all who had dealings with him and

modesty concerning his own achievements of some of his enduring qualities which those who know him will not forget.

The Indian society is casting off its old garments, standards, aims and institutions which were generally accepted even a generation ago. Old motives are weakening and new forces are springing up. Anyone who has an insight into the mind of the changing age is vividly conscious of its restlessness and uncertainty, its dissatisfaction with the existing economic and social conditions and its yearning for the new social order which is yet to be realised. It is in this context that one has to look at the 'impatience' or restlessness of Dr. Channa Reddy. He has an uncanny knack of combining knowledge that delves into the past with a large and free outlook that would make the past a tributary to service of the present and the future.

It only remains for me to wish Dr. Channa Reddy a long and healthy life, with happiness and honour. Live on for the sake of service to the people. Many problems of great significance still await determined solutions. People need services of persons like Dr, Channa Reddy to better their socio-economic lot. It is said that those who have no past have neither a sense of responsibility nor future. I have no manner of doubt that the future of Dr. M. Channa Reddy will be worthy of his eloquent past and he will continue to serve our country with devotion and sacrifice.

LEADER WITH A GOLDEN HEART

V.R.K. PARAMAHAMSA

When I read in the newspaper that a Committee comprising well-known personalities has been constituted to felicitate Dr. Marri Channa Reddy on his completing sixty years. I, a non-entity in political reckoning, but one who had enjoyed, over the past Thirty years, the warm friendship of this great son of Andhra Pradesh, thought that I should tell the people of this country what a gem of a person that Dr. Reddy is in personal relations.

It is said that politicians make friends or foes according to the dictates of their political opportunities and personal advancement and, in the process, their finer qualities get blunted and they lose their soul in the art of playing politics and politicking. But, Dr, Reddy, by all accounts, is an exception. In the daily din and dust of political controversies and exchanges over the past four decades of which he was always at the centre, Dr, Reddy retained his soul and personality intact. He never appeared any time to hit his political opponents below the belt. His politics is an open book.

Even in the thick of his political activities. Dr. Reddy never forgot his friends who, he thought, needed his help to get over their personal difficulties. He always took time off from his busy official and political schedules - if it was midnight - to drop in at any of his friend's house and offer a word of cheer and encouragement in times of need.

Those were the days of Telangana agitation and, as who was leading the movement, he had no time perhaps even to sit for a while and breathe. I was laid up with a severe ailment at my residence and desperately needed someone to put courage and hope of survival in me. Even

my close relatives forsook me and there were only my mother and wife to look after me. Dr. Reddy somehow, came to know of my plight and, one midnight, straight, straight dashed to my residence to see how I was and what I needed. As soon as my wife and I saw him, tears welled from our eyes and we became speechless. He wiped our tears, consoled us, assured us that I would be all right soon and said he would arrange medical assistance. Next day, in the morning, we found a group of top doctors in the city, accompanied by his son and wife, entering our house. The doctors examined me and prescribed several injections and medicines. Dr. Reddy's wife and son sensed my agony. They did not say a word. But, in the evening when the first injection was to be administered to me, there was Dr. Reddy present along with the doctor to assure me that nothing would happen and he was always there to give me everything. From then on, in spite of his pre-occupations, Dr, Reddy somehow found time to see me often and watch my progress to normalcy .

I could hardly remain in bed, for two months when my official chores demanded my presence in the office. Though I was very weak, the first day I managed to reach my office in a bus which, of course, was a strenuous one. As I hardly settled down in my office, there came a phone call from Dr. Reddy chiding me for not informing him about my having to go to office and offered his only car to take me to office daily and bring me back. When I feebly protested, Dr. Reddy rebuked saying “ If not now, when else you would use my car ? We would take care of ourselves. The car will go to your house everyday morning with the petrol put in, you go to your office, keep it till evening, and after returning home, send it back to me.” I utilised his car for nearly two months during which period I knew how how much he and his family members suffered for want of a transport. But neither Dr. Reddy nor his family members felt a thing about it. A sacrifice they made for a person of no consequence, but a mere friend.

To the misfortune of Andhra Pradesh, the genuine aspirations of the Telangana people for growth and development were grossly misunderstood and the whole movement, which Dr. Reddy was leading was sought to be discredited. Consequently, it took a vilolent turn, as always happens with movements of such mass character, As a result Dr. Reddy and a few of his associates were taken into custody and lodged in Rajahmundry Central Jail. Even during the period if his imprisonment, Dr. Reddy did have time not only to think of the sufferings of the Telangana agitators, but also of the welfare of his friends like me. In a heart-warming letter from the Jail, Dr. Reddy enquired about my health, what medicines I was taking regretted his physical inability to be with me and assured me that though he was in the Jail at a distant place, his thoughts were always with me. Such was the consideration that Dr. Reddy has for his friends.

It is indeed a happy event that the Shashtiabdipoorthi of this man with a golden heart is being organised and my wife and I offer a thousand prayers to the Almighty to give him a long and healthy life so that he would not only serve the political cause he has taken up, but also remain a source of succour to his friends.

A PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR

MALLIKARJUN

Traditionally, the office of Governor is taken to be rather quiet and sedate-the Governor being looked upon as a figure-head whose main role is ceremonial in character. Many of those who had known Dr. M. Channa Reddy wondered how a person as active as he always is would fit into an office of this nature. But Dr. M. Channa Reddy, who was sworn in as Government of Uttar Pradesh on the auspicious Vijayadasami day in 1974, had himself a very clear idea of his role and the type of Governor he was going to be.

Dr. M. Channa Reddy was not an unknown person in the national political scene, people all over the country had heard of his dynamic and dashing leadership of the separate Telangana movement and of his vast administrative experience as a Minister in Andhra Pradesh and as Minister for Steel and Mines at the Centre. He was, incidentally, the youngest incumbent of this gubernatorial office of the biggest state in the country, after independence.

In his message to the people of Uttar, Pradesh after being sworn in as Governor, Dr. Reddy said; “As the first citizen of the State, I shall do my very best to serve the people of the State”. In the three years of his tenure as Governor, he gave full testimony both, in word and deed, to what he meant by this.

Uttar Pradesh, according to Dr. Reddy, represents the soul of India. The size of the State is so overwhelming that not many of the politicians and administrators of the state were brave enough to visit the entire width and breadth of it. This did not deter Dr, Reddy, Unmindful of the problems of transport, he undertook the long and arduous journeys to the nooks and corners of the State within the very first year of assumption of office. This was the first time that a Governor had imposed on himself such a physically exhaustive assignment. Travelling day and night, he would begin his day at 7 o'clock in the morning and would return only in the early hours of the next morning. In a way his programmes and visits were round the clock and he had a keen eye to every detail of what was happening in the places he visited. This endeared him to the people and they detail of what was happening in the places he visited. This endeared him to the people and they poured out their heart to him. In every function that he attended and meetings addressed, he left a lasting impression of full involvement in the life of the people. Be it a prize distribution ceremony or a visit to the Ghats or temples of Varanasi, or a function of the Rotary or Lion's Club, or a dialogue with students, teachers and officials or a visit to a school or to an industry or to a village, Dr. Reddy had always new ideas which manifested new dimensions of his personality and versatility. On all such occasions, very much unlike a Governor, Dr. Reddy assiduously took notes of the grievances of the people and, on his return to the State capital sent appropriate notes to the concerned departments of the state government. He did not remain content with this; he always kept a watch on how expeditiously the grievances were redressed by the government. He always demanded information from the government on these matters. He would assert that this was not interference. He felt, as the first citizen of the state, that it was his duty to hear the grievances of the citizens and they had a right to expect redressal when they represented to their Governor, These visits of Dr. Reddy to different parts of the state and the intimate contacts he developed with the people made them aware of the real role of a Governor. His personal character and courage of conviction became widely known in different parts of the state. As a result, the people's esteem for Dr. Reddy was so overwhelming that in the second year of his office, his office was flooded with invitations from different parts of the state to

visit them a second time. His involvement in people's problems and his anxiety to find solutions to them was unparalleled.

As Chancellor, he provided unique leadership to the 17 universities in the state. Meetings with the vice-chancellors of the universities became a regular feature. Both the teachers and the students found in him a friend who was always willing to look into all their difficulties. He streamlined the process of selection of university teachers and minimised the chances of nepotism in the matter of such selections. It was widely known that every appeal or representation against any selection was personally looked into in detail by the Chancellor himself.

The voluntary organisations in the state found in Dr. Reddy a true friend and patron of their activities. He wanted voluntary organisations to take one or two concrete programmes which would make an impact on the society as a whole. He felt aghast at the fact that people had to buy blood in hospitals. He wanted the Red Cross to make it its sole objective to provide blood free of cost to the needy. In a philosophic mood he would exhort "a race becomes really great when individuals are prepared to shed blood for its survival". Many voluntary organisations responded to his call and there were quite a few districts where blood banks were opened at their initiative.

As a lover of children, Dr. Reddy was always keen for more vigorous attention to building character of children from an early age. He felt that ordinarily in schools it was not possible to provide all the facilities which a child might require for development of its potential and aptitude. He strongly advocated, therefore, the programme of setting up Bal Bhavans all over the state to provide such facilities. "Let the child have the environment to development what it wants; then alone it would get the confidence to come forward boldly and make its contribution to the entire society", he always asserted. He appealed to the exhibition societies in the districts to have a Bal Bhavan attached to them. The scheme was started in the state with his blessings.

Being deeply religious, Dr. Reddy was appalled to see the condition of the temple of Vishwanath in Varanasi and the dirty surroundings and its slovenly upkeep. He took an oath not to visit the temple again unless he had done something positive to see that the management of the temples in the state was organised on a rational basis. He was of the view that the devotees should have all the necessary facilities to visit the temple and feel the awe-inspiring presence of Vishwanathji, and their devotion was manifested in their deeds and character. He conveyed his views to the state government and prepared a draft bill for the better management of the charitable Institutions and Hindu Religious Endowments.

Dr. Reddy's rich administrative abilities came into full play in Uttar Pradesh when the reins of administration came into his hands consequent on the imposition of President's Rule in December, 1975 which lasted 55 days. These 55 days saw a sea of change in the administration of the state. When the President's rule was terminated, the Lucknow-based newspaper pioneer paid handsome complements to Dr. Reddy's handling of the affairs of the state thus:

"Governors ceased to be 'prancing proconsuls'--as Lord Hailey described the breed--with the advent of Independence. The constitutional limitations on their powers incline many people to the belief that the office is one mainly of ceremonial and dignity and that outside its social obligations, there is very little to do. This is taking too narrow and technical view of

the matter. Much depends on the calibre of the person holding this high office. There is, however, no denying that the ability and integrity of the Rajyapal are fully tested when he has to bear the sole responsibility of administration after the State comes under President's rule. Uttar Pradesh has been no stranger to this kind of interregnum. Without in any way detracting from the ability and worth of Rajyapal, Reddy's predecessors in office, it should be placed on record, that never was so much done for so many in such a short time at the instance of a single individual.

“ Dr. Channa Reddy, it is common knowledge, came into a difficult legacy when the largest unit in the Indian Union with a population exceeding 90 million came under President's rule on November 30 last. The Ministry had prepared an admirable blueprint where the programme was concerned; what was grievously lacking was its speedy and effective implementation. Reddy stepped in to supply the vigour and drive needed to galvanise the administration. With his unerring finger on the pulse of the state, he evolved--or should we say prescribed ? --a time-bound programme for a complete face-lift of Uttar Pradesh. He concentrated first on streamlining and shoring up the administration, which must necessarily be the instrument for implementing the 20-point programme presented to the Nation by the Prime Minister.

The rajyapal got this 20-point programme nailed, figuratively speaking of course. On the masthead of the ship of State the day he took charge and started giving orders from the captain's deck. His order of the day to the secretaries of the various departments and others in the higher echelons in the services was to get the feel of the people and their problems, sheer through yards of red tape, chop off all the dead-wood in the various departments and nurse the people at the grassroot level. The tempo of work and the disposal of files were accelerated not so much by the Rajyapal's judicious use of the big stick as well by the carrot of incentive as by his own personal example and dedication to hard work. Even his detractors--no person is worth anything if he has no opponents and critics--grudgingly admit that “he worked like a galley slave” for 15 to 16 hours a day.

It is no mean achievement that under Dr. Reddy's inspiring guidance the Augean stables' of the secretariat have been cleared and cleaned within six weeks. Cultivators and farmers have been his first concern. They will benefit most by his sterling work in the sphere of distribution of land and house sites. The weaker sections have benefited similarly from the implementation of his stern directives in their favour. His relentless drive against profiteers, hoarders and other corrupt elements is reflected in the marked improvement in the distribution system and the very welcome fall in commodity prices. In the sphere of education he blazed a new trail by mooted the idea of a University service commission at the Vice-Chancellors Conference. The law and order situation which was t the point of caving in when he took over, has undergone a sea-change for the better.

“Apart from the administrative and Governmental affairs, Rajyapal Reddy, despite his multifarious duties, he continued to take an active and deep interest in art, literature, sport and in other cultural and social activities. All this is being said not to lay it thick on Rajyapal Reddy but to put the record straight on the eve of the restoration of popular ministry in the state. Reddy has had his innings, scoring quite a few sixes, and now that he is returning to the pavilion with bat in hand, it is only fair to salute him with the greeting; Well done !””””

The deep insights that Dr. Reddy developed as a minister for a number of years in his home state of Andhra Pradesh has left him with a deep conviction that the Revenue

Department in the states, - for historical and other reasons, constitute the backbone of the state administration and, amongst the officers, those at the district level carried on their shoulders the burden of administration. He often recounted the powerful position which the Board of Revenue enjoyed in the southern states and also the way in which administration at the district level had been strengthened there. On the other hand the Board of Revenue in Uttar Pradesh, he felt, hardly enjoyed any comparable status. The institution of commissioners did not exist in the southern states. Dr. Reddy was aware of the factors distinguishing Uttar Pradesh from others, but humourously referred to them as “cows without milk “. He also felt, in many respects, the administration at the district in the state rested on very fragile crutches. He did not hide his feelings about the growth of departments and personnel in the true fashion of Parkinson’s law when he remarked that the entire administrative structure in the state was a veritable pyramid without a foundation. He was keen to remedy the situation as best as he could within the existing framework, and lost no time in taking several decisions of far-reaching character. His first major decision was to bring the work relating to consolidation of land under the purview of the Board of Revenue. The work relating to consolidation of holdings had been initiated in the state more than two decades ago under the administrative supervision of the Consolidation Commissioner who worked directly under the state government. The result was that very often, this important programme of land reform suffered from undue interference from the state government. The Board of Revenue, on the other hand, had a certain autonomous structure and since that was the continuing body for the maintenance of land records, the decision of Dr. Reddy to transfer this work to the Board of Revenue was widely welcomed all over the state. He also wanted the Board of Revenue to act as the main agency for coordinating the collection of all taxes within the state. He also brought about greater decentralisation and devolution of the judicial functions of the Board of Revenue through a number of measures. He devolved the administrative powers of the Board of Revenue on the Divisional Commissioners. Working downwards. Dr. Reddy’s immediate objective was to strengthen the administration at the district level.

Dr. Reddy often referred to the fact that after the achievement of independence, the core of administration at the grassroots had suffered from neglect. The administrative pandits had tried to differentiate between regulatory and developmental administration. Though the latter was the bedrock of administration in the past, it now got branded as a colonial antiquity and an obsolete institution, The result was that in bringing about a change in the administration the tendency was more in terms of developing a new hierarchical structure which was expected to respond better to the requirements of a development administration, The Revenue Department, the judiciary and the police were not given as much attention as was showered on the departments dealing with community development, social reforms, etc., New buildings were constructed for the latter departments and also accommodation provided for the staff. On the other hand, adequate attention had not been paid to the people and upkeep of the old departments and their infrastructure. Again, in the matter of training, the traditional departments had been badly neglected. Dr. Reddy often repeated that this situation had been reached only due to incorrect understanding of the real implications and role of development administration. According to him, it was the core administration which, with proper orientation, should have been strengthened further to meet the new challenges. Efficiency alone had been the prime factor in administrative thinking. The basic approach now required change. Administration had to be reoriented to go to the masses and not vice-versa as of yore. To achieve this objective Dr. Reddy, a great visionary, had a number of measures initiated which infused a new life into the administration of the state.

The tenure of Dr. Reddy as Governor of Uttar Pradesh, though short has left a deep and abiding impression on the high and the low, and they cherish their contact with him for a long long time to come.

THE HOPE OF THE PEOPLE

C. NARASIMHAM

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“The only question that a lover of India and humanity has to address himself, is how best to devise practical means of alleviating India’s wretchedness and misery”--GANDHI.

India’s Five-year Plans had aroused considerable interest all over the world because of the attempt to carry out planned economic development in a political set-up based on parliamentary democracy within a federal structure, and that too in a country of continental dimensions and having a level of national income that was one of the lowest in the world. The planning commission, the principal instrument for devising Indian Plans and the planning machinery in the States have become one of the major topics of public thinking and discussion in India. As a result, the Planning Commission and the State Planning Bodies have also come to receive special focus in public debates. The discussion and evaluation have ranged all the way from fulsome praise to severe condemnation.

In 1956, the Planning Commission was still considering how best the problem of planning in a federal set - up for the whole country should be solved and how the consent and cooperation of both the Central and the state government should be secured. The solution offered was to establish the National Development Council. When Dr. Channa Reddy became Planning Minister of Andhra Pradesh in 1962, the Planning Commission did not yet fully evolve its systems for national planning.

When he took over Planning and Panchayati Raj Department, he brought to bear upon it his undoubted knowledge and practical experience of administration as minister in the erstwhile Government of Hyderabad, particularly in the fields of planning, agriculture, rural development etc. He had the unique experience of implementing in the very early stages, the community development programmes launched for the integrated development in the very early stages, the community development programmes launched for the integrated development of villages. At 44, he was young energetic and bursting with enthusiasm to change the face of rural India, to use the words of Pandit Nehru who swore by this movement. Dr. Reddy’s prodigious memory and amazing knowledge of the conditions then obtaining in the state stood him in good stead. It was not, therefore, surprising that he proved a conspicuous success as Minister for Planning and Panchayati Raj.

The basic objective of our Plans has always been to eliminate poverty. This was recognised even on the day when we became independent. In his historic speech at the midnight ceremony on the 14th of August, 1947, Pandit Nehru said : “The future is not one of ease or resting but of incessant striving so that we may fulfill the pledges we have so often taken and the one we shall take today. The service of India means the service of the millions

who are suffering. It means the ending of poverty, ignorance and disease, and inequality of opportunity. The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe out every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us. But as long as there are tears and suffering, our work will not be over.” The same objective has been repeated in successive Plan documents.

Dr. Channa Reddy was well aware of this main objective and constantly referred to the resolution adopted by Parliament at the instance of Pandit Nehru in December, 1954, which said that India should move towards a socialist pattern of society. The meaning of this was spelt out in the Second Five Year Plan published in 1956. It was made clear that there must not only be an increase in the national income and employment, but also greater equality in individual incomes and wealth. The benefits of economic development must accrue more and more to the relatively less privileged classes of society and there should be progressive reduction in the concentration of incomes, wealth and economic power. In the formulation of the State plans Dr. Channa Reddy was mainly guided by the national objectives. His one passion was to involve the people adequately in plan effort. He was among the first few in our country who realised even then the importance of people’s active participation in the plans if they should succeed and the results envisaged should accrue.

Oftentimes he deplored that although during the struggle for independence political leadership had tremendous credibility among the people and the political flight was led by men and women who underwent great personal sufferings for the national cause, yet when the political battle was won, moral deterioration set in and so it became extremely difficult to create those psychological conditions which were essential for a sustained national effort for economic development. He also used to say that the official apparatus available to Government was that inherited from the British or from the Nizam’s days when all it was responsible for was the collection of revenue and maintenance of Law and Order. There were vague complaints that some of the bureaucrats were somewhat sluggish, secretive and suspicious. He often exhorted them that they should reorient themselves to the new tasks of development that had been imposed on them by the plans. He wanted them to become more creative and innovative.

Dr. Reddy devoted himself wholeheartedly to the twin tasks of involving the people and reorienting the officials to the new challenging tasks of development. He organised seminars, workshops, conferences and exhibitions at the state, regional, district and block levels. He and the top officials attended not only the state meets but also those convened at the regional and district level. He organised training camps for non-officials and took full advantage of the training centres set up by the Government of India at the Centre and in the states by deputing in large numbers both officials and non-officials. He did his best to revamp voluntary organisations, particularly those working for the welfare of the weaker sections and of women and children. The entire block machinery was geared to the main task of educating the people on their role in planned development. Song and drama parties covered villages explaining to them in a manner that appealed to them most what the planning meant for them, what role they should play why they should do so, etc. This work of social education received the highest praise not only from the centre and other states but also from the people themselves and their organisations. The then Union Minister for Community Development used to say that Andhra Pradesh was first not only alphabetically but also in actual performance. As a result of these efforts at educating the people. Their response grew from day to day and the plans received several crores worth of people’s contribution in cash, kind and labour.

Dr. Reddy electrified the whole rural atmosphere and created a very favourable climate for people's identification with and participation in the plans. Had this drive been continued with equal vigour in the subsequent years, today the physical, social and economic condition of our villages would have been very much better. To this day, people still remember the lead, the drive and the direction given by Dr. Channa Reddy when he was Minister for planning and Panchayati Raj.

Dr. Reddy strongly believed, and I think he still believes, that unless planning and execution were decentralised it would be difficult to accelerate the pace of economic advance which was so necessary in Andhra Pradesh which then had 78 percent of the rural householders in the expenditure group of Rs. 100 or less per month and householders with expenditure over Rs. 500 per month were rare and did not exceed even 3 percent of the total rural householders. He also warned against rural development programmes aiming at increasing only agricultural production and urged that programmes covering animal husbandry, poultry, pisciculture, cottage, village and small industries should also be taken up in order to achieve all-round development.

Although Planning at the Block level itself was considered desirable by some experts, Dr. Reddy made a start with district plans. Those who favoured district plans tried to impress upon him that :

- (a) There were imbalances between block and block in the same district and this could not be corrected if the unit of planning was a block and not the district ;
- (b) There were schemes which would benefit more than one block and the district-level authorities alone could prepare such plans and secure the necessary coordination between the blocks; and
- (c) That the technical and administrative staff available at the block level were generally not quite so competent as to estimate the resources in money, material and manpower that could be raised within the block and to prepare Five-year plans in a realistic manner.

He believed that the pattern of district administration should change and people's representative institutions must play a vital role in the formulation and execution of development programmes. He used to publicly express this view and stress the importance of decentralisation and the role of elected bodies. People nearest to the schemes must according to him, have the freedom to frame and build up their own plans. He was all for the panchayati Raj institutions executing not only their plans but also plans in the state and central sectors which are located in their blocks or districts as otherwise they lack community drive. He always pleaded for greater allocation of revenues to Panchayati Raj bodies so that they might be able to meet at least the minimum needs of the people. He recognised the need for competent staff at the district level and strengthened the planning organisation in the Zilla Parishad by appointing a District Planning Officer in each district with adequate supporting staff at district and block levels.

In formulating the State's Third Five-years plan, the state government and particularly the Minister for planning kept in view the objectives approved by the National Development Council and the guidelines issued by the planning commission and laid greater emphasis on those schemes and projects which would help fuller exploitation of the state's natural resources maximize the state's income. Create greater employment opportunities and do social justice. Dr. Reddy constituted panels of economists and experts drawn from

universities and the industries in order to obtain the essence of their economic wisdom for the better formulation of the state plans. The state's finances in those years were poor, as in the case of most other states, and the Government were faced with the problems of raising adequate resources for the plan in the teeth of opposition.

In close collaboration with the concerned revenue yielding departments of the state, Dr. Reddy helped in raising additional funds to meet the state's share of the plan expenditure. He pleaded both with the planning commission and the National Development Council for providing the following reliefs to the state governments :

- (a) To reduce the lean burden by re-scheduling the repayment of all existing loans;
- (b) To increase the central assistance adequately to states which are comparatively less developed such as Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, etc.;
- (c) To increase the grant element of central assistance and reduce, if not altogether give up, the centrally sponsored schemes;
- (d) To raise the allotment for local development works;
- (e) To loosen the strings attached to schemes suitably so as to suit the conditions obtaining in each state;
- (f) To raise open market loans by the Centre to cover fully the needs of the states also ;
- (g) To raise the financial limits of schemes for which clearance by the planning commission was unnecessary.

Most of these demands have been accepted by the Centre/planning commission in recent years, though not then.

Dr. Channa Reddy knew fully well that between planning and execution there was a great distance and he anticipated the criticism in later years that there was a lamentable failure in the field of implementation in the country as a whole and that paper plans were mistaken for achievements and targets for accomplishments. Therefore, he spent most of his time on the implementation aspect of the plan schemes. He was aware of the many hurdles that blocked the progress of execution of plan schemes and wanted the implementing agencies to inspect the works, schemes, etc. frequently and take spot-decisions to remove all the bottlenecks that held up their progress. He insisted on a free flow of communication not only between the components of administrative hierarchy but also with beneficiaries. The problems encountered by workers at the field level should without inhibition, be transmitted to the quarters concerned for securing speedy solutions. Of the many steps he had taken to ensure proper and timely execution of plan schemes mention may be made of the following.

(a) A high level co-ordination Committee consisting of the Chief minister, planning Minister and all other ministers dealing with plan schemes, secretaries to Government and the heads of departments, used to meet regularly every month and review the progress of works - physical and financial achievements as well. This proved to be a very useful exercise and enabled the planning Minister to suggest surrenders where the progress was slow, and additional allocations where needed. This survey ensured efficient implementation of plan schemes each year and the achievement of the set physical targets.

(b) Besides this monthly meeting, he insisted upon each secretary to government meeting his departmental heads at least once a fortnight and discuss all relevant issues pertaining to plan implementation.

(c) The departments were asked to ensure that all the schemes included in the current year's plan were put on the ground latest by the end of June of that year.

(d) He introduced a system of evaluating plan schemes by panels appointed by government and taking prompt action on their reports. Many human failures came to light and put the government wise.

(e) He recognised and made others to recognise the importance of and the need for curtailing non-development expenditure as it was eating away most of the extra taxation levied for augmenting plan funds. He was not unaware that even development expenditure had some unproductive element which should be eliminated.

(f) To secure better and more effective implementation of tribal welfare schemes, he upgraded the posts of block development officer of tribal blocks and appointed senior officials as block development officers of such blocks.

(g) To remove political impediments in the way of efficient execution of schemes in some areas, he used to visit the trouble-spots and secured the cooperation of all concerned irrespective of party affiliations or groups.

(h) He took various steps to ensure equally good performance in all the three regions of the state and reviewed the progress of each region separately.

Most of the irrigation, power and industrial schemes in the state which have been yielding good results during the past some years were conceived, planned and sanctioned during the years when Dr. Reddy was the planning Minister and later the Finance Minister and he should feel happy that despite poor finances at that time, the state government boldly and imaginatively planned for sustained progress. The political will of the government then was certainly stronger than in the subsequent years and the government could and did go forward confidently.

Dr. Reddy as Chief Minister now, is a much better evolved leader and is in a peak position to strengthen the implementation machinery, to solve speedily technical, administrative and managerial problems which are bound to arise in executing our big annual plans of the order of over Rs. 400 crores, to organise better investigation of schemes and their better appraisal, to remove delays in issuing sanctions, approvals, allocations of funds and their releases. There is very justification for our state hopping to make substantial progress in the new Rolling Plan period 1978-83 under his versatile leadership.

ADMINISTRATOR WHO DOES HIS HOMEWORK

P.N. RAMASWAMY NAIDU

The induction of Dr. M. Channa Reddy into the Central Cabinet in 1967 was an event of rare significance inasmuch as generally only chief ministers are given a berth in the Central Cabinet. His was perhaps one of the only two cases in which a state cabinet minister was drafted into the central cabinet and that too to hold a very important portfolio-the other instance being that of Shri C. Subramaniam from Tamil Nadu.

It is a general comment of observers in Delhi that politicians from state governments do not always succeed in adjusting themselves quickly to the tempo, pace and style of the working of the Government of India. They retain their angularities, their complexes and the simplistic view of politics at the state level persists and stands in the way of their growth and emergence on the national scene. Here again, there are very few exceptions and Dr. Reddy would perhaps tops the list. He had many advantages for discharging the role which came to him without his seeking it. A good and specialized educational background, a grounding in rural politics, experience of various ministries at the state level, earlier stint as a member of the provisional Parliament which had earned him a number of lasting friendships at Delhi--were all his assets. A brief period without political office which enabled him to introspect and reflect on the future also gave him additional maturity. And then, the composite culture of Hyderabad also made a unique contribution to his wholeness. The youngish state minister who was suddenly catapulted on to the national scene was thus no novice in dealing with men and matters which is the stuff of politics. He had no nervousness of style which the capitalwallahs associate with a ' Madrasi ' minister --an ominous term which for Delhites covers all inhabitants south of the Vindhya. His command of Hindi and Urdu, besides English and Telugu was a great asset. There was an incident when one of the M.ps., in the lok Sabha in his attempt to trip up the new minister asked a supplementary question in Hindi. Country to the expectation of the member, instead of requesting for the question in English, Dr. Reddy coolly got up and answered the question in equally chaste Hindi. This response was so unexpected that the whole house broke in spontaneous cheers and the tables were turned on the M.p. The member later walked up to Dr. Reddy and congratulated him for his mastery of the language and his cool confidence. There was no attempt at ragging by any one after that.

Dr. Reddy was in charge of the prestigious and crucial Ministry of Steel and Mines which had earlier comprised two independent ministries. This ministry had under it the three plants of the Hindustan steel the new giant Bokaro Plant and the entire coal industry besides mines, metals and minerals. Next to the railways, it accounted for the largest outlay on public sector, It represented the basic and heavy industries on which Nehru had laid so much emphasis for the overall development of the country. Dr. Reddy took to the task with such felicity that nobody could say that he was handling the subjects for the first time. The highlight of his tenure was the reorganisation of the steel industry. In October, 1967, he made a study tour of the steel industry in England and submitted a report to the cabinet which formed the basis of the reorganisation of the public-sector steel industry. One of the important points propounded by Dr. Reddy in his reorganisation proposals was the concept of the social and economic objectives of the public sector. He proposed that the economic and social objectives of public sector as distinguished from the financial objectives should be clearly spelt out so that their role could be properly understood by the leaders of opinion, press and legislature and the public at large on the one hand, and the executives on the other, so that they could be judged on the basis of the overall contribution made by them to social and economic development rather than on the basis of narrow financial and commercial results which made them view with the private sector and thus lose their *raison d'etre*.

The first blast furnace of the Bokaro Steel Plant was also commissioned during his tenure. Discussions for the expansion of the capacity of Bokaro were also initiated by him. It was also in his time that the crucial ground work was done for the location of the steel plant at Visakhapatnam. It was the idea of a port-based plant and balanced regional development

propounded by him which resulted in the decision to establish three steel plants in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

The dynamism of Dr. Channa Reddy is well known. However in many cases, such qualities get bogged down by the inertia and indifference of the bureaucratic monolith at Delhi. Dr. Reddy, however, reged hard against them--and the bureaucracy too tried hard to keep pace with him. Many sceptics and cynics say that Ministers lives are those of ease, comfort and unrestricted privileges. One had to see Dr. Reddy at work to realize how ill--informed and unfounded such criticism is. He had a robust health --despite persistent breach of the traditional formula which prescribes "early to bed "as the golden rule. He slept late, woke up early and spent long hours at work till early into the next morning. He used to underline and put question marks on the margin of the very neat notes submitted by the civil servants. On their return, the files often looked like having been read by a diligent student working for his annual examination. Then followed summons to the authors of those notes, their detailed cross-examination and further explanations --and finally a clear picture would be imprinted on his memory. Once he had done this drill , he did not need any further briefing or assistance. Then he was on his own whether it was a press conference, a speech at a professional body, or an intervention in a parliamentary debate. His preparation for the debates for grants in the Parliament was preceded by a number of days of grilling work for every one in the Ministry, most of all, himself. There was then no question of Sunday or any other holiday. There was a relay of questions and doubts coming from the Minister's room and all officers were kept busy answering them. Somebody at that time remarked that the whole Udyoga Bhavan seemed to be preparing for a competitive examination !

In the parliament he shone not only because of his hard homework but also because of his ready wit. On one occasion when Mrs. Terakeshwari Sinha who was known for lacing her speeches with choice couplets from Urdu poetry, Quoted the second line of a couplet to criticise the ministry, Dr. Reddy promptly rose and offered her the first line with a "double entendre ". The din of cheers at his repartee drowned her speech. His style in the parliament was consummate and he excelled in the thrust and parry of the parliamentary debate.

As a correspondent, Dr. Reddy's courtesy and promptness was well known. If he was in headquarters he would reply to his letters the same day; If out of station immediate acknowledgements were sent by his Private Secretary and followed up by final replies by him within a week. In this regard his model was Pandit Nehru for whose style and approach he has great admiration. As far as possible, he replied his letters in the same language in which they were received. He had arrangement to answer letters in English, Hindi, urdu and telugu. Once his Deputy Minister complimented him on his replying to the letters in the same language in which they were received. Dr. Reddy clarified : "Not only in the same language but also in the same coin "

Dynamism and vision alone though essential, are not sufficient for a successful minister. He has to work very hard and he has to be well informed. Most of the people who are keen to meet a politician in power are precisely the type of people who should be avoided like poison. However, this screening, if left to a minor minion on his staff can lead to awkward, sometimes dangerous situations. Dr. Reddy had a very good system for this Twice a day a register of all persons who called or asked for appointments was put up to him. He himself passed orders on the registers as to who should be given appointments. Nobody could thus bluff him or put the blame on his staff that he called but could not get him. In addition to such people who sought to see him, Dr. Reddy on his own called a number of scientists,

economists and other experts for picking their brains. He would meet them, discuss with them subjects of their specialisation and then ask them for concise notes on selected topics. An economist might be requested to send a note on the planning strategy; a geologist to give his plan for the exploration of base metals in India ; a groundwater expert on how to supplement the water resources; a financial expert on how to restructure the pricing system of steel; and so on. And the number of subjects was not limited to those relating to his portfolio. Whatever was of practical value was relevant to Dr. Reddy. In a short time he collected a library of such notes in which the knowledge and wisdom, sifted from numerous books and latest articles on the subject, was condensed. These constituted his “reading material whenever he flew or drove out to fulfil his various engagements in different parts of the country. He ate these “capsules of knowledge” just as he would swallow vitamin tablets. Some of those experts were invited again to follow up their notes for further crystallization into action points. For Dr. Reddy mere academic knowledge was of little value. “Knowledge for action “ was the sort he looked for. On the pattern of the French system, he planned to set up a “Cabinet de Minister “ consisting of outstanding experts in different fields hand picked by him, to advise him on high policy matters. It was a pity that this proposal for a “think tank “ could not materialise due to his sudden resignation.

Dr. Reddy is a man devoted to his family. But work and problems of the people come first to him-- before any private matters. It was his invariable practise that he would present copies of note books identical to the one he used himself to his personal staff. Every morning would begin with his opening the note book and all the points which had occurred to him since the previous evening and which he had assiduously jotted down were transmitted to various officers in personal secretariat according to their distribution of work. It was an iron rule that compliance reports had to be submitted to him every evening on all these points. No matter how late, he had to see these reports when he reached home. An item calling for action remained on his note book until it was disposed of. Then it was “ringed off “ in the note book. He had thus his own “Tottenham system “. Many persons who worked with him benefited by his systematic approach. He was not the sort of minister who would pass verbal instructions and then forget about them. Implementation was the essence of the matter. A broad vision and the perseverance to translate into reality were the distinguishing characteristics of Dr. Reddy’s approach.

Dr. Channa Reddy was a hard task master. He could not tolerate any untidiness, in the place of work or home and any shoddiness in the looks, dress or manners of those around him. He could not stand lack of earnestness and ticked off people if he suspected that someone was trying to bluff him. Once he pulled up a senior field officer who instead of explaining the details of his charge, tried to whisk him through with a V.I.P. type visit. On another occasion, irked by a top scientist who was only too eager to agree with whatever the minister said asked him angrily : “Are you a scientist or a head clerk ?” He had no room for clumsy or lazy people. And even his visitors who were sloppy or casual irked him. He admired neatness and articulation and himself was always punctilious in his dress and manner. Yet with all that, he was extremely warm and gracious to those who he knew slogged for him he treated them as members of his family and was generous to them in every way. It was usual for him to return from tour with a small present for some member of his staff or the other. If there was a function or a marriage in any family belonging to anyone in the Ministry, however small the man, he would make it a point to attend that.

Dr. Reddy established personal equations with all the officers working under him and sought to know them by inviting every officer down to the level of Under-secretary for a meal at his house. This is not known to have been done by many ministers.

It was because of these diverse qualities that he established himself as a popular minister in Delhi in no time. Commentators were already predicting a bright future for him on the national scene when the blow struck with the suddenness of lightning .

Politics is a slippery game and the ascent is like climbing a greasy pole. It was one of the ironies of fate that when everything seemed to be on the upswing the judgement of the A.P. High Court setting aside his election flashed across the nation. His reaction to it was typical of him. Without going into the legal niceties, or pausing for a moment, he immediately dictated his letter of resignation. The newspapers hailed his step as prompt and correct and proper' and in the best traditions of parliamentary democracy. Even before people came to realize what had happened, he had already packed his bags and flown out of Delhi. Seemingly there was a long dark tunnel before him, but those who knew him believed that this was not the end of a career; it was but the beginning of a new phase. Dr. Reddy's genius was too strong to be bottled up, his spark too bright to be snuffed out. Subsequent events have shown that phoenix-like he rose again out of his own ashes for attaining better glories in the service of the people to whom he is committed.

Now that he has acquired a unique mandate to mould the destiny of fifty million people, one hopes for the translation of many of his lefty and far-reaching ideas which had made him in Delhi a man to watch. He is a man of destiny. He knows it. The people know it. That is what makes it impersonal in nature, limitless in scope and historic in significance. Today his destiny is intertwined with that of millions. And they believe that he will keep his tryst with it.

ARCHITECT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
ZAHIR AHMED

I have known Dr. Channa Reddy for more than three decades.

As a visitor to his worthy uncle Shri K.v. Ranga Reddy, I remember my first glimpse of him then a young medical student. There was a shine in his eyes which made me ask his uncle who he was. I learnt that the young man was a nephew of the suave and courteous advocate and politician. I could not help telling him that the young man showed great promise.

This was during the good old days of Hyderabad when political juggling was still subordinate to the common good. When both politicians and those in government service knew that beneath the brave poses they assumed, there was a smooth current of shared understanding striving for the good of the state and all its people. Shri K.V. Ranga Reddy was an outstanding member of this composite hierarchy and later became the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, I can never see the nephew without being reminded of his uncle.

During the past thirty years, it has been my lot, intermittently, to have been exposed to a multitude of experiences and to many men in high as well as lesser places, both at home and abroad. The United Nations Organisation brings one face to face with top leaders and statesmen from the world over. These alternate minglings with distinguished men of other countries and those at own home have convinced me that our own best leaders are by no means behind those of foreign species and Dr. Channa Reddy is by no means an exception.

My subsequent contacts with Dr. Reddy in government were, however, mainly in the field of rural reconstruction and community development as the state's development commissioner. It is pleasant to recall the intense and earnest devotion which our rural folk and their old problems received from a young minister.

The community development programme was a radical departure brought in 1952 and it was at that time that I had an opportunity of working closely with Dr. Channa Reddy, the then Minister for planning Agriculture and Civil Supplies. It was then a pleasure to work with Dr. Reddy. I was fresh from an assignment abroad and I felt a breath of fresh air spontaneous and sincere concern for the needs of our people. I also remember how postponing decisions irked him and how impatient he could be with inefficiency and procrastination. Clear in his mind as to what had to be done, he was always prepared to come forward with constructive ideas. I often went with him on tours of villages and vividly remember how government officials had to be alert and prepared to answer his searching questions. Some received a severe reprimand for their defaults and inefficiency.

At the end of 1956, I joined the United Nations Organisation at the headquarters in New York but I kept in touch with him. We wrote to each other occasionally. When I was thinking of returning home in 1962, he invited me to come back and resume rural development work. I was, however, obliged to take on other U.N. assignments.

During home-leave, I always met him and once even accompanied him on a tour of Khammam District. It was a great pleasure to see again the same zest, the same energetic pursuit of programmes for promoting the wellbeing of the people. I recall many of his speeches during our tours and elsewhere—some of them stand out in my memory for their eloquence. He aroused great enthusiasm in the people and secured their involvement in the community Development programme. He always insisted that unless we were able to involve the people in their own improvement, no real success could be achieved.

About his own ideas of development, I cannot do better than quote from his foreword in the "Handbook" on community Development " prepared by Anil De of Indian Administrative service, which runs as follows:-

There has been tremendous enthusiasm in the people for these schemes and this has manifested itself in their determination to help themselves provided the necessary guidance and assistance is given them and a congenial atmosphere is created. In fact even though under these schemes, we have made relatively very little financial provision, yet their working has gone a long way in creating a real atmosphere of constructive enthusiasm in the villages.

Reorientation in action and thinking at all levels and among all sections is the main feature of this planning. It is but a fact that our problems are man-made and so are the demands of the people and both are insistent and have to be met immediately. Yet there should be neither confusion nor frustration for, this would inevitably lead us to chaos. It is, therefore necessary for us to be very careful in programmes of this nature. I feel that is the real test of our

administration. The real challenge to our present administration is to disprove the common feeling that administration is an art of postponing things of creating hurdles and of raising objections and to establish on the contrary, beyond a shadow of doubt, that administration is in itself an art and a science of executing things within the available resources to the utmost of our capacity and in the shortest possible time, and of providing the fullest opportunities for the reflection of the wishes, energies and aspirations of the people. “

All that was said in 1954 stands true to this day, even more so. I remember, he often said so rightly that community development programme was not merely a programme of raising the standards of living of the people in rural India but rather an organised and cooperative enterprise between the people and the government, directed at the transformation of the mental outlook of the people, which would instil in them ambitions for higher standards together with the will and the determination to work for such standards. I have always myself believed that the fundamental problem is not the mere creation of wealth but the creation of the capacity to create wealth.

Thus the new community development programme was mounted on an underpinning of meaningful coordination of the official machinery and people’s dynamic cooperation with the development administration.

Closely associated with rural development as I have been all my life, I look back upon the distance (and the direction) that the nation has travelled since the days of that thinly spread community development programme, which somehow lost its early promise and later merged itself into departmental routine. When this programme subsequently became panchayat Raj, it did acquire an institutional dimension, but it lost its earlier vitality.

Dr. Channa Reddy’s dynamic personality, his far-sightedness and leadership of the early community development programme contributed to a radical departure in the approach to rural development. His interest in the rural millions decentralisation of powers and on-the-spot decisions, were major contributions to the magnificent results we then achieved under his stewardship. I remember that in order to accomplish the objectives, he involved himself in the programme, Also, the encouragement he gave to the local leadership immeasurably helped to create a second line of new leaders at grassroots. The work done particularly in Gulbarga, Mirzapur, Shadnagar, Patancheru and Warangal was a monument to his leadership and guidance.

I took forward to the “Integrated Rural Development Programme “ now picking up the threads once again, under Dr. Reddy, to transform itself into a splendid fabric enfolding our rural millions, particularly the most deprived among them.

CRUSADER FOR HOLY SHRINES
K. VASUDEVA RAO

Dr. M. Channa Reddy rendered yeoman services in the cause of construction and renovation of temples. His dynamism, intelligence, knowledgeability prudence, courage and grit have all been brought into play in this regard.

I have known Dr. Channa Reddy for nearly four decades. I came into close contact with him when he assumed office as minister for the first time in 1952 -perhaps one of the youngest persons to become a minister. The portfolio of food and agriculture which was entrusted to him, was considered a very important one and was offered to such persons who had all or some of the qualities mentioned above. It was a trying time for the central and the state government in meeting the food requirements of the country. Bold decisions had to be taken. Movement of foodgrains had to be restricted. Dr, Channa Reddy as the Food Minister took the historical decision of removing controls on inter-district movement of rice. At that time the late Shri Rafi Ahamad Kidwai was the Food Minister at the centre. Rice was decontrolled by the Government of India and this decision of late Rafi Saheb was acclaimed as courageous, bold and at the same time risky. One of the factors that weighed with the Government of India in taking this bold decision was the advice tendered by Dr. Channa Reddy the food Minister of the erstwhile Hyderabad is such I have mentioned these things only to underline the fact that Dr. Reddy's calibre is such that in any field of activity, it will reflect itself in the most significant manner, His sincerity of purpose, willingness, and intelligence will all be brought into play and the subject he handles will be dealt with perfection.

His flair for renovation of temples is well known, Since the time he entered office as minister in 1952 he spared no pains and has been engaging himself in the work of renovation of temples in some way or the other. Dr. Reddy has all-round knowledge of temple renovation work. He is aware of the Agama and the Silpa Shastras to the extent they are required for this purpose. He is also quite conversant with the constructional aspects as well. His general knowledge helps him in his comprehension and imagination. His sincerity, devotion and keen eye for details are very useful in any renovation programme. He has always a plan and thinks ahead of each work. He takes equal interest in the execution of work. Temple works are the closest to his heart. His religious bent of mind and devotion have resulted in his abiding interest in the programme of renovations of temples. Dr. Reddy's role in this field has been very commendable.

Srisailam is one of the most important and ancient temples not only in Andhra Pradesh but in the whole of India. Lord Mallikarjuna Swamy, the ruling deity, is one of the Twelve Jyothir Lingas of Bharat and his consort, Sri Bhramaramba Devi is one of the Ashtadasa Shaktis of the country. Thus Srisailam is the most sacred and an all -important temple to those who practise the saiva form of worship. This famous kshetra has four Maha Dwaras ; in the East, South and North and in all these places, famous temples are situated. In the is located, the Tripurantaka Temple which also contains marvellous architectural work. It had no approaches. There was no road. The temple was in a dilapidated condition. Dr. Channa Reddy as Minister for Planning, visited the place and immediately arranged for the laying of the Ghat road to the hill on which the temple stands. He got this road completed in a record time, revealing his tenacity of purpose. He got the Panchayat construct the road and secured for them the necessary funds.

Not only that he himself got a temple of sri Sambasadasiva Swami Varu constructed in his native village Marpalli.

The temple at Dharmapuri in karimnagar District is one of the few famous temples in the Telangana region. The ruling deity is Sri Lakshminarasimha Swamy. Every Telugu man knows Narasimha satakam. This book was written in the village as could be seen from the Makuta "Sri Dharmapuri Nivasa Dushta Samhara Narasimha Durita Dure ". Dr. Reddy

undertook the renovation of this temple and he was the chairman of the Renovation Committee. A number of renovation works were executed. He laid the foundation stone for the Rajagopuram and got the Venkateswara Swamy Mandapam constructed. He also got the blue-print prepared for the construction of choultries. The TTD also constructed a choultry at his express desire.

The temple which catches the eye of any one passing through the metropolis of Hyderabad is the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple of Kalapahad. It was constructed by the Hindusthan Charitable Trust at an enormous cost. It was Dr. Channa Reddy who conceived this idea as long back as in 1962 when he was Finance Minister. He in collaboration with the late Shri Alapati Venkatramayya, the then Minister for Endowments, pioneered the venture on the highest point in the cities. Dr. Reddy is an expert in finding ways and means of execution of such stupendous works. He made necessary efforts for the assignment of land and then for the preparation of the blue -prints. I am intimately aware of these details as the then Collector of Hyderabad. The Hindustan Charitable aware of these details as the then Collector of Hyderabad. The Hindustan Charitable Trust put up a beautiful temple on this hill which is now one of the centres of interest for all the visiting public apart from being a source of inspiration to the citizens. Dr. Reddy supervised its execution at all stages.

Dr. Reddy has always been advocating the preparation of a master plan for the renovation of all dilapidated temples in the whole state. He was responsible for the establishment of an Engineering Cell in the Endowments Department for the execution of renovation works. He was also responsible for the creation of the post of Sthapathi (Sculptor) to advise on the preparation of plans and the execution of renovation works. The services of Ganapathi sthapathi of Andhra Pradesh have received wide recognition throughout the country. He has been decorated with the National Award by the president of India in 1975. The Mahadhipathis. Peethadhipathis and all those who are concerned with the temple works speak highly of the efficiency of our Ganapathi Sthapathi. Dr. Channa Reddy himself has been appreciating his work and he was pleased to award him an Emblem of the Uttar Pradesh Government while he was the Governor of that State. This Sthapathi is an adviser to all major renovation programmes of temples in the whole country. This is nothing but a tribute to Andhra Pradesh in its pioneering efforts at renovation of old temples. There is no such establishment in any other State in India. The moving spirit behind this noble work is nobody else than Dr. Channa Reddy. It should please everyone to know that, lately, various State Governments have been sending requisitions for our help in the matter of renovation of temples in their states. An encouraging offshoot of this work is that, we have taken up the supervisory responsibility of construction of temples in New York and Pittsburgh, and the whole work is being carried out in Hyderabad under the direct control of Ganapathi Sthapathi and the aegis of the Endowments Department of Andhra Pradesh. This is a precious feather in the cap of the Endowments Department of our state.

Dr. Channa Reddy has directed that the renovation of old temples must be taken up immediately and construction of new temples discouraged. He also suggested that we must take up an immediate survey of all the temple in the State. He desired that minor repairs must be attended to without any loss of time. He is also of the view that the renovation programme must be launched as a campaign. Where the temples are notified under the Archaeological Department. His interest in renovation of temples is so much that he wants that a Directory should be prepared giving all details about all the temples in the state.

As Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh within the past few months he ordered for the renovation of Lord Siva temple in Keesaragutta (Medchal Taluk, Rangareddy District); the Bheemeswara temple in Daksharama (East Godavari District) and the Saraswati temple in Basar (Adilabad District).

In order to carry out the renovation programme successfully it is necessary and expedient to have the services of good and efficient silpis. There is dearth of such workmen in the state. They have to be brought from outside. In order to meet this deficiency a silpa kalasala was established some time ago; but somehow it remained inactive. Dr. Channa Reddy gave a fillip to reactivating the kalasala. He also directed that stipends to students must be adequate in order to attract sizeable number of students.

Dr. Reddy's services for the cause of the holy shrines did not remain confined only to Andhra Pradesh. Soon after he was sworn in as Governor of Uttar Pradesh Dr. Reddy made an extensive tour of all the districts of Uttar Pradesh and visited all the temples-big and small-in every nook and corner of the state. One of the temples he visited was that of Lord Viswanath in Varanasi. This is the temple which is visited by millions of people every year. According to Dr. Reddy the estimated income of this temple is around Rs. 50 crores annually and yet no part of this staggering sum is utilised to keep this holy town hygienic. Dr. Reddy was distressed to see not only the temple surroundings but also the holy city in a very bad shape. He found to his utter amazement that women who bathe at the Ghats have no privacy ; ablutions have to be performed in dirty waters. At every turn in the town, the faith of the most devout is put to severe test by the filth in the town and the greed of the Pands. Dr. Reddy, who kept his first Shivaratri fast as Governor of Uttar Pradesh at Varanasi, found it a strain on his devotion to accept the THIRTHA from the sanctorum ; this despite the fact that the holy city of Varanasi was prepared for the visit of the new Rajyapal. Consequently, as soon as he returned to the State headquarters, Dr. Reddy held discussions with the U.P. Government and its Chief Minister and, after through deliberations he caused an Ordinance promulgated. The ordinance and the bill that was to follow were the result of the long hours of hard work that Governor Reddy put in. If the provisions of the bill find implementation, it would mean a sea of change in pilgrim amenities not only in Varanasi but in all the holy places of Uttar Pradesh. The bill which was prepared after the A.P. Religious Endowments Act, seeks to make arrangements for proper accounting of the incomes of each temple in the state and divert a part of it for providing amenities to the pilgrims visiting the temple towns.

His whole idea in trying to streamline the management of religious institutions and endowments in Uttar Pradesh was to ensure that pilgrims were not fleeced, funds in the name of the religion were not utilised and the moneys went to worthy causes like education, medical care for the poor, and so on. This action of Dr. Channa Reddy received acclaim from all the devotees throughout the length and breadth of the country. Dr. Reddy devoted a large part of his time to the problems of renovation of Badrinath and Kedarnath temples in the snow-clad mountains of the Himalayas. Adi Sankara did the pratishta of Badrinath temple. The previous attempts at renovation of these two temples did not bear fruit. He took personal interest and got the renovation plans prepared whose execution has been entrusted to the Sthapathi of Andhra Pradesh Government. The renovation programme of Badrinath temple was inaugurated by him recently in Hyderabad. On this occasion, Dr. Reddy announced a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs towards the cost of renovation of Badrinath temple. Another notable Act of Dr. Channa Reddy, as Governor of Uttar Pradesh, was in reviving the memories of the holy place Naimisaranya, situated in Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh. He prepared an

ambitious plan for the development of the area and for the preservation and propagation of Vedas and Upanishads.

All the above are only a few instances of the abiding faith that Dr. Channa Reddy has in the Almighty and his anxiety for preserving the country's religious treasure- houses for the posterity.

On the happy occasion of Dr. Reddy's Shashtipurti, I along with his innumerable admirers spread over the length and breadth of the country, offer him our good wishes for his long and healthy life so that what he has taken up for the cause of the holy shrines, he would be in a position to see it fulfilled.

AGRICULTURE'S DEBT TO DR. REDDY

J. RAGHOTHAM REDDY

It is natural for Dr. Marri Channa Reddy to carry bias for agriculture and love for the farmers as he comes from a farm family and was reared in a village. It was also normal for him to have chosen the more rewarding profession of medicine as the opportunities for better life and full use of the latent talents was limited in farming of those days. This unpleasant phenomenon of best and the gifted youth leaving the ancestral calling continues to this day with consequences to village life which are now obvious to every discerning eye.

Dr. Reddy's place among the freedom fighters and the part he played in awakening the people to their 'birth-right ' to break away from the shackles of slavery will be found elsewhere in this volume.

When he was a member of the Constituent Assembly, he developed a close comradery with the late Shri Rafi Ahmed Kidwai whose affection he earned in a great measure. Then Dr. Reddy was just 29-very young indeed to be in the provisional parliament.

In 1952, the food situation in India was critical, farm production was at the lowest and it was remarkable that he chose to be the first elected Agriculture Minister in Hyderabad State. This brought him the opportunity to serve with distinction his ancestral calling and the occupational group of farming from which his family was drawn. How ever competent he may have been as a medical man, and dedicated to the suffering men and women that came to him for relief, his first love has been farming and the peasantry that eked out a difficult living under conditions of privation.

Notwithstanding his preoccupation with public life of free India in its formative years and the heavy load he carried as the youngest minister in the first popular Government of Hyderabad State, he found time energy and enterprise to acquire farming interests under Nizamsagar-far away from his home (in vikarabad Taluk) . The credit for managing this farming enterprise under Nizamsagar and developing it into a viable and rewarding venture must unreservedly go to Smt. Savitri Devi, the distinguished and the most dedicated wife of Dr. Reddy. Those who have had the privilege of knowing her see that in spite of her self-effacing modesty she loves farming and farm animals more than any other member of her family does. The lead of managing the family and looking after the affairs that she took off

the shoulders of Dr. Reddy made him a singularly free man, enabling him to devote his undivided attention to the management of public affairs and putting the State's farming back on rails.

That was the time when the country had to produce food at any cost. 'Produce or perish' was the slogan. The dynamism and unbounded zeal the first popular minister brought to bear on the problems of production and management of available food stocks are now a legend. To have taken charge, at 33, of a department in a primitive state managed by men brought up in the traditions of a princely India and give it a new direction and a purpose was no small feat.

The use of fertilisers was uncommon and the balanced fertilization not known at all. Dr. Reddy as Minister of Agriculture and Civil Supplies introduced a scheme under which any person, owner, tenant or a share-cropper could obtain fertilisers on credit under the advice of the Agricultural Assistant, only by the certification of the Patwari that he would cultivate the land. The money was deducted at the time of payment against the grains he surrendered to the Government under the levy system. This, in practice, worked so well that overnight the farmers became fertilizer conscious, use of fertilizers went up proportionately. This, then or now is a unique way of linking the use of inputs to the selling of grains.

Just a year after taking charge as a member of the Government, he led an Indian delegation on behalf of the federation of rural peoples organisations to the conference of international federation of Agricultural Producers, held at Rome.

About the same time in 1953, he called a small meeting to initiate an organisation of operating farmers. This was the Hyderabad Farmers Union which under his president ship, began by publishing 'kisan' the first monthly farm magazine in four languages English, Telugu, Marathi and kannada -- with a circulation of more than 10,000 in all the languages together.

Later, in 1954, when the late Dr. Punjab Rao Deshmukh, the then Minister of state for Agriculture, Government of India, called a meeting of Ministers of Agriculture of the state governments in Srinagar and launched the Farmers Forum of India, better known now as Krishak Samaj the contingent from Hyderabad led by Dr. Reddy was impressive indeed. The Hyderabad Farmers Union continued to bear its own name though affiliated to the Farmers, Forum of India.

On the eve of the formation of Andhra Pradesh the Hyderabad Farmers Union created an endowment with the Agricultural College, Rajendranagar award of a prize to the best student passing out of the college. During the last twenty years or more the awardence have distinguished themselves in many fields. The creation of this endowment is an evidence of Dr. Reddy's love for agriculture and those that deserve recognition in that field.

In 1955, an official delegation was sent to Food and Agriculture Conference at Rome. The late Sri Ajit Prasad Jain led the delegation as the Union Minister of Agriculture and Dr. Reddy, just 36, was chosen the deputy leader.

During the years 1952 - 56, as the Agriculture Minister, Dr. Reddy provided the means and the inspiration for the Agricultural College to expand.

The foundation of the new college at what was then known as Himayatsagar (now Rajendranagar) was laid in January, 1955 by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the then Vice - President of India. Dr. Reddy thus began the era of a growing Agricultural complex which is going to be about the biggest in India.

It may now look strange that this large building which housed the Agricultural College till 1968 and later made room for the veterinary college, was built within a short period of six months.

Even earlier, as Dr. Reddy took over the Department of food and Agriculture, he recognised the need for expanding scope of farm research. The grants were increased and the A.R.I. (Agricultural Research Institute) building now housing crop specialists began with the foundation laid by the then Union Minister of Agriculture Shri Rafi Ahmed Kidwai.

At this function, Shri Kidwai was taken to a quiet corner of the farm with exceedingly refreshing surroundings. This was known as ‘ Hosh-Ruba ‘ . It was Shri A.P. Jain, who succeeded Shri Kidwai after the latter’s untimely death, who christened the garden as ‘Kidwai Cottage ‘ which has now become a picnic spot for many holiday groups from twin - cities.

It was a little later that the first President of India - well known for his rural bias - was invited by Dr. Reddy. Dr. Rajendra Prasad stayed at the ‘Kidwai Cottage ‘ for a whole day at the persuasion of Dr. Reddy and, as a token of his love and regard for Shri Kidwai. This practice continued each time he came to stay at Hyderabad.

It was to commemorate this principal event, that the area was named as Rajendranagar on July 1, 1955.

During the regime of the first democratic government of Hyderabad, the main experimental farm was given the means to put up some staff quarters and other farm facilities. The fact that Dr. Reddy took personal interest in its affairs was a source of inspiration to the dedicated band of scientists that worked there.

Frequent visits were arranged for legislators to the farm to familiarise them with the way science was being harnessed to serve the man behind the plough.

Agriculture in the very nature of things is slow and notwithstanding the momentum imparted to it in 1951 - 56 it continued its slow progress during the following years. The veterinary college still continued to be in the Osmania College Campus.

A committee was formed under the chairmanship of the late Shri Bezwada Ramachandra Reddy to report on all aspects of an Agricultural University. Their efforts culminated in the Bill No. 27 of 1961. This Bill was deliberated upon at length but could not result in an Act as the elections of 1962 intervened and brought a new legislature into being. The bill was reintroduced in July 1962 within four months of the constitution of the new Legislative Assembly.

The bill was certainly not non- controversial and the role Dr, Reddy played in the inner counsels of the state government and within the Cabinet was decisive. It became an Act and the University was established in 1964.

From then on, the progress was steady. Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University was one of the very few to have the jurisdiction over the three Agricultural two veterinary and one Home Science colleges and all the research stations the state over. As panchayat raj Minister first and Finance Minister later, Dr. Reddy was a tower of strength both to the university and the ministers in charge. The university never starved for finances during this period.

Even before the university was ushered in, he played a notable part in shaping and giving a new direction to the college of Agriculture as member of the Syndicate of the Osmania University and indeed he was for long the only member who championed the cause of agriculture in the academic bodies and financing committees.

All large institutions have small beginnings and those that nurse them in early years are really the founding fathers. In this sense Dr. Reddy may truly be the founder of not only the Agricultural University but the whole agricultural complex housing a dozen institutions working for the cause of agriculture and N.I.R.D., All India coordinated Projects of rice, Sorghum, Millets etc., V.D.Os ' Training Centre, Farmers ' Training Centre. State Institute of Community Development and Panchayat Raj Cooperative Training College, and the like. These institutions at Rajendranagar have become among the largest reservoirs of agricultural talent in the country with their activities continuing for the good of farming.

Apart from extending patronage to the institutions of agricultural research and teaching Dr. Channa Reddy gave in the early years, a boost to extension personnel.

The community development and the national extension service that went before it have been benefited largely by his wise counsel and guidance in the earlier years. The foundations for development under Tungabhadra Left Canal also began almost about at the same time. The foundation - stone for Nagarjunasagar project was laid by Pandit Nehru, while Dr. Reddy was still the Minister for Agriculture in Hyderabad state.

Rationing of food grains was streamlined and later came to be relaxed when supply position improved.

A pragmatist and a very shrewd thinker he is not bound by doctrinaire concepts and as a go-getter he has a way of breaking hurdles including the proverbial red-tape .

He is full of sympathy for the rural people who have to wrestle with many problems to get even the normal credit. As far back as 1966 he had constituted a committee to report on simplification of credit procedures. The recommendations may soon be translated into action to the great relief of the rural people who are in desperate need of credit.

Whether in the higher echelons of public office or in the din and tumble of public life, he has been accessible to students of agriculture. Quite often he graced the meetings organised by the agricultural college students even while out of office and in his personal capacity.

His love of farming is so great that he put one of his sons in agriculture, who is now a self-employed farmer with an M.S. from Kansas State university.

He still farms, including in his ancestral village Marpally in Vikarbad Taluk. In spite of the work load he carries as the head of the state government he finds time and delight in seeing his little farm and enjoying the company of plants and farm animals.

He has been a grape grower, a poultry farmer, a dairy man, a sugarcane cultivator besides being a rice farmer all the time. His interest in these enterprises is sustained by his almost super human energies. While broad decisions may be his his good and gracious wife, smt. Savitri Devi has all along been in charge of little things and intimate details which make or mar a farm enterprise.

Dr. Reddy's family is not very large (They are all eleven in number including 3 grand children). It is an ideal family bound together in great affection and mutual esteem. Any person who has the good fortune of seeing them at close quarters cannot but be impressed by culture, urbanity and righty and right attitude to life of each one of them and perfect respect they show to each other's point of view.

Now that Dr. Reddy has come to be the head of the Government of Andhra Pradesh the farmers could look forward to a new deal and the A.P. agricultural university a new inspiration and solid support. Surely, Andhra's agriculture is indebted to this great and selfless individual who always believed in lighting candles than cursing darkness.

LEADER WITH DRIVE AND DYNAMISM

Y. NAYUDAMMA

My association with Dr. Channa Reddy is rather limited; but then, it is not difficult to distinguish a jasmine from an onion flower, though both are white. The little I know him, only makes me to know more of him.

Working with him, I have learnt to admire and appreciate his daring, drive and dynamism, mastery over facts and clarity of thought, broad vision, bold decision and prompt action. Complacency is anathema to him. Hard work is his lifetime habit.

Here is Dr. Reddy, trained in medicine, took to politics, if only to prove that the practice of medicine and politics alike, is to understand, prevent and cure diseases, and relieve pain of the people. Practice of medicine or politics requires not only acquired knowledge but also a close relationship with people. Its duty is to make every human being physically fit, mentally alert and spiritually alive. Its inner satisfaction arises from services given to human beings.

Dr. Reddy is tireless in emphasizing the role of science and technology as instruments for rapid economic development and social transformation. He is impatient of delays and deadwood, deep rooted in administrative services; takes its structure and shakes it with audacity and drive and injects realistic thoughts and radical approaches, facing criticism with confidence, courage and conviction.

Of great many people, a few can recognise a problem; still fewer are the people who are capable of thinking of a practical solution to the problem – rare and fewer still are who can see a problem, devise a solution and put it into action. Such is the man Dr. Channa Reddy

The need for leadership in all walks of life is great today than ever before. Every aspect of life demands guiding hands, be it Government, business and Industry or Science. A good leadership includes vision and wisdom, knowledge of men and matters, intellectual ability and independent thinking, integrity and industry, dynamism and drive.

To such a leader Dr. Channa Reddy go my admiration, affection and all good wishes to guide the destinies of Andhra Pradesh in the years to come.

HARBINGER OF STATE'S IRRIGATION PROJECTS
M. GOPALA RAO

Irrigation and power projects are the roots of prosperity of a nation. In the early days, India had suffered from acute shortage of food, and frequent famines were taking a heavy toll of human life. It was only in the 19th century that harnessing of big rivers was attempted by the great British Engineer, Sir Arthur Cotton, who was responsible for construction of barrages across the rivers Krishna and Godavari. In 1936, when Nawab Ali Nawaz Jung Bahadur was the chief Engineer, the Government of Hyderabad investigated schemes for building dams across rivers Godavari and Krishna. Later, in 1946 long before the reorganisation of states and trifurcation of the Hyderabad State took place, proposals were drafted to build the dams across river Godavari near Kowaliguda and Kustapur, Finally, instead of having two dams, only one was preferred at Pochampad.

The close association of Dr. M. Channa Reddy with the building of irrigation and power projects in Andhra Pradesh dates back to 1958, when he was the presiding member of the planning and Development sub-committee of the Telangana Regional Committee. In that capacity, he had submitted 38 valuable reports on various development schemes including those on irrigation and power in the state.

As Chairman of the Estimates Committee of the Andhra Pradesh Legislature during the year 1960-61, he presented reports to the Legislature in which he highlighted the importance of harnessing the Godavari and Krishna rivers flowing through the heart of Andhra Pradesh and developing the mighty coal mines. He visualised that there was vast scope for development of irrigation and power resources of the state leading to growth of industries in the state. With rare vision and foresight, Dr. Reddy struggled hard to rouse the conscience of the powers that be to the utter poverty prevailing in Telangana region of the state and forced the Government to take up many a scheme for exploitation of the natural resources to the benefit of the down-trodden whose cause he championed with great vigour.

Dr. Reddy was fully aware that the economic backwardness of Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam and Nalgonda districts was responsible for the imbalances in the levels of living of the people and was a factor hindering the emotional integration of the two regions of Andhra Pradesh i.e., Andhra and Telangana. He, therefore brought pressure on the government, as Chairman of the Estimates Committee, for taking up the construction of the Pochampad dam (now renamed as Sri Rama Sagar) in the last two years of the Second Five-year Plan as it would irrigate the arid areas of these five districts and usher in an era of growth and prosperity.

Dr. Channa Reddy envisioned the completion of the project years. He wanted that the possibilities of navigation in the Godavari South Main Canal should be investigated.

In order to press for its inclusion under the plan schemes, Dr. Reddy led a deputation to Shri Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, the then Minister for Irrigation and power at the Centre, and Shri C.M. Trivedi, Member. Planning Commission and presented a memorandum on this gigantic project on September 2, 1960. He described this scheme as "socially and economically desirable politically urgent and financially feasible ". When the Minister for Irrigation and Power, and the Member, Planning Commission, did not agree to this scheme being taken up on the plea that the Government of Maharashtra were not immediately agreeable to the apportionment of waters of the Godavari river, and that, therefore the irrigation needs of Andhra Pradesh could wait until an agreement with other states was reached, Dr. Reddy asserted that "while in a state like the Punjab there is more than 50 per cent of irrigation by canals, in Telangana it was only 2 per cent although the capacities of the rivers in Telangana are much more than those of the rivers in the Punjab ". He added, "At the time of integration of Andhra and Telangana there were assurances given to the people that Pochampad project would be included in the second five- year plan. The people of Telangana are very backward and were neglected in the pre-democracy period in the erstwhile Hyderabad state and any further reluctance to execute the Pochampad project will result in frustration among the people of Telangana there by undermining the faith of the people there in democracy itself ".

The constant efforts of Dr. Reddy finally yielded results when the Pochampad project was inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India on July 26, 1963.

The Pochampad Dam is located near Pochampad village, about 31/2 miles up - stream of the Soan Bridge on Hyderabad - Nagpur Road. The left bank canal (now renamed as Saraswathi canal) is to have a discharge of 2,250 cusecs to irrigate two lakh acres. The right bank canal, the Godavari South Canal (now renamed as Kakatiya Canal) is to have the maximum carrying capacity of 13,300 cusecs to irrigate 16,20 lakh acres in the districts of Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam and Nalgonda. It crosses the Godavari - Krishna ridge at mile 152 of the canal near Warangal town and thereafter runs westwards into the Krishna basin ending at the Kanagal valley near Nalgonda town at mile 240.

Dr. Reddy recently enjoyed the unique satisfaction of seeing his own dream come true when as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, he had opened the Kakatiya Canal from Lower Manair Dam on August 20, 1978. The project has so far created an irrigation potential of 2,55 lakh acres under this canal and the dam has come up to the crest level of the spillway.

Srisailem Hydro Project is another baby which Dr. Reddy nurtured carefully at every stage. When the scheme was finally sanctioned in 1964 Dr. Reddy who was a member of the state cabinet was all smiles to see his baby trotting. Ramagundam Thermal station Sileru Hydro-power project and the Nellore Thermal station were the other major schemes which Dr. Reddy wanted to be taken up for all-round prosperity of the state.

The Srisailem Hydro Electric project is the largest hydro-power station in Andhra Pradesh taken up in the Third Five - year Plan to generate 770 Mega Watts of power. There is also a proposal to install massive pumped storage Hydro-power generation, and to give water for about four lakh acres for irrigating the areas of Rayalaseema, which has been suffering from scanty rainfall and lack of irrigation facilities.

Nagarjunasagar was yet one more pet child of Dr. Reddy. It is a multi-purpose project the foundation stone of which was laid by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India on December 10, 1955. In building this dam across the river Krishna, there developed a

controversy between the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Planning Commission. The latter wanted it to be taken up in two phases. It favoured the building of the dam to a lower level of 525 ft. in the first phase. As presiding member of the sub-committee on planning of the Telangana Regional Committee, Dr. Reddy disagreed with this view of the planning commission and pleaded with them that “the terminology of the first and second phase is a misnomer. The entire Nagarjuna sagar project has to be treated as one phase in view of plenty of water being available in the krishna river”. He pointed out that the building up of the dam to the full height would go a long way in extending irrigation to the vast barren lands in the districts of Nalgonda, Khammam, Krishna, Guntur and Nellore. Ultimately, the planning Commission accepted his views and approved the construction of the dam in one stage to the final level of 590 ft.

The Nagarjuna sagar canal system is one of the largest projects in India. Two huge contour canals take off from the main reservoir, one from each flank. The right main canal is one of the largest irrigation canals in the world, running up to 408 km. serving the districts of Kurnool, Guntur, Prakasam and Nellore. It is named after India’s first Prime Minister jawaharlal Nehru and is called jawahar Canal. The left canal serves the districts of Nalgonda Khammam, krishna and West Godavari and is named after the second Prime Minister of India, shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, and is called Lal Bahadur Canal.

The statesmanlike rapport that Dr. Reddy developed with the people of the North and the south his scholarly proficiency in the major languages of our country and his abiding faith in the Almighty, will elevate him to the galaxy of our national leaders. His emotional involvement to achieving socio- economic progress would spur him to further action in making a reality of the cherished national water and power grid in the realisation of his above dreams, Dr. reddy’s razor -sharp intellect memory of an elephant and courage of a lion would stand him in good stead. His endless efforts to build a new India with socio-economic prosperity for the poorest man of our country may be described in the words of H.W. Longfellow---

“The heights of great men reached and kept,
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night”.

HERO IN HIS OWN RIGHT

P.d. TANDON

Dr. Channa Reedy’s shastipurthi felicitation Committee’s command to do an artical on him came all too late. Since writing is not spinning, I could have justly excused myself but how not to send anything about such a dynamic leader on his sixtieth birthday ? Dr. Reddy is a man of the masses and is always full of new ideas. He is vigorous, vivacious and vibrant by temperament. He can work in a team. He can be a leader and a leader and a follower, both excelling in both the capacities. I have seen him only in the capacity of a governor and so,I

will write mainly on his days in Uttar Pradesh. I have heard he is doing very well as Chief Minister too, and I certainly believe it..

When a dynamic politician becomes a Governor it is presumed that his political career has come to an end he is confined to the comforts of Raj Bhavan. But it was not so with Dr. Channa Reddy when he was in Uttar Pradesh. He is tough by temperament and often prefers to break. If necessary, rather than bend. One i asked an Andhra to tell me the strongest point of Dr. Reddy, and he said, “for any good and just cause he can build up a powerful agitation in Andhra in twenty four hours. He does it with such a flair that you can see the flames of people’s unrest”.

Reflecting on his role during the Telangana movement, I felt that it was a correct estimate of this capable administrator who is dynamic and challenging by nature. He is courageous and full of faith in himself. His physical stamina is remarkable. During the president’s Rule in Uttar Pradesh he worked almost daily till late into the night and was a despair of several officials who were staggered at his capacity for sustained work.

One day, I confronted his son ravindra with the question, “what is the weakest point of your father ? he was not rattled by my enquiry and softly replied, “You see, he cannot take earnest, we often feel irritated why he should waste his precious time in trifling affairs.” However, this is a loveable weakness of many a big man.

He is very considerate to men around him whatever be their station in life. In June 1976. Dr. Reddy went to Jim Corbett Park with his family. They all had elephant ride there and had a nice time. Dr. Reddy saw to that his servants and others too were not kept away from this exciting experience. He has great sympathy for the lowly and takes keen interest in their problems. It is this human quality that endears him to the people. During his term of governorship in Uttar Pradesh, he visited almost every district of the state. He freely met people wherever he went, heard their grievances and difficulties ; and did whatever he could. When shri V.V. Giri was Governor of Uttar Pradesh he once triumphantly declared that he was not a sleeping partner of the U.P. Government. Dr. Reddy would justly say that he was a fully awake and awakening partner of the U.P. Government.

Dr. Reddy is a very religious-minded person. He knows well that there is divinity that shapes our needs, and the same divinity ends our shapes. He has great faith in seers and sages. He believes that in life human efforts count for much, but in the ultimate analysis everything is decided by the divine power. The best that a man can do is to be karmayogi and leave the rest to god. He does his puja regularly. He values those who have a human and generous approach in life. Dr. Reddy can be hard even very harsh, and at times he is a hard nut to crack, but if you think that he can be vindictive or malicious, you will be disappointed. He loses temper when one is inefficient or casual, but his anger vapours away very quickly. He has so many and so frequent fits of magnanimity that at times one is inclined to feel that he follows the policy of forget and forgive a little too liberally. He has a touch of relevant ruthlessness too about him which is, perhaps necessary for a successful politician.

Dr. Reddy is a very well informed person. He is a mine of information on various subjects. He has an astonishing memory for certain things, he has mastery over the subjects he handles. His striking grasp over the files was evident during the president’s Rule in the Uttar Pradesh. He believes in straight dealings and knows that those who indulge in too much trickery are

ultimately trounced. He is a man with a ‘stout heart and open hands.’ he is a good and dependable friend, and a determined opponent, when he has to be.

Dr. Reddy is a powerful and eloquent speaker. He is not a tub-thumper. His eloquence is packed with ideas and helpful suggestions. I still remember how he blasted some Hindi bigots at a function in hindi sahitya sammelan, Allahabad. They writhed in restlessness because of his blistering attack on them. When one of them tried to defend the Hindi fanaticism which in south India is called Hindi imperialism, he succeeded only in becoming ridiculous to the amusement of the audience. They mocked at him and Dr. Reddy’s rational approach to the development of Hindi as a national language of India glittered still more gloriously in contrast to the bogus verbosity of the Hindi bigot. He stoutly defended Jawaharlal Nehru’s approach to Hindi and pleaded for rationalism and correct understanding of the problem. He spoke in excellent Hindi which held the audience spell bound.

Dr. Reddy is never reluctant to measure swords with the mighty. But he plans his political strategy very well. He knows how to advance and make a thrust, but is equally good in the art of masterly retreat if the occasion demanded it. It can be safely said that in his case, the best is yet to be. He is a remarkable man in many ways. He is a hero in his own right.

LOVER OF CHILDREN

K. SARADA DEVI

The Jawahar Bal Bhavan is a gift of Dr. Channa Reddy to the children of Hyderabad. If in Taj Mahal is manifested Shah Jahan’s love for Mumtaz, Dr. Reddy’s love for children is expressed eloquently in his being the architect of Bal Bhavans in Andhra Pradesh and also in Uttar Pradesh, where he was Government for a time.

Jawaharlal Nehru, who loved children, would have been happy if he knew that his name was being perpetuated with an institution completely devoted to the many – sided and many – splendoured development of children, the citizens of tomorrow. Dr. Reddy’s observation that he cannot say to a child that we would do it tomorrow is expressive of his anxiety to create facilities for the development of Children. Deeds reflect the character and personality of a man. Dr. Reddy, singles – handed, caused the building up of a fascinating edifice for children in the form of Bal Bhavans, an indicator of his intense love for children

Jawahar Bal Bhavan in Hyderabad can be rightly described as our Disney Land. The fact that many useful and different activities are carried under one roof for the development of children is of great relevance and probably excels in content and emphasis on the child. The Bal Bhavan located in the public Gardens, Hyderabad, amidst picturesque surroundings of beauty and charm, has an Aquarium, a Science Laboratory and a Swimming pool. Facilities for learning clay work, pottery and a host of crafts are also an integral part of the Bhavan’s activities. A boat is provided in the two artificial lakes; the multicoloured fountains give the scene a fairy – land appearance. Enough provision has been made for physical exercises by installing swings, see – saws, merry – go – rounds, sliders, etc. A children’s canteen, designed in the shape of a boat abutting the lake, is another attraction. The indoor auditorium called “Priya Darshini “ [by which name Indira Gandhi was fondly called by her

father, Jawaharlal Nehru] can accommodate 800 children. Screening of films is another educative activity. If our children are to be good citizens with an integrated personality, it is necessary that they are allowed to grow freely and given an opportunity to learn after their school hours and on off days

I had the good fortune to be placed in charge of the Bal Bhavan as Director in 1966. It was a new experience for me as I stepped from dry and dreary class – rooms to this garden of delight. It was with a sense of diffidence that I took over my new assignment so kindly given by our humane Chief Minister Dr. Channa Reddy, while he was Finance Minister of the State. For Dr. Reddy, Bal Bhavan was as if a dream realized. He at once saw the need for such an institution and recognized that proper moulding of children was necessary. Our children do not get the attention they needed from the parents who are busy with their own work and chores. Even in schools they do not get what they want. In order to make good this lacuna, it is necessary to have centres where children’s natural talents could be discovered and developed. These thoughts, which Dr. Reddy shared with me [when I met him after taking charge of my new office] moved me to my depths. Dr. Reddy was pictured to me as an exacting person who is unsparing and unforgiving, is indeed a person with the heart of a child of 24 ct. gold. They did not know that behind his rather disciplined exterior lay a heart as soft as butter. A talk with this rare person made a deep impression on me.

As chairman of the Bal Bhavan, he was not only its sole architect but also poured life into every aspect of its activities. When he became a Union Minister in the Fall of 1967, the institution felt a sense of being orphaned. Keeping in view the ideals of the Bal Bhavan, I continued to work with devotion with the limitations inherent in a situation where the prime mover and the moving spirit was away from the scene. I did my best to keep the institution going and growing. With Dr. Reddy far away and political vicissitudes having a full play, I had hardly any opportunity to exchange views with him or apprise him with the developments. A permanent government servant has inherent limitations in respect of his or her movements and contact with political bosses out of office. As Government of Uttar Pradesh Dr. Reddy pursued with religious fervor the idea of setting up Bal Bhavans in Uttar Pradesh. He wanted me to gather material and prepare a manuscript with illustrations which he got published in Uttar Pradesh. He decided to have a Central Bal Bhavan at Lucknow and a Bal Bhavan in each district headquarters. He welcomed children with open arms into the Raj Bhavan. They too used to swarm around him. He loved them and gave them all affection. Children, I think, are like the sunflower who turn to wherever there is goodness and certain divinity. And, Dr. Reddy has it.

I take this opportunity to salute this man with many dimensions, on the occasion of his ‘Shastipurthi.’ His good wife is the embodiment of Indian womanhood, who stood by him through thick and thin, in darkness and light.

AN AGREEABLE SPORTS MAN

O.P. TANDON

I had the privilege of knowing Dr. Channa Reddy as his physician and friend when he was Governor of Uttar Pradesh. The association was marked by a series of exhilarating experiences. My tribulation as a chronicler is to compress within a short space the multifaceted talents of a dynamic man who drew a great jest from life, much more than one comes across ordinarily.

It all started at the breakfast table. President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad was coming to Lucknow on a state visit. Governor Reddy was his usual compulsive host. Suddenly I blurted out “sir why should we not ask the president for a game of Golf ? “ Dr. Reddy stared at me for a while, then smiled, and in his husky voice said “why not ? that is a good idea. “ He rang the bell and asked his secretary sawhney to come. Sawhney was asked to get in touch with Reshtrapati Bhavan at New Delhi. Mr. Akhtar Alam special Assistant to the President, conveyed the message of the Governor to the president and within five minutes, we had his assent and a game of Golf was scheduled for the president, a four-some with president Ahmad and col. Gurjar against Governor Reddy and me as his partner at the Lucknow Golf Course.

The incident is illustrative of the style of functioning of Governor Channa Reddy. His grasp was phenomenal and the decision quick and fast - a very pleasant contrast from the usual functioning of the government.

“ He is a very young Governor, looks even younger than his age.” that was how a friend who had attended the oath - taking ceremony described the new Governor Dr. Channa Reddy. The word also went round that he was a medical man, a graduate in medicine from Osmania Medical College.

My opportunity to meet him came next day when I was summoned as his physician. He was very candid about his medicine : “ you see Dr. Tandon, I graduated in 1941 practised for five years, then at the age of 33 years, I became a Cabinet minister and have been in active politics ever since. “

However the training of a medical man leaves in him a permanent imprint of our logic that is applied in the process of observation, interpretation and therapeutic decision. The he demonstrated amply during the many challenges that were posed to him from time to time.

The population explosion and its containment was a challenge we all have been facing and are worried about. Some hasty and desperate steps were taken whose total impact was not only sterile but extremely provocative. We once discussed how human society should shape itself in the face of this threatening ecological imbalance. We discussed the population mechanics and the Jewish model where the depleted population after the Exodus was sought to be increased by making the female of the species as the focal point of reproduction, plural marriages, laws in relation to marriage of widows and the rights of the offsprings from mistresses, etc., an extension of which is found in the Muslim Koranic law where the exigencies of tribal warfare made it incumbent to conserve the reproductive reservoir.

The same process could work in a reverse direction. If we could condition the female of the human species amenable to containment of our population, we could proceed in a more rational manner. Social physical chemical and surgical aids are available. What the administration needed was to set up machinery to implement this doctrine and to organise a feedback system so that the concept could be implemented effectively.

A medical man is essentially a human biologist who observes the panorama of human life comprehensively. All the basic instincts for survival that are demonstrable in living beings are found in human aggregations also. The formation of family tribe, nations and regions are manifestations of the same basic instinct which may sublimate itself into spiritualism or temporal authority to keep together a mass beings from external or internal annihilation.

In the politics of Dr. Reddy we found a clear understanding of the reactions of the people was deep and penetrating and he understood the forces that are locked up in human aggregations properly channelised, these forces can create a world order which can bring happiness to human beings.

Medical men by nature are averse to politics ; but wherever or whenever they have penetrated the establishment of politicians, they make an indelible imprint of their personality.. I can recall two such figures - sun yat sen in China and Dr. Bidhan Roy in west bengal. No one can understand better than a human biologist the process of the formation of human society and how it can be run for the common good of human survival and human happiness.

It was bitterly cold. About 1 a.m., it started drizzling. Outside the Governor's camp at Kumbh Mela at Allahabad a constant stream of humanity was moving on the two sides of the road leading to the holy Sangam- the one to the left going towards, and the other on the right returning from it. They were quiet, they were silent. They came by all means of transport available. Those who could not walk were carried or supported by their sons, daughters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law or anyone who was going for the holy dip. In their poignant silence lay the soul of India, the glory of India's past, a promise of our eternal strength for the future.

Governor Reddy shepherded us on to his river craft much before the day break. Guiding the huge craft to the confluence. There, standing in waist-deep waters, with the icy winds rustling past, with all of us around him, he embodied the eternal spirit of india-blessed by sankracharya of shringeri Math at the holiest of spots in this land;at the holiest of hour when the Sun was about to herald the day with his golden sunshine. In him was embodied not only the symbol of temporal authority but also the spiritual force of this country.

The game of Golf is a very noble one. It brings out the best and the worst in a man. Every stroke is a challenge against many odds. Dr. Reddy took to Golf after I told him "If you return after the first day's play. There are chances you may take to Golf; if you play for a week and return to play again on the eighth day, you will never leave this game."

Every day in the morning at 5-30 during the summer, Dr. Reddy came for the game. He took to it with comfortable ease. The game with president Ahmad was memorable, more so because the late president had promised to come back to Lucknow after a few months to inaugurate a tournament to commemorate his visit to Lucknow Golf Club.

However, the great love of Governor Reddy was horse riding. For him there was not enough time for Golf and with the onerous responsibilities of the Chief Executive of the state during the President's rule he preferred a brisk horse-riding exercise in the morning. The track was enclosed in our Golf Course. While we played Golf, he did the riding with

secretary Sawhney and sometimes, with Mrs. Reddy. Of course, he played Golf with us whenever he could get away from his too crowded programmes.

Where temporal authority is vested, it must be exercised and exhibited. It is a symbol of our sovereignty- a promise for our future. Dr. M. Channa Reddy lived like a Governor and acted like a Governor and Uttar Pradesh remembers him with great love and affection.

“GOOD COPY “ FOR A JOURNALIST

,
S.N. SHASTRI

“A true leader must submerge himself in the foundation of the people,” said Lenin. How true is this even today ! It is more relevant in a democracy.

The test of any government - implementation of its policies and programmes and its success - lies in the quality of the leadership. On the capacity of the leadership to carry along with it the party the opposition and the people depends the success of a government.

Judged from this stand-point , Andhra Pradesh is indeed fortunate in having a leader of the calibre of Dr. Marri Channa Reddy. His dynamism, imagination quick thinking speed in implementing programmes, his displeasure at bureaucratic delays and procrastinations and, above all, his humanism stand out clearly in his administration.

As a journalist I have had the pleasure and privilege of reporting the activities of Dr. Reddy for well over four decades. I have seen him growing from the ranks to the highest position in his political career. As years rolled by, he has mellowed some what but his spirit continues to be indomitable. His dynamism has found its outlet in numerous social and political programmes for the good of the people.

To journalists Dr. Reddy is always a “ good copy “ No one knows what he will say and when. It may be an innocuous cultural and ordinary meeting. But then he will make a policy statement or a big pronouncement affecting the people. A journalist cannot take the risk of skipping any of his meetings.

What is the element of Dr. Reddy’s mettle ? it is difficult to explain. He is an amalgam of everything “active,”

Let us take any Issue. Dr. Reddy will not be satisfied with cursory or casual interest in it. He studies the issue from all angles, analyses it puts it to test and then comes to a firm conclusion. He has a penchant for homework.

Before addressing a press conference, he makes a detailed study and prepares himself well. It may look odd that he should bestow so much attention on it. But the fact is, he does.

He anticipates questions from every angle. He also can see through the motive of the questioner. To a journalist whose approach is purely professional and nothing more, his entire approach is different. To embarrassing questions, Dr. Reddy's replies are always telling. But if he suspects that the question stems from malice or political vendetta, he will be slashing and devastating.

His life is full of vicissitudes. He had to face a formidable opposition throughout his political career, Even to become a secretary of the City congress committee in the early forties, he had to struggle. His own sound common sense and his sincerity had stood him in good stead. When giants strode on the political scene, Dr. Reddy watched their performance, their approach to problems and their ability in solving them. He has tried to imbibe their good points to advantage.

Dr. Reddy believes in consensus and is never tired of discussing issues with opposing groups. He has never been a blind follower either. Swami Ramananda Thirtha was a power in the erstwhile Hyderabad state politics. He held his sway and politics revolved round him. Dr. Reddy had made up his mind and stood against the "authoritarianism", to go against swamiji at that time was a risk. And that risk he did take knowing fully well the consequences.

Dr. Reddy was gradually developing his personality and his quality of leadership was finding expression in the scheme of things on the Hyderabad political scene.

At the Mushirabad state congress session, Dr. Reddy made an impression. He had by his own right made his imprint on the session. He was recognised as a man of dynamism and full of verve. From then on nothing could stop Dr. Reddy Destiny came into his hands.

Stalwarts who addressed that session could not but watch his forceful personality in the English Weekly, Rainbow, which I then edited, I published his photograph on the cover page with the caption " Watch this young man ; he has a big political future in store. " My prophesy has not gone in vain. It has come more than true.

His meteoric rise after the police Action was matched by his unbounded enthusiasm and energy. He began to shape the politics with consummate skill.

When Sardar Patel came to Hyderabad to settle the dispute between the two warring groups in the State Congress, Dr. Reddy leading a delegation convinced the Sardar of their stand. The great Sardar at once took notice of Dr. Reddy. In his characteristic way, sardar counselled him patience. Dr. Reddy registered a victory which paved the way for his future.

After Jamalapuram Keshava Rao who could carry the audience with him, Dr. Reddy is another leader who slowly and effectively became a mass leader. He had the opportunity of addressing meetings in Urdu and English. Over the years, he flowered into a powerful speaker in Telugu. He has a passion to read books and follow the speeches of great leaders. It paid him good dividends. As a mass leader, he knows the mood of the audience. He is unsparing against tyranny or injustice. His rapport with the audience has been his forte and even today he maintains it.

Till shri Konda Venkataranga Reddy, his uncle was alive, Dr. Reddy went slow, both out of respect and affection for him, Dr. Reddy never projected himself although his admirers who were a legion and young cadres of the Congress Party had been egging on him to assert.

As a minister, Dr. Reddy made his grade. To a dull and innocuous subject like agriculture Dr. Reddy had given a new dimension. To him goes the credit for establishing the Agricultural University. He could visualise the potentiality of such an institution. He selected the present campus, Rajendranagar, which was then a barren undulated patch of ground. When a press party was taken for the foundation stone-laying ceremony by pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, none could imagine that dreary vast stretch of land would become a veritable hub of activity.

His association with Dr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, with whom he shares his dynamism was yet another landmark in his life. Rafi Saheb was very much attached to Dr. Reddy Equally affectionate was Dr. Reddy to Rafi Saheb. He named the beautiful cosy cottage in that Agricultural University campus as “Kidwai cottage “.

When Dr. Reddy crossed swords with Dr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, eyebrows were lifted. To many it looked as though it eclipsed his political career. But Dr. Reddy proved that nothing could daunt him. The quick changes developing on the political scene, per force made Dr. Reddy a hero. In the dismemberment of Hyderabad state Dr. Reddy took a definite stand for a smaller state consisting of nine Telangana districts in the leadership election of the enlarged Andhra Pradesh again Dr. Reddy was on the losing side for which he suffered. Though he passed through several ordeals, Dr. Reddy never looked back. Even in adverse political circumstances, he never lost his courage.

One quality stood out prominently. The greater he is repressed, higher he rises. Any amount of calumny. Organised attempts to eliminate him from politics made by Andhra and Telangana leaders could not succeed. To journalists who were watching him, he remained the same impeccable, irresistible political leader undiminished in his stature and undaunted in his courage.

His political career has inexorably been intertwined with the history of the state.

He came into the maistream of Congress politics occupying the ministerial post in two successive governments. When he joined the central cabinet, his vision has considerably enlarged and his talent found a better play. In every office he held he left a deep imprint of originality and solid work.

The long political hibernation he had to undergo only hardened his fibre to face bigger challenges. To a journalist he always remained a “good copy “ even while he was in what people considered as “wilderness “ Bereft of fair weather friends, attacked by his enemies and avoided by by time - servers, Dr. Reddy kept a cool head and retained his unquenchable spirit. He knew all human actions had one or the other causes, namely, chance, nature, compulsions habit reason passion and desire.

Like a Phoenix rose from the ashes every time his enemies thought he was finished. He withstood the formidable opposition of kasu Brahmananda Reddy and steered the Telangana Praja Samithi to a glittering success at polls by winning ten out of fourteen Lok Sabha seats. Dr. Reddy had always been telling the journalists that he would win majority of the seats despite the government machinery and Shri Brahmananda Reddy.

Without holding power or a seat either in Lok sabha or in Rajya sabha in the Assembly or in the council, Dr. Reddy became a formidable leader. In his seeming rigidity and dogmatism, he is most flexible and reconciling. He took the entire party into confidence and presented before it an excellent modus vivendi worked out with Mrs. Indira Gandhi. But the party did not agree and as a democrat Dr. Reddy bowed to the majority. Much against the advice of his colleagues, he put up T.P.S. candidates in Secunderabad and Siddipet Assembly bye-elections and registered a brilliant victory. His influence had reached the highest water-mark. Even his worst opponents had to recognise him as a dynamic mass leader. In the change of government, Dr. Reddy played a leading role. He could induct two of his followers into the ministry. As a king-maker, Dr. Reddy retained his unenviable position. When another government took office, again Dr. Reddy played a shrewd game and managed to make two of his choices as ministers.

His record when he was out of office is as formidable as he was in office. His contribution to the government, to the politics and to public affairs remain unmatched.

When he assumed the gubernatorial office in Uttar Pradesh, destiny again played its own role. His political opponents thought that his acceptance of the Governor's post was the end of his political career, but they were sadly mistaken. As Governor, he made a deep impression on the people of Uttar Pradesh, the dome state of Mrs. Indira Gandhi. He steered clear the state from many pitfalls and won laurels. The universal accolades he won from the people were reflected in the editorial comment of the U.P. press. When the state came under the president's rule for a short spell, Dr. Reddy proved to the world how efficient a governor he was by his sound administration.

While he was the Governor, the Congress party went out of office at the Centre. He resigned his post in conformity with the democratic norms. He left Uttar Pradesh in a blazing glory and with an unsullied record.

Man is that part of reality in which and through which the cosmic process has become conscious and has begun to comprehend itself. His supreme task is to increase that conscious comprehension and to apply it as fully as possible to guide the course of events. His role is to discover his destiny as agent of the evolutionary process in order to fulfil it more adequately. This Dr. Reddy did exceedingly well.

He plunged himself into politics and stood firmly by Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Unmindful of his adversaries and ignoring the pessimism generated by his weak friends, Dr. Reddy led the party to a resounding victory at the Assembly polls. He baffled his opponents and confounded his enemies.

After nearly two and half decades, Dr. Reddy succeeded in becoming the chief minister by his own right and in his own steam. It is a saga of human endeavour and innate faith in his own destiny, he has inviolable faith in God's will and that is the reservoir of his strength.

As a journalist, who watched him from the ring side his political career unfolded the high drama with its pathos and glory. Agony and ecstasy. He has emerged out as a many-splendoured leader.

The task before him is formidable. He has dedicated himself to the people and wants to leave a mark that will remain eternally. He won the hearts of the people. But it is the bureaucracy that has to implement his programme. Bureaucracy is a giant mechanism operated by pygmies. He is trying to streamline. Bureaucracy is a giant mechanism operated by pygmies. He is trying to streamline it. His style of functioning departing from the usual pattern of chief ministers, is not naturally relished.

As Benjamin Disraeli said : “ No government can long be secure without a formidable opposition.” He has recognised the opposition both in the Assembly and in the council and respects their wishes.

Dr. Reddy knows that the greatest of all evils a weak government. To make the government strong he has been working hard. The popular government without keeping in touch with the pulse of the people will but lead to disaster. He is trying to rectify this lapse.

The strain on him is heavy. The official galaxy on whom he has to depend for implementation, does not measure up to his expectation. Idolaters and self-seekers are not slow in their operations. But Dr. Reddy, who has seen the rise and fall of tides, is doing his best to steer clear of them. He is submerging himself in the fountain of the people in the true sense.

LEADER WHO KNOWS HIS GOAL

A.S. RAMAN

I never thought Dr. Channa Reddy would be 60 s0 s00n. He doesn't have a trace of the tiredness of his age.

Is he really 60 ? we Indians have so many dates of birth, you see. Anyway, since everybody says that Dr. Channa Reddy is 60, he must be. But I don't believe he is, nor does he seem to feel he is. He looks, talks and behaves with the smartness of one half his age. By which of course, I don't mean that he is just flashy or flamboyant without any substance, just immature and irresponsible with the self-assuredness of a young man who has only a future and no past.

Dr. Reddy, despite his youthful looks and spirits has immense capacity for looking at problems and people with a healthy openness and freshness. He is the type whom the wear and tear of life can never cow down. Let us put it this way. He has the ripeness of a responsible octogenarian, the resilience of a forward – looking young man and the relevance of a mod teenager. I am not surprised that Mrs. Indira Gandhi is fond of him. I can easily understand the vibrations that bind them together.

I don't believe what others talk about him. They say only what suits them. Whether they speak ill or well of him. What one says about another is only for the consumption of other politicians. It is time the common man stopped listening to politicians and began to educate himself .For, it is on the quality of his awareness that the tone and texture of democratic

culture eventually depend, and he deserves a better exposure to liberal influences in this country. The political climate in India is foul because of the politicians who created it.

Like any other politician, Dr. Reddy is also a man with many faces. But, unlike them, he knows what face to display when I have watched him at work in a diversity of roles and my admiration for him increases with every new role that he chooses or is called upon to assume. He re-emerges again and again always soaring higher and higher, with every kick that he receives from Fate which is only another name, for circumstances. Every crisis is Godsent for him. He knows how to cash in on it, not at the expense of others, but in putting to better use his own inherent strength and acquired skills. There are some politicians who are best kept in office, and others out in the larger interests of the good of the nation. Dr. Reddy belongs to the former category because of his vision, drive and sense of social of social responsibility. Out of office he can be a serious embarrassment to any government, however strong and cohesive , because of his impatience with mediocrity and muddleheadedness. Essentially. He is a rebel whom only power with responsibility can contain.

Dr. Channa Reddy as I understand him has modeled himself on three prototypes rather four; [1] the Nehrus [the father and the daughter], the Telangana leaders, particularly Burugula, and [3] Rajaji, his adorable chief during his brief honeymoon with the Swatantra Party. To Panditji, he owes his romanticised leftism; to Mrs. Gandhi, his diabolical dynamism; to burugula, his progressive and enlightened regionalism; and to Rajaji, his cold – blooded pragmatism. He is a strong man who cannot be taken for a ride. The erstwhile supremo of the bloody Telangana agitation which cost the young men and women of Andhra Pradesh rather dear, many of them died fighting while almost all of them had brutally interrupted careers at their respective educational institutions is not a sycophant. He need not be one. No doubt the Telangana separatist movement spearheaded by him in the late 60s had had a heavy toll. But the Quit India movement had a much heavier toll ! To Dr. Reddy there was no difference between the two movements, nor between these two and the agitation against the Nizam's oppressive tyranny also led by him among several others. He is every inch a democrat who means business. If there is exploitation even in a so – called democratic set-up, he is the man to lead the people against it. He is genuinely a people's leader. It is not easy for any one to fool or bully him He is a man with Iron will and nerves of steel.

Those who hate Dr. Channa Reddy—and he has more enemies than friends, but they will all vote for him in an election, since they recognize his ability to deliver the goods believe that he would't have become Chief Minister if he had contested on the official Congress ticket. I don't believe in ifs and buts in relation to leaders like Dr. Channa Reddy who know their goal and the road leading to it. But I must say emphatically that in the circumstances in which the 1977 General Election was held, Dr. Reddy would have been the obvious choice of the people. He has the reputation of being an administrator with tremendous drive. He is known to get things done at a remarkably fast pace. Exasperated by the coils and knots of the red-tape, he can be very rude to the civil servant who knows that his boss has a bite deadlier than his bark. Dr. Channa Reddy is ruthless, earthy and pragmatic. He doesn't understand the phrase, political morality, except in the context of overall morality in the country which is not in sight. Dr. Reddy sincerely believes that a nation becomes totally moral only when the quality of life at the grassroot level improves beyond belief under the impact of a vigorously implemented radical socio-economic programme. Dr. Reddy of course doesn't condone corruption. Only he the type of man the masses need, because he understands their problems and can inspire them to face them with confidence on the strength of his government's performance.

My heartiest felicitations to him on his Shastipoorthi.

VOTARY OF VAASTU SASTRA

K. CHANDRA MOULI REDDY

Many people may not be aware that Dr. M. Channa Reddy is an ardent votary of Vaastu Sastra. Dr. Reddi, a synonym for dynamism in public life, has the commendable courage of preaching in public what he practises in his private life. I had the unique privilege of being invited to a family dinner given in honour of the president of India on 4th June 1978 attended by the Governor and all the 'chiefs' of the state Dr. Reddy, assuming the role of an advocate on behalf of vaastu Sastra, briefed the president in his inimitable humorous style about its utility of Vaastu Sastra briefed the president in his inimitable humorous style about its utility and validity in the modern world. It was a thrilling experience on that red-letter day.

Our ancient sages evolved certain principles out of their experience for constructing houses and utilising the immense power of the cardinal elements, earth, water, air and fire for the allround benefit of humanity. These principles are simple to understand and easy to implement in constructing houses, factories, etc. and they constitute 'vaastu sastra'

Vaastu Sastra literally means true science--the implication being that other sciences are relative. Another meaning is that this is a science dealing with earth and its effects on man in relation to his house (Gruha). The strength of the house, (Gruha Balam) has some invisible and inscrutable effect in making human effort fruitful or fruitless. According to Vaastu Sastra the house is a great catalyst in our lives.

How are we to differentiate Vaastu Sastra from many kinds of superstitious beliefs palmed off as sciences ? This is a very pertinent question. Dr. H. Narasihaiyah, former Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University and a staunch follower of Dr. Kovoov who led a relentless crusade against Babas and their Miracles, defines science in "The illustrated Weekly" dated the 12th March, 1978, in the following words :-

"If a subject has to get the status of science, it has to satisfy the well-known conditions of objectivity, repeatability, consistency, universality, and so on. Naturally all these of science started with imperfection on account of limitation in knowledge and crude instruments available at that time. Sometimes wrong assumptions were also responsible for such imperfections. But the greatness and grandeur of science is its constant objective quest for truth."

Vaastu Sastra broadly satisfies the conditions of objectivity, repeatability, consistency and universality. A house built according to sastric injunctions consistently gives good results if there are no external or internal changes in the house. A change in the house or in the immediate surroundings produces a corresponding change in the life of the inhabitants of that particular house. The results are repeated at regular intervals without reference to the individual's inherent ability and acquired skills. A good sastric house gives the same results in any region or locality. The simple tools to understand and digest the science are a discerning eye and a wandering foot aided by the grand and great' objective to know truth.

You can easily observe in your locality how certain houses always confer good benefits on the inhabitants and how certain houses ruin their health and wealth.

The best ground to test the truth of the above observation is the burning crucible of your experience.

The main object of our study is to know the effects of a house on man endowed with the rarest commodity, the intellect with tremendous potentialities to convert a mere imagination into reality. Hence it is not possible to give the quantum of the results of a house on its inhabitants in rupees, metres or litres. But a broad trend indicating prosperity or adversity can always be given by the study of a house. You can readily notice in your locality that the inhabitants living in a house having more space on west and south compared with east and north suffer in innumerable ways unless there are certain other compensating Vaastu factors. Exceptions to this rule are very rare. Any science deals with only the average phenomena and not with the exceptional.

A casual Vaastu study of any industrial estate will convince you that Vaastu is the vital factor in determining the profit or loss of any industry. A random sample survey of industries in and around Hyderabad will prove beyond reasonable doubt the veracity of my claim. Less than 20 per cent of the industrial units belonging to small scale sector are generating profits and the rest are sick. The healthy units are according to Vaastu by coincidence, and the sick units are built grossly violating the sastric principles though unintentionally.

Don't expect perfection from any Vaastu Pandit. Give some tolerable allowance for human error. Billions of dollars are spent on medical research every year but still there are many diseases for which science has not invented specific remedies for prevention and cure. Because of this nobody brands the science of medicine as superstition Vaastu may not find a solution to every problem you face or provide an answer to every question you ask, but it contains a hard core of truth sufficient to give proper shape and direction to our future.

Can Vaastu Sastra change the destiny of man is a frequent question confronted by me from my friends. Nature has kept us in the dark about our destiny with a purpose. Astrology and palmistry help us to understand our future partially. The scope for human effort to better our lives is limited in them because we cannot alter the movements of the planets in the universe nor the formation of the lines in our palm. But you can alter, make additions or construct a new building when you know the defects in your house to fortify your effort.

Vaastu Sastra gives full scope for human endeavour to enrich our lives, both materially and spiritually. It removes the obstacles in the path of human effort to reach the goal of success (of course, success in the broadest and widest sense) placed by the cardinal elements and help us to harness them for our progress. The Lord in Gita advises us to do our duty and leave the result to him. This sastra goes a step further and ensures success to your effort eliminating the element of chance to the maximum. There is no scope for any miracles or mantrams in this science. No vaastu pandit pretends to produce something out of thin air. The gruhabalam only enables us to tap the immense opportunities surrounding us to transform our reasonable ambition into realities.

This is an easily implementable science. You can implement it without shouldering any burden of additional expenditure in constructing your house or factory. The sastra is concerned only with your site the location of the house in that site and the particular placement of water, kitchen and the movement of air in the rooms, etc. It does not cause any

inconvenience and place any restrictions on the materials you use for the construction of the house.

A sastric house utilises space very scientifically by locating the house in a corner. It nearly preserves the purity of environment by suggesting built-in area upto 10 to 15 percent of the total area in any colony. It pleads for the provision of very wide and straight roads to facilitate free flow of traffic.

You can easily blend the Western architecture with the distilled Indian wisdom contained in Vaastu and give beautiful elevation to your building and life.

This sastra has unlimited scope to do the “Greatest good to the greatest number “ of people. To derive the maximum benefit, you should start from the time the layout is prepared and plots divided for any area. Most of our engineers are ignorant of vaastu. Hence when they prepare the layout plans of communities, sastric injunctions invariably become the casualties. A plot is like a piece of cloth. You cannot change its basic nature after the layout is prepared just as you cannot convert cotton into silk. You have to take a lot of care and caution in selecting your site.

- (a) The shape of the site has a substantial say in classifying us into economy and first-class passengers to travel in the ship of life to cross the proverbial samsara sagaram. Always select a square or a rectangle and never a triangle

When you select an irregular piece, you should be more vigilant. Select a site with an obtuse north-western angle and a right angle in south-west or an obtuse south-eastern angle and right angle in south-west or more preferably obtuse angles in south-east and north-west with a right angle in south-west.

Never select a plot with an obtuse angle in north-east. The inhabitants of such sites always feel that they are not able to reap the fruits of their efforts and lag behind others.

Remember that in many cases, the boundaries of your site fix the frontiers of your prosperity.

- (b) Another important characteristic of a good plot is its area. Secure as big a plot as possible. Other things being equal, the bigger the plot, the better are the results. You may build any number of floors in your house but adding a small area to your site will pose many problems and it will be impossible in many cases after the layout is approved. Never select a small plot between two big plots. Your neighbours grab the lion's share of prosperity leaving very little to you.

- (c) Select your site in that area where the roads are parallel and perpendicular to compass needle (to North). Such roads are sastric and ideal for happy living. Unfortunately, majority of the roads in our towns and cities do not conform to this rule. Milk and honey may not flow literally in sastric roads, but the residents of such areas enjoy a high level of prosperity and belong to higher brackets of society.

- (d) The natural levels of the earth have an important bearing on our life. Select a flat site or a site with the lie of the land towards north and east to confer many benefits. When the sites of our neighbours on our west and south are no higher levels, our prosperity level will be

higher. The residents of such houses need make only small sacrifice to reach the glorious heights of success in life. They will become centre of health wealth and wisdom.

Avoid that site where the natural slopes are towards south-west and rain water flows into our site from eastern or northern neighbours houses. In such places people have to work harder to maintain an ordinary life.

(e) The number of roads, road- aspects and road formation are a formidable combination of factors to strengthen or weaken a site or a locality. Roads make or mar our lives. A site with two roads is better than a site with only one road and a site with three roads is better than a site with two roads and so on.

If you can get a site with road aspects from North and East you are exceptionally lucky.

Never select a site in a road tilting towards south-east as you travel from west. A road tilting towards north-east is excellent for residential purpose.

Avoid a site having two roads on south and east. This is the weakest site in Vaastu. For people living in such sites, it is impossible to balance their budgets, the expenditure always exceeding income.

Acquire site in North and East to your existing site to multiply your prosperity. Any amount of investment in buying sites in North - East is a highly productive investment if you get two plots with a road in between, you are one of the fortunate few.

Remember that planning of layouts or formation of roads is done by our engineers. Vaastu sastra enlarges their knowledge. When we are aware of some useful knowledge, we can utilise it. Here is enormous scope for human effort to enrich, ennoble and elevate our lives. Engineers should realise their responsibility in this regard.

Begin the construction of your house by locating the well in the north-eastern corner of the site. A well in the north-east is a shock absorber and acts as an accelerator of progress. So dig your well as deep and wide as possible. You get big dividends for a small investment.

Even the temples built on the eastern and northern banks of rivers face perpetual financial problems while the Lords who reside in the temples situated in the western and southern banks roll in riches. Such is the power of water.

Locate your house in the south-western part of the site keeping maximum open space on east and north (or minimum open space on south and west). This is the sine-que-non of a good vaastu house. Other things remaining same, the residents of such houses convert every stumbling-block into a stepping -stone of success. Observe any mosque, the holy place of Muslims. Minimum open space is left on the west and water is kept in the east.

Sanyasins prefer a place with a hillock on the west or south and river in the east or north to get enlightenment. Such places provide spiritual solace to many distressed souls.

So, leave minimum space on west and build the western part of the building higher to make your house a centre of peace, prosperity and good health. Power and prestige embrace the residents of such houses.

The place for kitchen is south-east. The places for kitchen and well are fixed. Their location in other places has harmful effects on our lives.

Provide maximum number of doors and windows in North and Eastern rooms. Block the Western and southern walls, providing for minimum openings in them.

You get the best results when you build one structure housing everything under its roof. If you have to locate more than one structure in one site, locate bigger and heavier one in the extreme south-west.

In the first floor leave open terrace in north and east. This strengthens the other plus points in the house. Open terrace in south-west creates uncertainty, worry and tension. The residents of such houses feel that they must be continuously running to keep themselves where they are.

So your endeavour should be to put n additional floor in the south-western part of the building to put the ship of your life on an even keel and weather any number of storms, man-made or planets-made.

Open maximum number of doors and windows in the rooms in north and east, avoid garages in north-east and north-west corners, and keep the northern and eastern parts of the building in lower level to prevent diseases which incapacitate us.

This is only a humble attempt to present a few points of vastu sastra. If you have little patience and time to study and understand it you will agree with me that vastu sastra has the power to convert your house into an abode of peace and prosperity. Your investment in a sastric house is the best investment for health wealth and wisdom.

On the happy occasion of the shashti poorthi of Dr. Reddy, a source of strength to vastu pandits, I offer my hearty felicitations and wish him a long healthy and happy life.

A YOGA VISIONARY

YOGACHARYA SEETHARAMIAH

While inaugurating the Yoga institute at Secunderabad Dr. Channa Reddy, whose efforts led to its establishment, described in detail the tremendous potentialities of yoga which he averred could change ordinary men into supermen. The function as well as the speech made an interesting revelation of yet another facet of the dynamic personality of Dr. Reddy. He envisaged a great future for the science of yoga and wanted the yoga Institute to grow from strength to strength and become a centre of perfect yogic practice and knowledge to serve not only the people of the state but also those coming from all over India and outside.

His holiness Swami Chinmayananda described Dr. Channa Reddy as the most eloquent of the inaugurators of his Geeta Gnana yagnas. In his inaugural address to one of the Yagnas, Dr. Reddy spoke about the need for spreading the teachings of Geeta to the far corners of India and making them available to all. Referring to the author of the Geeta Lord Krishna, Dr.

Reddy said that the Lord's was a life worthy of emulation by everyone and that it had an universal appeal. Lord Krishna's life appeals to the youth because as a youth he excelled in physical feats of strength and intellectual brilliance ; it appeals to the warriors because he was the greatest warrior of his time, it appeals to the worldly men because he was surrounded by wives and children relations and friends and wealth and comforts ; it also appeals to those who renounced the worldly things because he led a completely detached life in the midst of plenty of everything. Even to the diplomats and politicians, Lord Krishna's life has a great appeal because of the manner in which he tactfully and successfully tackled all problems, and faced all complicated situations with courage and equanimity. When Dr. Reddy thus spoke about yoga and the teachings of Geeta he only gave expression to his firm belief in the great Indian culture.

I have had occasions to meet and discuss with Dr. Reddy about yoga and found him as one who not only reposed faith in the efficacy of the science of yoga but also as one who practises it in his daily life.

Yoga is defined as "the science of man in depth ". In fact the outside world identifies the word 'Yoga ' with India. Each of the 18 chapters of Geeta is called "yoga " The root word of yoga is 'YUJ ' meaning to join - i.e., join the lower with the higher, the ' atman ' with ' paramaatman ' etc. the 18 chapters in Geeta are grouped into three divisions : chapters one to six deal with karma yoga ; chapters 7 to 12 deal with Bhakti yoga ; and chapters 13 to 18 deal with Gnana yoga.

While all other scriptures talk of surrender to a higher power and thus of Bhakti yoga, Geeta talks not only of Bhakti yoga but also of Karma yoga and Gnana yoga.

The great sage, vyasa, saw how people were misled and even got dejected because they felt that one had to retire from the family life and go to the forests to listen to the upanishads to reach the goal. This he found could not be the path for the generality of mankind because most people are deeply engrossed in the affairs of their samsar and so cannot have the capacity to renounce things and go to the forests. Vyasa also felt that it was a dangerous trend. Hence he conceived the idea of giving to the world a gist of the teaching of the Upanishads, in the form of Geeta s taught by Lord Krishna himself to Arjuna, against the background of a battle field. Arjuna, a leader of the people and the greatest archer of the times, felt confused and dejected when faced with the challenge of his life, though he had prepared for it all through his life. Arjuna was dejected and confused because of (a) anxiety for the future (as to what would be the result of the war), (b) conflicting thoughts and emotions (due to his attachment to his grandfather, teacher and others, whom he faced in the battle field), and (C) that he was the doer. Most of us in life are confused and dejected due to similar anxieties, conflicting thoughts and emotions. We are no doubt proficient in our chosen fields of action as Arjuna was, but at the nick of the time, we falter and fumble when faced with the challenges of life. This happens to most of us almost every day in our life.

Geeta is a scripture born out of a crisis- a crisis in the life of one of the greatest heroes of ancient India. Geeta expounded against the background of a battle field makes the philosophy it advocates very appealing to the modern man who is always moving from crisis to crisis in his daily life in the fast - changing modern civilisation. Arjuna's reaction in the battle field was a complete psychological breakdown making him a hysterical and neurotic person trying to run away from his moral responsibility. fortunately , Arjuna's problem then was a fundamental problem and so has been of interest to all. According to ancient traditions of

yoga as propounded in the Geeta, Moksha is the liberation from these desires, tensions and conflicts within, by elevating one's self to a higher consciousness beyond all desires.

What is taught by Geeta is put into practice by Dr. Channa Reddy. He conducts himself in the true fashion of a karma yogi. He believes in doing his duty and leaving the rest to the almighty. By regular sadhana he has been able to maintain his physical vigour and dynamism. The clarity in his thinking writing and expression is the envy of many. He practises for about half an hour yogic exercises consisting of Aasanas Praanayama, etc, praanayama blesses men with radiant health and superlative nervous energy. He then meditates for some time in his pooja room which gives him the necessary mental discipline and strength.

With this energisation of his body and mind, Dr. Reddy literally jumps into his day's work - just as a warrior jumps into the battle field - with vigour, purpose and determination that seems to baffle many people. By his sustained sadhana, Dr. Reddy has become an example to much younger people. By his sustained sadhana, Dr. Reddy has become an example to much younger people both in politics and in government. This sadhana, combined with his lofty ideal of serving the people of his state, has endeared Dr. Reddy to one and all. As he regards 'work as worship' and possesses the required dynamism of body and mind to put it into practice, he neither spares himself nor others who work with him. The fact that his present official charge demands his having to keep very late nights does not appear to wear him out because the yoga exercises he practises and the meditation he observes every morning relieve him of all tensions and keep him physically fit and mentally alert.

On the happy occasion of his 'Shashtipurthi'. I offer him as a Yogacharya, my hearty felicitations.

A PERSON OF CHARISMA

O. PULLA REDDY

I have been invited to contribute an article to the souvenir to be got up on the occasion of the celebration of the Shashtipurthi of Dr. Marri Channa Reddy, not necessarily because I knew him intimately over the years, but possibly because I belong to a generation which still has some respect for proved values. My brief contacts with him in the year that I have known him have, however, made a deep impact on me.

He has not yet reached the psalmists reputed three scores and ten, and is yet a decade behind. His Shashti poorthi is only the end of middle age. Middle age is not the beginning of the end. It is only the end of the beginning known over recent years as a dynamic political leader, I feel he is now ceasing to be a mere politician thinking of elections, but developing statesmanship which means thinking of the good of the next generation.

I had only brief glimpses of him when I was Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh in 1956-57; but in recent years, I have followed more closely his activities and what

has impressed me most is his dynamic political leadership. Whatever cause he has taken up, he has managed to collect an impressive following and both his triumphs and failures have left behind an impact which his colleagues may admire and even envy.

Even as Governor of remote Uttar Pradesh the impact of his personality was felt on various matters which others of his category would have preferred to discuss only in cloistered seclusion.

Therefore, his outstanding trait is providing leadership what is leadership ? it is not everybody that can provide leadership. Mark Twaine in his characteristic way had observed, “ An army of stags led by a lion is far superior to an army of lions led by a stag “. for every cause he has taken up in recent years, he has managed to collect impressive following with concrete results. He has also shown resilience to changed to collect impressive following with concrete results. He has also shown resilience to changing situations . In the Telangana agitation of the early seventies he showed outstanding political leadership.

As chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh , he has shown that he can take quick decisions and is not a mere victim of hangover of the past. His interest in modernising rural areas, while not overlooking, at the same time, the interests of urban areas, is heartening. Instead of becoming a faddist and wedded to ideas obviously untenable, he has taken deep interest in the promotion of even major industries. Modernization of agriculture and balanced industrialization must go hand in hand if our growing population can at all have a decent life. Our population which was about 360 millions in 1950 is now about 640 millions and, unfortunately whatever else grows or does not grow in this country. Population is sure to grow, and by the turn of the century, we will be easily 800 millions. Therefore spreading the philosophy of scientific agriculture and nourishing the industries - big medium and small - are absolutely essential if we are at all to survive as a major country, leave alone joining the company of super powers. He is taking keen interest in the visakhapatnam steel plant which I hope, will be translated into action in the next few years. The interest he is taking in better utilization of the waters and hydel power of krishna and godavari should conduce to the good of several thousands of families.

Another outstanding trait of Dr. Channa Reddy is his capacity for work. He seems to be working all the hours of day and night and I do not know at this rate how long his reserves can stand. However, some men grow stronger with work and he seems to belong to that category.

A trouble which most politicians have to face in this country is seeing visitors at all hours on all kinds of problems and Dr. Channa Reddy seems to have more than his share of visitors and, apparently, he has time for all of them, though not obviously to the convenience of all concerned. Personal contacts are unavoidable in all eastern countries, accustomed for long years to monarchical rule and personal orders. Democracy of the west minister type is still on trial in this country and there is always the danger of its ending in personal rule or tyranny of the uninstructed majority.. Even now it is patent that Dr. Channa Reddy is something of the first amongst his equals in the Cabinet and perhaps years will mellow him when he will become a true philosopher, guide and friend to his colleagues in any establishment.

As things stand, problems are crowding everywhere round persons in authority and even Nature has lately been very hostile. I wish Dr. Channa Reddy all strength to his elbow in his

efforts to steer Andhra Pradesh forward to a happier destination before he scales greater heights which his horoscope seems to clearly indicate.

PATRON OF THEATRE ARTS

P.RAJA RAMDASS

Respect for an art means respect for the medium through which art functions. Dr. Channa Reddy has always had a healthy respect for the art of the theatre and its artistes. He loves the theatre not with the patronizing attitude of a politician but with the firm conviction that theatre art is essential for the health of the nation. He believes that cultural activity has not only an educative and social value but also an important curative effect on the human psyche. This, he knows instinctively and through close contact with the theatre for well over four decades.

His active participation in the theatre movement began in 1937 when he, as a college student, played the female lead in a Telugu play varasulkam. With his thespian appetite, whetted by the praise he received for his histrionic ability, he directed and produced another play DAYYALA PANNUGADA on the evils of drinking. This play was staged with the inspiration received from the Temperance Movement launched by the late Raja Bahadur Venkata Rama Reddy, a great social reformer. Very soon Dr. Channa Reddy graduated from the Medical College and set up practice. However, the higher call from the Freedom struggle in the Nizam's Dominions became irresistible and for the next decade he was deeply involved in political activity.

It was only after the Nizam's Dominions became part of the Indian Union in 1948 as a result of the police Action and after the elections in 1952 he was chosen a minister in the Government of Hyderabad State at a very young age. That his interest in theatre which was lying dormant all these years came to the fore and demanded attention. From then onwards, Dr. Channa Reddy has been playing a key role in the theatre activity of Andhra Pradesh. Over the last twenty -five years. I have seen Dr. Reddy involving himself in every major theatrical activity. As minister he attended the Andhra Nataka kala Parishad at Machilipatnam in 1953. He invited the parished to hyderabad for their next drama festivals. The 1954 kala parishad held at the exhibition Grounds in Hyderabad was a historic event. It was the coming together of great talents in the Telugu Theatre Dr. Channa Reddy, as the host took a personal interest and saw that the festival was a success from every point of view. In those days. The Indian national theatre association (INTA), Hyderabad Branch, was the only prominent theatre organization. Dr. Channa Reddy was closely associated with it. In 1954, Bharatiya Natya Sangh, the Theatre Centre of India established its branch in Hyderabad. Dr. Channa Reddy became its President, and guided its destinies for more than a decade. In course of time, other institutions like the Sangeetha Nataka Akademi came into being and amateur theatre groups at every colony and office, mushroomed ; but these have not contributed towards improvement in the quality of the movement.

Another standing monument to the zeal of Dr. Channa Reddy is the Ravindra Bharati, the only show place in the twin cities. In the planning, construction and organisation of Ravindra

Bharati, he played a key role and became its first president. His interest in the folk theatre was responsible for the all India Folk Festival when he was the Governor of Uttar Pradesh. At Bal Bhavan in Hyderabad he has encouraged theatre activity for the children. His major concern in the theatre seems to be the establishment of a regular daily theatrical activity in Hyderabad.

The day he was elected and was about to assume the office of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, he told me that he depended on our help and advice for the fulfilment of his dreams for the betterment of the theatre. They were not the usual platitudes of a politician. Having known of his dynamism I had some plans and schemes on paper.

I was surprised when hardly a week had passed after he assumed office as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, that he leaned towards me during a function at Ravindra Bharati and asked if I had the schemes. For a Chief Minister in the first week of assuming office, rebuilding of theatre activity would be a low priority item. But for Dr. Channa Reddy a man of the theatre, art would have an equal place in the list of priorities. Theatre and Film have engaged his attention and he has been taking a keen interest in their problems. Cinema though an art, is still essentially an industry and commerce. It has the enormous capacity for organization and creating public opinion. It also contributes crores of rupees to the exchequer. Dr. Channa Reddy has come to grips with the problems of the film industry and has brought the government and the industry together to solve the problems and clear the bottlenecks. Of course, a lot needs to be done; steps have been taken in the right direction. On the other hand, drama is art and highly individualistic, and hence there is a smug self-satisfaction on the part of theatre people, most of them not dependent on theatre for their livelihood. It is difficult for them to organize. No professional theatre will grow in such conditions. Unless the imperatives of putting up a show every night are there and the need to face an audience night after night is present, no appreciable progress can be achieved.

I tried to get some of his views on theatre for this article. He was very kind to grant me an interview. He had a busy day and was going out of station the next day. There were many people to see him. It was after midnight. He was fresh as ever, and bubbling with enthusiasm. His first concern, Dr. Reddy told me, was to see a regular theatre in Hyderabad. He was prepared to make Ravindra Bharati available from 9.30 p.m. of course he was aware of the technical and logistic problems ; the experiment could be tried out while another theatre could be built specifically for regular drama. When I questioned him about what was wrong with our theatre, his answer was that we lacked dedicated leaders for whom theatre was the first and the only love. Regarding the rural theatre, which consisted of folk and mythological plays, and which are slowly dying out due to lack of patronage, he felt that a Theatre Institute could bring youth from the villages, train them and provide gainful employment in the art. The main weakness of theatre people when they faced problems was to stop all activity. This was due to the lack of dedication and firm conviction. His advice is, “ Don’t stop. Solve the difficulties’.

We, the theatre people are aware that the burdens of running the administration are very heavy on his shoulders. He should bring all the theatre people together in a workshop-like situation and study all the aspects and problems of the theatre. His mere presence will have a mesmeric effect on the theatre people. They all know that Dr. Channa Reddy is one of them and he has the feel for their problems. After all, the financial outlay of the entire theatre activity in Andhra Pradesh is not equal to the budget of two big-star films. The government can do much in this direction. He feels that that the system of selective patronage is highly

detrimental to the progress of the theatre art. We, the people of the theatre, feel that he will attend to the film industry. Dr. Channa Reddy has the vision, enthusiasm and the drive.

Theatre is in his blood. It is almost impossible to see. Dr. Channa Reddy leave the theatre in the middle of a performance. He considers it a sacrilege and an insult to the performing artistes. Whether he was a minister of the state, or at the centre, whether he was a Governor or involved in any other political activity, he always needed the theatre to have a few hours of diversion and entertainment. But he always stays till the final curtain. We can even see him signing some urgent official papers, which cannot wait, between the scenes of a play. No greater tribute can the theatre people have from their Chief Minister than his interest and attention. He is keen in his observations about the theatre and is unsparing in his criticism when we are wrong. At the same time, he can laugh like a child when his mind is engaged and he is thoroughly entertained. I feel that he can relax only in the theatre when he empathises with the characters on the stage. He is a man of culture and a “sahrudaya “ in the true sense of the word.

We, the theatre people on the occasion of his Shastipurthi wish him all that is bright and beautiful in life, a life which is full of vigour, health and happiness, and pray that his dreams come true.

Dr. CHANNA REDDY AND THE CIVIL SERVICE

A CIVIL SERVANT

The style of functioning of any leader is dependent on his individual personality- the stronger and more colourful the personality, the bolder (almost aggressive) and multipronged would be his style of functioning. A clue to the personality of Dr. M. Channa Reddy is found in the two instances he had quoted in the “personal Notes “ he made on himself. When he was in the first year at the Medical College, he had applied for a scholarship of the Madras Reddy Janasangh and having regard to his high attainments in the academic field it was taken for granted that he would get it automatically. He was recovering from the after-effects of a severe attack of typhoid which unfortunately, relapsed as he was preparing for his examination. Just then he was shocked to be told that the scholarship was not being given to him on the score that the family had over 200 acres of land – lands in the arid Telangana tract being unimaginatively equated with the most fertile lands of the deltas ! The young student was dismayed but was not discouraged. He knew his responsibilities and how without some such help it would be impossible for him to continue medical education having regard to the vast responsibilities and commitments of the family. He determined then and there to work hard for the impending examination aiming at a high rank so that he could get the scholarship given on the basis of the results of the terminal examination. Undaunted, he worked hard and ultimately got the scholarship which proved to be financially more advantageous. Dr. Reddy says. “This I always look upon as a special characteristic of mine in achieving on what I had set my heart. In my public life also later on, this particular aspect, on a number of occasions, came into play to my advantage. “

This determination to achieve his objective is seen on another occasion much later. The Hyderabad state congress had just concluded its first historic session at Musheerabad in Hyderabad at which a fervent call for an open fight against the Nizam’s rule was given.

Following this there were serious agitations all over the state – in the districts, at the capital and everywhere. In Hyderabad, a huge procession of students was coming from the old city to converge at the residency where thousands of people had already gathered. The police, fully armed with guns trained against the crowd were impatiently waiting for an order to them to open fire. The crowd, particularly the students were fully determined to defy the police. The situation was tense. Dr. M. Channa Reddy was asked to rush to the place, which he did, so that he could address the huge crowd which was on the verge of a violent outburst. But how to address them, where to stand and how to make himself heard ? The young leader had set his heart on doing this. Immediately a fellow worker bent down and Dr. Reddy stood on his back and addressed the gathering with the police perilously poised to attack the crowd and the speaker. In that what must have been a thrilling scene Dr. Reddy proclaimed, “ we shall not go back nor shall we disperse. We shall go ahead and let the police do anything they like. “

I have quoted these incidents only to show the intrinsic character of the man faced on one occasion by a challenge to his spirit and intellect and on the other an equally powerful challenge to his physical courage and resourcefulness. They show that once he determines to achieve an objective, achieve he does, no matter what the obstacle is and how formidable or awesome it may be

It is this trait in him that we see now a days in his dealing with his colleagues and the Civil Service. He is not bothered about the difficulties, particularly in the form of rules for, according to him, the rules are made for the man and not vice versa. This is not contempt for rules as such but a healthy attitude which says that if for doing some thing really big or good to the people –that too at a fast pace and if the doing of this is hampered by rules, the solution is simple – change the rules. No one even faintly familiar with governmental rules and procedure would deny how outmoded and archaic some of the rules and procedures are. Probably, at the time they were formulated circumstances and the purpose which they were expected to serve justified them. But today conditions are vastly different. Are we here only to ensure collection of taxes and dues and ensuring law and order ? Both are undeniably necessary but only as means to develop ourselves economically and socially. Having regard to our changed objectives which are in consonance with the concept of a welfare state, the primary duty of the civil servants is to ensure that the rules, regulations, procedures and formalities are tailored to our new requirements of speed and of progress. All that ultimately Dr. Reddy requires of the bureaucracy is that they should alter their style of functioning so that they and he, as chief minister are on the same wavelength. If the objective is to reach the destination by running fast, there should be no obstacles on the way. They will have to be removed. Removal does not always mean demolition. Obstacles can be shifted aside or their position can be altered. But in order to do what is necessary one must be clear what the ultimate objective is. For the government of the day, based on democracy, the ultimate objective or the goals to be attained are determined by the political leadership. Bureaucracy may advise in this determination but once it is determined it is the job of the civil servants to see that it is realized. It is equally their job to see that the obstacles are removed. If they do not cooperate either in the process of formulation of the objective or in that of attaining it, the responsibility is fully that of the bureaucracy and they will have to bear the consequences. It is this aspect that the Chief Minister has been repeatedly stressing and to interpret this as being either unsympathetic to civil service or as being hostile is to betray a lack of vision and understanding of the roles of the bureaucracy and that of the elected representatives of the people in a democracy.

In point of fact there should be no need for any hitch or friction. If decisions in regard to major policy matters are taken without consulting the permanent services or unilateral decisions are asked to be implemented, in the formulation of which the services had no part, the civil servants could then with justification, plead that they should not be blamed if things went wrong as they had no opportunity to put forth their views. Fortunately that is not the case here. Dr. Channa Reddy believes in the maximum consultation, he hardly takes a decision of importance without consulting his colleagues and the officers concerned. In deed he errs on the side of prudence as he frequently consults the opposition parties also. Any one who has had the opportunity of participating in the unending round of discussions and meetings that he has with his colleagues and officers will vouchsafe that these are not mere formalities. Everyone is able to express his view or opinion freely and frankly. The discussions are uninhibited. Now a days the Cabinet meets more frequently than before and spends longer hours discussing the issues threadbare. These are, in addition to the innumerable informal consultations with individual ministers, officers, legislators and party workers. In short day in and day out the process of consultation is carried on. Any decision which is the product of such deliberations cannot be called-as indeed some have unfortunately done – ‘firmans.’ Another interesting feature to be taken note of is that it is not as though after all these discussions, the Chief Minister imposes on others whatever he wants. This is far from the truth. Several are the occasions when he has seen the other man’s point of view and changed his own view being quite convinced by the arguments on the other side.

It is therefore obvious that a view propounded by those who are either uninformed or ill-informed that the civil servants hardly get a chance to put forth their points of view is a myth and, like many of the myths of legends that grow around the personality of a great leader, it is also unfounded. While being allowed full freedom to explain their views, it is expected of the officers that they do not have a closed mind or try to be too clever or smart. Any such attempt is immediately visited by a well deserved rebuke which more often than not is likely to be caustic and brutally frank. If there have been occasions of this sort. Which of course cannot be wholly denied, it has been due to a wrong assumption by the civil servant concerned that bureaucracy being permanent is the sole custodian of the welfare of the people and that the political executive is an unwelcome but unavoidable interloper and to an equal unawareness of the fact that bureaucracy is ultimately only an instrument in the hands of the representatives of the sovereign people.

When the political executive and the official machinery want to rotate on the same orbit there should obviously be unison in their speed and pace of work. One cannot be a jet engine and the other a bullock cart. Similarly one cannot working round the clock while the other is a non-starter who in addition is eager to stop at the slightest provocation, even if he starts after initial starting trouble. It was this unfortunate variance between the Chief Minister and the bureaucracy that accounted for the initial maladjustments which happily is being slowly overcome.

During this short period he has been the Chief Minister, Dr. Channa Reddy has thrown out several ideas, schemes and plans for the rapid development of the state and particularly for bettering the lot of the weaker sections. I am sure, personally he would be the happiest if all these could be translated into action and reality and the scheme grounded without their having to go through the endless rigmarole of official procedures. As a very senior colleague remarked, the difficulty just now in government is that administration is at least 50 years behind Dr. Reddy. He is a jet engine attached to a bullock cart. One reason why the bullock cart refuses to move faster is that despite the well ordained hierarchical set-up of the bureaucracy where the different levels are clear cut and where at each level one is

conscious of its full rights and privileges vis-à-vis its lower level or of its grudging 'duty' to the level above, there are serious communication gaps. Those exposed to Dr. Reddy's thinking know what he wants but unfortunately as he himself is fully aware and has been often saying this understanding does not get transmitted to the lower levels of administration. Something serious is clogging the machinery precluding percolation down below

In spite of these weaknesses of the bureaucracy Dr. Reddy is fully conscious of the vital role it has to play in the governance of the state. He genuinely wants to carry the Civil Service with him. He is intensely religious minded and his deep attachment to the traditional values of life disqualify him from being an iconoclast. He is not for wrecking the machinery. All that he wants is to purify and rectify it. To such of those who have been privileged to work with him closer and observe his style, it is clear that he is extremely anxious to speed up the pace of government work and in the process to fully associate those who actually work the administrative apparatus. With the massive mandate that his party has received and the overwhelming majority in the legislature, he could easily adopt a tougher attitude. On the contrary he is quite considerate to the officials as a class and officers as individuals. He is always prepared to listen to genuine difficulties in the way of implementing his orders. While his critics have been referring to the so-called firmans, they conveniently forget the important fact that he has given full freedom to any officer to approach him and explain to him the reasons for not being able to implement his orders. The fact that such cases have been very few only shows that the orders issued are sound and good. This apart, he is eager to see that officers personally are not unnecessarily inconvenienced. Probably he is the first Chief Minister to consult officers before they are transferred--even from one room in the secretariat to another which is all that there is to, in the transfer of one secretary to another secretary's post. Even at the lower levels, he always been a patient listener to their personal problems and tries his utmost to accommodate them. He has been telling the several service associations that he would like everyone in government service including himself and his colleagues, to consider themselves as belonging to one big family of which he is the patriarch and as one such he has every right to advise, admonish and, if necessary even to punish an erring member.

To understand Dr. Reddy's style of functioning, in addition to the trait in his personality already referred to, one has to appreciate another important trait in his character, viz., his passion for cleanliness and neatness and abhorrence for sloppiness and lack of system. He expects things to go on in a methodical and systematic manner. He wants everything to be neat and clean (one has only to observe his sartorial taste to understand this. Whether it is the typical kurta and panchi or buttoned-up coat and pant or the casual wear of pant and bush shirt, it is neat) with a place for a thing and a thing in its place. Added to this is his penchant for attending to minutest details. The fairly high standards which he has fixed for himself and which he expects from those with whom he has to work, imposes a certain amount of difficulty in case (as unfortunately it happens) the others are unable to reach the standards. This has not proved to be a serious problem and adjustments have taken place. The passion of Dr. Channa Reddy to give personal attention to details is something remarkable. This is seen not only in his taking personal interest in all details connected with the visits of dignitaries to the state or when he hosts a party but also as is to be expected, in matters of administration. When complicated and complex problems are placed before him he gives them full attention and is not satisfied till he is fully in the grasp of all details of the problems and till they are satisfactorily settled. He shows the same ardour in understanding the problems that the hundreds of visitors bring to him daily. His style is not to dismiss a visitor with a casual remark or writing on his representation the usual 'endorsement examine and put up.' he tries

to understand clearly what the visitor wants. This method of wanting to understand the problem of the visitors upsets the already tight schedule of his work with the result that such of those who have to wait and see him (and most of them are there to see him without fixing up appointments) do not appreciate the real difficulty.

One endowed with a powerful intellect, who has gathered during an active and eventful life variegated experience of all dimensions and one who is in a hurry but not in haste to achieve tremendous results can, understandably, be expected to show signs of annoyance if the instrument through which he is to work and achieve his goal fails him now and then. More than others, he is fully aware of the limitations within which he has to work. But his conviction is that these limitations are man-made and can, therefore, be removed or rectified by the same man. These me, the civil servants, are equally aware that they can do so and create a climate where even the so called bullock cart can be made to move at near-jet-speed if there is the will and the spirit to do so and it is backed by genuine endeavours. A significant factor to be remembered is that both want the same objective to be realised. The healthy and happy signs of the machinery adjusting itself to the new requirements are quite perceptible. On his side Dr. Reddy, is essentially a humane person surcharged with an abundant zeal and enthusiasm to utilise the opportunity given to him to serve the people of the state to the maximum extent. The state itself is at, what is familiarly called, ‘ the take -off stage.’ everything is propitious. It is now given to the civil servants to join hands with the political leadership to launch the ship of state on its brilliant course towards economic prosperity, political stability and social justice.

MAN OF THE ERA

ARIPIRALA VISWAM

“ I prefer rebirth to liberation with its concomitant heavenly bliss offered by the celestial damsels, Rambha and Urvasi.”

“ I am indebted to the people and the only way I could redeem my debt to the masses is to be born again in order to serve them. “

“ My conviction is that our glorious past should dovetail into a more glorious future.”

---Dr. M. Channa Reddy

The past in Dr. Reddy’s bone hungers for the reign of perfuming peace when languished voices and charred silences sing the return of lost heaven. An impulse towards completeness is ingrained in him even from his teens. Day after day he dreamed of this fulfilment and unawares slipped into the world of spiritual awareness. The myriad impressions engraved with ageless anguish and forbearance raised in him an intensive desire to stop the rage of lower elements ravaging the purity of existence.

Dr. Channa Reddy has taken on the form of a man with all the foibles and frailites that he is heir to. He has tasted his strengths and tested his virtues. He has walked the face of the earth and visited nations.

He has shared their achievements and experienced their agonies. He has been an individual entity in the mainstream of life where he has measured its mighty forces. He has moved through the long historic valley with vitality and emerged with purpose and hope. Now his indomitable spirit has ascended the high pinnacle of the other eternity. He has winged the life along with him, a tapestry of human joy and a spectrum of sublimated glory. He stands once more upon the altar in the company of ageless fire-like-souls.

His spark is a multitude, a totality an empire vaster than sky and deeper than sea Its birthing has blood-red suns. At times from dark silences he is pushed to light of suns and Moons. But his path is outlined. His stages are marked by destiny. So are his goals. ambition , writ in his blood, stands as a glowing partner of life.

Man's life is a sacrificial fire in the cause of the creator. From edge he races to the core. From slippery frontiers of existence the soul craves to reach the ultimate. For such is the nature of pure traverse of life. And Dr. M. Channa Reddy's biography sums up the spirit and essence in an inimitable manner. Beyond horizons of the restless periphery, there lies an urge and identity of the everlasting bliss in him.

Verily, his life is the very dealectic yarn with which the ways of the world are woven. But yet it becomes a mistaken notion, if one fails to comprehend the inner spirit of the indomitable will that makes up the multifaceted personality of Dr. M. Channa Reddy.

A vivid personality is always an enigma. Definitions of a personality generally satisfy only those who make them. It would be easy to pick up from the life and character of a man with such colourful life and conglomerate of the qualities that have endeared him to his colleagues. Dr. M. Channa Reddy is an incorrigible optimist, a great humanitarian, and a friend of the people. Perhaps, I can best sum it up by saying that the very mention of his name elicits an affectionate and warm admiring smile. It goes without saying the same name stirs ripples of scare and awe in the minds of his anti- poles.

Despite compelling emotions due to fights among motivated anti-poles, Dr. M. Channa Reddy retains perfect naturalness and honesty with himself. Always deeply involved in politics, he feels strongly clearly and acts with high courage, never swerved by his own interests or the changing fashions of opinion political chicanery is foreign to his character. He sticks to his convictions. He hates all shams and hypocrisy. Living in the troublous times, he is the convictions. He hates all shams and hypocrisy. Living in the troublous times he is the stormy petrel of politics, an enemy of selfish bureaucracy and a champion of the people against their oppressors.

The story of Dr. M. Channa Reddy makes real legend and lyric of sincerity and ballad of purposeful heroism. He enjoys every moment he lives, irrespective and unmindful of vicissitudes and fluctuations. Occasions are many, when he was isolated by the very people who pushed him to action, yet he turned the sod of impossibilities all alone and rendered the deserters to realize their folly ultimately. Defeats outnumber the winnings in the game of politics. But he sports a smile on his countenance, keeping always above the privations and elations. For a man of purpose, what matters in the ultimate analysis is the good not the pasture of traverse.

Traversing on the terrain, strewn with ill- favoured rocks and thorny bushes, he believes in achieving the impossible. Destiny and destination are cries far off when every moment has to

be lived with stout confidence in one's own abilities and purpose. He reposes his faith in the providence no doubt. Yet he keeps his feet firmly on the soil of realism.

With dauntless valour he proceeds from one intricate detail to another in order to find a suitable solution to many a burning problem relating to the uplift of the downtrodden and the needy. That birth is a sheer accident is amply proved if one wants to know the humble origins of Dr. M. Channa Reddy. Destiny is neither created nor deleted by any other human agency save the individual himself. Dr. M. Channa Reddy is the architect of his own life guided by the inner dictates. What he deems to be the right action that alone is pursued.

Knowing one's own limitations is to know about one's own strength. Dr. M. Channa Reddy never presumes his capabilities more than his limitations. That is why he is too proud to be humble.

Reform should be brought about with a vision coupled with proper direction. Progress thus becomes the synonym for reform. That leader is mature, whose personal vision relates itself to the problems of collectivity. Dr. M. Channa Reddy is endowed amply with such vision which has endeared him to the masses and leaders as well.

The child-like smile of Dr. Channa Reddy is the replica of his inner. Accepting challenges is in keeping with the true heroic tradition. Being rest contented, dwelling upon the glorious past is not his trait. Ceaseless endeavour for common good is the mission of his life. Politics is a means for him to achieve it. Ends are as meaningful as the means. Laying more stress on either leads to chaos and confusion. As a true gandhian, he believes that the means must equally justify the ends. That is the implicit faith he puts in every aspect of functioning, be it individual or collective cause.

Ambition is the term often misconstrued to self- confidence and vice versa. Some venture at times to pronounce Dr. Reddy's confidence as sheer ambition. Opinions differ according to personal motivations.

Dr. Reddy's life is an uphill task, but worthy of emulation by posterity. Treading on the path of obstacles and unpromising circumstances, the progress he made is indeed remarkable.

Hard work is the only monument upon which the past of anybody is remembered in future. It is not the statues. He learns from the worthy. Chastizes the destructive critics, goads his followers to right action.

That in brief is the magic and genius of Dr. M. Channa Reddy.

Amidst the tumult and turmoil of the ludicrous spectacle of life, he creates a little private world of his own, where in relaxes with his friends and family. These moments, he treasures up as his most precious and rejoicing occurrences. In turn this small world too feels the rare and memorable experiences, surcharged with lively humanistic and sarcastic remarks of a visionary. These events, though not many from the very of the routine and the humdrum sameness of the rigors of the office, he mixes very affectionately with the innocent, and God-like tantrums and playful moods of the tiny-tots. It really gets very funny at times. The man, the leader, who rides over the horse of high office, becomes a horse himself to the demands of his grand-children. He allows all liberty to them. That is the secret of his ever-bubbling enthusiasm and jest for life.

His intuition at times surpasses his intelligence. That decisions so taken on such occasions, came to stay as important milestones in his life. He is brilliant as an analyst and silver-tongued as an orator in four languages-Telugu, English, Urdu and Hindustani. He gets emotionally involved with any topic instantaneously. The extempore speeches quiet in evidence of this unique trait in him. He reads a lot and thinks much more unlike many politicians, whose utterances are tailored to the occasion by the ghost writers.

Philosophy and occult science occupy an honoured place in the list of his priority topics. His knowledge and awareness at times catches unawares, even the experts in those fields when they are on wrong track. He listens silently and discusses diligently. He believes in perfection and completeness in every task he chooses to accomplish.

An anecdote relating to his brilliance at studies in early childhood, illustrates his extraordinary capability in mastering any subject. In his later life, the same faculty stood by him in good stead, not only in mastering the facts but also the situations. In those days, the monstrous disease of plague broke out in the city of Hyderabad, where he was prosecuting his studies. He was forced to quit the city and go to his native village. It was the dream of his father, that his son should attain proficiency in English. The father was greatly annoyed about the break in the studies of his son. The father thought that the son must have forgotten everything due to unscheduled holiday at the village. The father called a teacher who was said to know English. The teacher did some questioning. At the end of the ordeal, when the teacher was about to leave, the father asked him how his son fared in the test. The teacher said ‘ he knows much better english than myself. What is there for me to question him more ?’

He is endowed by the providence with immense power of intuition. He believes firmly in the divine factor in life. He says that, that alone has been guiding spirit all throughout his life.

A hero in his own right in politics, one day in his childhood he played the role of a heroine in a drama. Indeed the ways of the destiny are quite dialectical. It is his habit to go through every detail when he takes up any task and leave nothing to chance. It is said that Napoleon used to sleep on horse back in the din of ferocious battles. Same can be said of Dr. Channa Reddy. While listening to others he will shut his eyes for a while, but when a pertinent point is to be made he makes it out immediately. People who are not accustomed to his ways of functioning really get a rude shock at his seeming indifference. In fact, it is his full involvement and wholesome concentration which make him shut his eyes in order to open up the mental horizons. He is not only a Doctor by profession but also a Doctor in politics. With the same faculty, he analyses, diagnoses and makes right incisions to the problems that confront. He is a real surgeon even in politics.

Unless one moves with him very nearly it is difficult to estimate his personality. He is too sentimental and too humanistic towards those who come near to him.

I pay my humble tribute to this great son of the soil on the occasion of his 61st birthday.

JOBS, NOT DOLES

DR. CHANNA REDDY'S PRESCRIPTION FOR
EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED

N. BHASKAR RAO

Among the multifarious problems facing our nation, unemployment of the educated stands out as a serious challenge to our economy and a continuing threat to our prosperity. The new Government in Andhra Pradesh under the able and dynamic leadership of Dr. M. Channa Reddy have initiated many measures to tackle this complex problem with particular stress on the unemployed among the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections.

The problem of unemployment is so vast and complex that the state Government have ruled out the possibility of providing unemployment allowance to every person without a job. instead , the Government has launched a special employment scheme on Independence Day last year by which it intends to impart practical training in useful trades to the educated unemployed. The scheme in the beginning, covers all the scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes unemployed and a fair percentage of the Backward Classes too with qualification of matriculation and above.

In Andhra Pradesh, there are nearly 9 lakh unemployed persons belonging to all categories on the live registers of Employment Exchanges at the end of July, 1978. Of these persons 4,08,704 are educated unemployed possessing qualification of matriculation and above. Out of these, there are 97,984 scheduled castes candidates, 31,000 of them possessing qualification of matriculation and above; 12,813 scheduled Tribe candidates, 2,000 of them with qualification of matriculation and above, and 1,68,724 candidates belonging to the Backward classes, 82,783 of them having qualification of matriculation and above. Thus there are 1,15,783 unemployed candidates belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes from very poor families. If we add the Economically backward classes from other communities also to this number the problem of educated unemployed from weaker sections, becomes formidable.

The special employment scheme was inaugurated on August 15, 1978 with a budget provision of Rs. 2.00 crores to provide employment opportunities to the abovementioned unemployed. Thirteen programmes have been formulated, sanctioned and are under implementation. Rs. 2.18 crores has been committed for expenditure under the special employment scheme in all these programmes. In addition, Rs. 9.11 crores of institutional finances and Rs. 1.21 crores from all other development departments have been tied up in all these programmes. Thus a total outlay of Rs. 12.89 crores have been mobilised for all the 13 programmes. Thus a total outlay of Rs. 12.89 crores have been mobilised for all the 13 programmes which would create productive and definite job opportunities to 15, 000 unemployed candidates during this year.

In addition to these 13 programmes, a new investment portfolio on behalf of unemployed candidates in Employment Exchanges is being developed. For this purpose, projects with high employment content, quick gestation period and relatively low investment per person employed are being identified with the help of Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Development Corporation, Director of Textiles and Handlooms, Andhra Pradesh State Textile Development Corporation, Leather Industries Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Small Scale Industrial Development Corporation, Andhra Pradesh Dairy

Development Corporation and the Hyderabad Allwyn Metal Works Limited (a public sector company). These projects are in the areas of salt manufacture, spinning mills, powerlooms, hand - looms, leather tanning and leather goods manufacture, hand- tools and general engineering services and dairy development.

Training programmes relevant to the educated unemployed and the organisations and institutions which could be entrusted with these training programmes were identified at the State Level, Regional Level and the District Level. On the basis of this preparation, 3 programmes for training the educated unemployed candidates belonging to weaker sections in Refrigeration and Air - conditioning mechanics, Radio and television mechanics Instrumentation mechanics, Draughtsman (civil and Mechanical), stenography and Type-writing (Higher Grade) , welders, fitters automobile etc. have been formulated in several polytechnics and the Industrial Training Institutes in the State. So far under these schemes, 1,272 candidates have been admitted into all these institutions and a sum of Rs. 29 lakhs has been provided. Further amounts ranging between Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- have been provided to each of the District collectors to organise non-institutional training which are relevant to the productive opportunities for employment or self-employment in their districts. An amount of Rs. 7.17 lakhs has been provided for this purpose. Stipends ranging Rs. 45 /- to Rs. 100 /- depending upon the duration place and the type of training have been provided to all these candidates.

Six programmes have been formulated under this category with greater efficiency and coordination in project preparation, technical guidance and financial and marketing assistance. Training and entrepreneurial development has been made an integral part of all these programmes. The heads of the concerned departments and the Developmental and promotional Corporations have been fully involved in proper project preparation providing technical guidance mobilising the custom or marketing facilities and in assisting them in securing proper infrastructure and finances. The newly constituted D.I.cs have been specifically entrusted with the task of assisting them in training and productive self-employment. The self-employment projects in these six programmes are in the areas of business ventures, small scale industries, ancillary units, sericulture related activities, handlooms, powerlooms agro-custom services, Dairy Development and poultry Development in all these programmes 10, 510 candidates are being covered with an outlay of Rs. 200 lakhs towards training and margin money. Similarly Rs. 536 lakhs have been tied up in all the programmes through commercial banks.

With considerable acceleration of plan investments and plan projects in different sectors in the state, opportunities for direct employment of the educated unemployed belonging to weaker sections exist in many corporations and organisations of the State. A systematic survey of all the sectors and services is being done to identify such of those services and employment opportunities which can be augmented considerably, but whose augmentation has hitherto been inadequate either due to paucity of funds or non-availability of trained candidates. Four such programmes under Andhra Pradesh state Electricity Board, Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Development Corporation, and Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation have been identified. Funds have been provided either as grant for training of the required categories of persons or as margin money to augment the capital which would enable the absorption of these training candidates. In those 4 programmes, 3,176 persons are being trained with a total investment of Rs. 26 lakhs .

The special Employment scheme is a novel venture and probably the first of its kind in the country. The response to it so far has been very enthusiastic and it is sure to go a long way in bettering the lot of the weaker sections.

One can see in this scheme as in myriad others, the healing touch of the feeling doctor that Channa Reddy has been and the driving force of the motivated politician -administrator that he still is .

TRUSTEE OF THE WEAK AND THE BACKWARD

TRIPURANA RAGHAVA DAS

Poverty and backwardness of our rural masses are nothing new. These blots on our civilization have come down as an inheritance from the ancient past. The exploitation of the toiling masses by the well-to-do minority has been a feature on the national economic landscape even before invaders came down the northern passes and across the seas only to accentuate it. The father of the Nation declared, even during our freedom struggle, that we should not be deceived by the prosperity of our cities and that we should realise that it was the result of the sweat of our toilers in the countryside. He enjoined on his more fortunately placed countrymen to consider themselves the trustees of their personal wealth on behalf of their less fortunate brethren and think of accumulation of riches as a sin.

After the dawn of independence, our national Governments took up the amelioration of the have-nots and evolved certain special schemes for their welfare. But the fact remains that the benefits of development did not reach the people belonging to the weaker sections for whom they were meant. The latest survey (1977) by the state Bureau of statistics reveals that our developmental schemes aimed at the betterment of the weaker sections have been more helpful to the well-to-do than to the poor.

The weaker sections today are not in a mood to put up with this injustice. They have become more vocal than ever before about their rights and social justice. They want the funds allotted for their welfare spent just for that purpose. They are not in a mood to be lulled into complacency by sweet promises. This is a challenge to the administrative machinery and the government voted into office by these long-suffering masses.

The new state Government that assumed office ten months back under the stewardship of Dr. M. Channa Reddy realised the force behind this challenge and the need to tackle this problem on a war footing. On one occasion recently. Dr. Reddy declared that only that society would be strong and energetic which has as its basis political freedom economic equality and social justice and that this would be the basic aim of his Government. The only way for achieving the welfare of the weaker sections was to strengthen their economic conditions and that schemes with this aim should be implemented expeditiously.

According to the latest survey conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Opinion, over two crores of the State's total population are in the clutches of poverty, illiteracy and ignorance. It is to these sections that Channa Reddy's Government addressed itself s a priority programme.

Rs. 35 crores has been allocated in the current year's budget for the welfare of the weaker sections besides attracting another Rs. 23 crores through institutional finance for this purpose. These steps reflect the sincerity and determination of the present Government to fulfil its promises and pledges without loss of time. The Chief Minister is determined to root out administrative delays and complacency in this gigantic task of ushering in an economic revolution.

One of the major problems confronting the State is that of growing unemployment particularly among the educated. The state Government felt that payment of unemployment relief or doles is no proper solution to this problem and introduced a "special Employment Scheme" on Independence Day last year. This scheme is particularly aimed at creating jobs for the educated unemployed among the weaker sections. About fifty thousand of such unemployed belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward classes will be given practical training in such crafts and trades that they can launch self-employment schemes or can be absorbed in Government. Semi - government or private organisations. Schemes to extend finance to such of those who wish to go in for self-employment are also evolved. All these trainees will be paid stipends during training. This is a novel and purposeful scheme that is sure to bring a ray of hope to the weaker sections.

Small scale industries also can play a major role in eradicating unemployment. But they face certain problems like the supply of raw materials and lack of marketing facilities. The state Government has already taken certain steps to encourage small industries, it has decided that raw materials should not be diverted to those industries which produce luxury articles only. Priority should be given to those small industries that depend on locally available raw materials and in which traditional craftsmen can find employment. The state Government will provide Rs. 70.40 lakhs as margin money for such small scale industries while commercial banks will supply an additional amount of Rs. 280.60 lakhs.

There is great scarcity of technical personnel like mechanics in the fields or air conditioning refrigeration and diesel engines, draughtsmen, tracers, higher grade stenographers etc., refrigeration and diesel engines, draughtsmen, tracers, higher grade stenographers etc., belonging to the weaker sections. In view of this the state employment Directorate has drawn up a scheme for special training in these trades to candidates belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes. This scheme with total investment of Rs. 12 lakhs is expected to turn out 500 technicians per year.

During the current year, the state government has provided boarding for an additional 8,800 students belonging to weaker sections in the Government hostels. Eleven new hostels have been sanctioned with 50 boarders each. Five ashram schools for children of fishermen have also been sanctioned.

Many other welfare measures for the weaker sections like increasing the number of scholarships, digging of irrigation wells in the lands allotted to the people belonging to these sections, provision of loans through the scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and backward class corporations etc., also owe their conceptualisation to the preceptive Channa Reddy. The original allocation of Rs. 225 lakhs in the budget of 1978-79 for the welfare of weaker sections has been enhanced to Rs. 355 lakhs. Besides this these sections are also provided funds under non-plan schemes (Rs. 290.97 lakhs), six point formula (Rs. 17.27 lakhs) and the Central Schemes (Rs. 8.55 lakhs). Thus, an impressive amount of Rs. 617.79 lakhs has been allotted for this purpose.

Another novel scheme evolved by the Dr. Channa Reddy Government is to dispose off temple lands and utilise the expected amount of Rs. 200 crores for social welfare activities.

The present Government has also done creditably in the field of the implementation of land reforms. Within the short period it has been in office, this government has succeeded in allotting 2.95 lakh acres surplus land for cultivation purposes and 709 acres as house sites to about 1.32 lakh beneficiaries belonging to weaker sections. During the Land Possession Fortnight (June 1978) 1,32,446 acres were given actual possession of to 73,847 persons for cultivation and 4,837 acres as house sites to 65,983 persons, a majority of them belonging to weaker sections.

It is again the inspirational leadership of Dr. Channa Reddy that has brought in some revolutionary changes in the matter of giving representation to the weaker sections in the local bodies. Besides reducing voting age from 21 to 18 provision is also made for reservation of certain seats in municipal Councils to the Scheduled Castes and tribes and allocating 15 per cent funds of local bodies for the welfare of weaker sections.

The state government has also ambitious plans for implementing water supply schemes for about 11,000 villages in the state at an estimated cost of Rs. 700 crores and lavatory facility with an investment of another Rs. 250 crores. The Chief Minister recently announced that he would approach the world bank, UNESCO and other international organisations for financial aid to implement these schemes.

On 2nd October, 1978 -- on the Birthday of the Father of the Nation -- a new scheme viz., "village Link Transport Scheme " was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Dr. M. Channa Reddy, redeeming the promises made to the people. The scheme aims at providing bus facilities to far -flung and inaccessible villages under a phased time-bound programme. Around 16000 villages in the State still remain isolated without any sort of public transport service although nearly as many have been provided with such services, so far,. Lack of this minimum infrastructure has resulted in the people of these villages living away from the mainstream of national life. Resources or no resources, proper roads or not, these villagers must at once be drawn into the mainstream of life. To answer the expectations of these village folk in the state, the state government lost no time in translating into action the pledges and promises made to the people.

The state government had taken up a scheme of construction of 57,470 houses for the scheduled Castes, scheduled Tribes and Backward classes in the rural areas about 6 years ago with an outlay of Rs. 10 crores borrowed from the LIC of India. A scheme of construction of houses for the scheduled castes engaged in unclean occupations started about 5 years ago is being continued. Most of these houses it may be added, are constructed in one village in each panchayat samithi in the state.

The achievements of the new Government within a short period of ten months hold out the promise of even more spectacular accomplishments in the coming months and years in the service of the weak and backward. There is a Rooseveltian touch about the New Deal being hammered out for the have-nots in the state by the man at the helm of affairs - Dr. M. Channa Reddy .

AN ABLE DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATOR

N. JANARDHAN REDDY

The most scarce resource in India to-day is the politician-administrator. It is a matter of pride us in Andhra Pradesh that in the person of Dr. M. Channa Reddy the country has an eminent and perceptive politician - administrator. Yet only 60 and already among the top echelons of political leadership in the country, Dr. Reddy is cut out to play an important role in shaping the destiny of the nation with his flair for administration backed by almost 30 years of experience as a political - administrator, as a Cabinet Minister in the state and at the Centre and as the Governor of the largest state of India, with direct responsibility of its administration in two spells during President's rule. He is as much at home; with administration and its intricacies as with politics. If he takes to politics as a bird takes to air, he takes to administration as a fish to water.

Yet he is not hide-bound, conservative and cautious, elusive and obscure, afraid of innovation and adventure, trailing the path of precedent, signing on the dotted line fortified by half-a-dozen other signatures. Far from conforming to the current image of a successful administrator, he is a man with vision, a living example of the concept of a developmental administrator, as the initiator and agent of change, a catalyst and administrative reformer in the class of Cornwallis and Curzon, Arthur Cotton and Mountbatten, Rajaji and Sardar Patel, Legendary names, these ; and linking Channa Reddy with them might make it sound a hyperbolic panegyric ; but the aura of history apart, placing him in that class is based on solid factual data.

Let us take the nine months from 6th March, 1978 to December, 1978 the gestation period of his office as C.M. of Andhra Pradesh. With a full load of political problems that any Chief Minister has to tackle in the first year of his office, Dr. Reddy plunged headlong into the administrative ocean and probed its depths. Within this short time, he has triggered off more innovations and administrative reforms, given more drive and momentum to the crawling leviathan of bureaucracy, created more pulsating responses among the professional administrators, revitalized more dormant institutions, taken more far reaching decisions initiated more schemes for a longterm emancipation, welfare and amelioration of the downtrodden, laid foundations for more fundamental social and educational reform, identified more areas of rut and rot and taken more steps to clear the cobwebs, than any politician - administrators have done in recent times. Dr. Reddy has shaken the slumbering giant and vitalized every limb of it., transplantations and surgery not being excluded from the revitalization process.

The moment he took charge, he lay his finger on the malaise and immediately appointed a Committee of Secretaries to work out a drastic scheme of simplification of procedures and Delegation of powers. Unlike the popular idea of a Committee, he followed it up with his characteristic drive and dynamism and already the Committee Report, streamlined by a Sub-

Committee, has become a G.O. (G.O. (p) No. 703 dated 4-12-1978, the most comprehensive administrative reform since the Conference of Chief Secretaries at Delhi in 1976. This reform drastically reduces the work-load of the Cabinet slashes off some sanctimonious bottlenecks, effects long-needed delegation of financial powers, re-establishes the autonomy of the executive organs and field agencies. It shakes off from the Secretariat the legitimate functions of the field agencies. It shakes off from the secretariat the legitimate functions of the field organs and agencies which it has been arrogating to itself over the past 3 decades inhibiting the functioning of these levels creating a banal centralization that had taken the Government away from the people and entombed it in the files of the secretariat, inaccessible to the masses.

Dr. Reddy is a versatile man who would put a thousand irons in the fire at a time and take care of each of them with equal vigil. Looking around at land reforms he identified, in the very first week of his office, that a fraud was being perpetrated on the poor who were given pattas for land but these remained a cruel joke on them, pieces of paper, with no land being placed in their possession. He immediately organized a Land Possession Fortnight. The entire Cabinet was pressed into service. District authorities went into action and 1,32,446 acres of land were handed over to the grateful landless poor who had only pattas in hand before. What had spurred Dr. Reddy into this electric action was his abhorrence for the credibility gap. He would rather promise less and perform more than have gaping gaps between promise and performance staring his administrative and political conscience in the face. He considers it humiliating for any political leader to feel helpless to perform what he promises. In a society of the credulous, that may not be expedient politics, but the achievement-oriented leader in Dr. Reddy will countenance no compromise with his conviction in this regard.

Those who meet him even once would be convinced that Dr. Reddy can stand neither humbug nor hypocrisy. These are resorts of the weakling and if Dr. Reddy is anything he is a Tock of Gibraltar. An administrator or a political leader--and he believes a political leader cannot be one without being an administrator -- may take his time to reach a decision, but once he has pronounced his decision, it is dishonourable for him not to be able to implement it. It is this commitment and conviction that makes him impatient with the meandering modalities of bureaucratic inaction. He is a man of the space-age who believes that delay is decay. You can't reach the moon of development and welfare in a bullock-cart bureaucracy. He is, therefore, out to convert the bullock-cart of the administrative system into a spacecraft. And he has the know-how and the will to do so. If he can't no one can. He works 20 hours a day indefatigably and no fatigue ever shows on his face. His perseverance and his memory are nightmares to the leisurely bureaucrats. They find him a hydra-headed rider with a thousand whips in a thousand hands and they do make them run like mad, to the cherished goals he has set before his Administration; goals of economic development, welfare of the poor, and service to the citizens with a smile.

At the very beginning, Dr. Reddy found that a mystique had been developed around administration that left the C.M. and the Ministers at the tender mercy of the bureaucratic proceduralism and red-tape so that they could never make a commitment in public or issue an order, confident of its being carried out. He immediately set the roles right, and let it be understood that his orders and his public commitments shall be implemented immediately, accurately, and implicitly, and written instructions were issued to that effect. Misinterpreting these as "Channa Reddy's Fiats", a journal even commented adversely on this order, little realising that it did not envisage any deviation from rules and established and authorised procedures but only sought to clear the blight that had warped the bureaucratic response to

political authority and citizens needs, subtly making the political power dependent on their whims, fancies and clerical scrutiny, thus subverting the democratic and constitutional mandate of political authority, leaving at once the people and the politician frustrated and crest-fallen. With his administrative insight, he could in no time locate these invisible fetters on the functioning of political authority to discharge their responsibility and their commitment to the electorate. Not only this, he initiated monitoring of delays in the implementation of orders passed by Ministers in circulation on the files and pronouncements of the Courts in specific cases. The result is that rules, regulations and procedures, instead of being so many spanners thrown by petty / lazy minds or clever in the wheels of political authority have become lubricants for orderly implementation of orders of Ministers and Chief Minister in responsible constitutional and democratic discharge of their legitimate duties. No more does the Ministerial accountability to the legislature mean defending indefensible bureaucratic action or inaction. It has more genuine meaning now.

He also issued orders that all petitions be acknowledged and their stages of action intimated, for once, in the history of the State since Independence, people know who wears the pants in this house called A.P. Administration.

Dr. Reddy is not a mere empirical and pragmatic administrator, administering by the rule of the thumb or by fiats, or by carrot and stick tactics, by the mere art of administration. He has a very clear insight into the principles, theory and science of Development Administration in the context of ever-multiplying and complex goals and aspirations. He has a clear idea of the fundamentals vital to such an administration. Among these, the most important ones which he has pushed into vigorous and systematic practice are the following ;

(i) Decentralisation and devolution of functions, authority, responsibility and accountability;

(ii) Need for shortening the line of Command, action and decision - making ;

(iii) The concept of administration as a relationship between roles rather than mere persons ; and above all.

(iv) Innovation and renewal as a continuing need of an expanding dynamic administrative system ;

(v) A benevolent and enlightened policy towards Government employees ; and

(vi) Last, but not the least, the need for an effective system and mechanism for redressal of public grievances and for responsiveness to public needs.

It is by now well-known that among the first steps taken by the Dr. Channa Reddy's Government was revision of the Panchayatiraj Act and the Municipal statute to grant franchise to the young citizens lowering the age of franchise for these bodies from 21 to 18. The Government have also introduced a further democratic element by providing for direct election of important Panchayatiraj functionaries.

Dr. Reddy has been stressing the "Zonalisation " of administration with complete devolution of authority, responsibility, functions and accountability from the State Capital to

Zonal Officers and a complete scheme to achieve this for all the Departments is being worked out by the Administration.

At the Collector's Conference held on 18 - 19 July 1978, one of the most important decisions taken was that level jumping should be effectively introduced in all the Departments of the Secretariat ; so that not more than two Gazetted Officers see any case before final orders are passed. This will substantially reduce delays to which multiple - level journey of files has been giving rise.

If an analysis is made of Dr. Reddy's policy of top personnel turn-over, his style of functioning will be found to be so very different from the style of other politicians. While the main concern of most of the politicians is to select individuals of their personal choice, for posts, Dr. Reddy's personnel placement policy is based on the clear concept of organisation being impersonal, a relationship between roles, where individuals do not matter but what is important is the role they fill and their responsibility for it and how these roles operate within the context of an Administration's goals and structure.

It will be recalled that Dr. Reddy had floated the idea of change of office timings to suit the tropical climate of our country and State, rather than the irrational timings that the British Indian Administration had imposed to suit the convenience of the whiteman. The change is so basic that the democrat in him has thrown open the idea for debate and discussion though the present timings are neither logically sound, nor functionally relevant but only chronologically inherited.

Similarly his incisive administrative mind could immediately discern the lop-sided growth of some of the Departments of the Secretariat and the obsolescence of the ancient Business Rules of Government. A Committee of Secretaries, assisted by consultants of the Administrative staff College of India, is presently going through the exercise to rationalise the departmental structure and the Business Rules. Already he has bifurcated Education Department. Similarly, a decision was taken at the Collectors' Conference to simplify the rules and procedures of departments dealing with regulatory provisions and statutes such as licensing, building permission etc. each department is going through the exercise. He has also mooted the idea of an ECONOMIC SERVICE to man certain levels of public corporations.

To open windows to the world and allow the fresh breeze of new ideas, trends and techniques of administration. Orders have been issued, in pursuance of Chandrasekhar Committee Report, that Government employees be given wide training. Already the state's own institute of Administration has been activated and more and more officers are being sent out for training courses abroad and in the country. For Dr. Reddy believes in new knowledge, new ideas, new approaches, new techniques.

Among the first humanitarian and benevolent acts of Dr. Channa Reddy's was to order the ' ipso-facto ' reinstatement of the lower categories of Government employees upto the level of L.D.C. and equivalent, who had been retired prematurely in 1976. For the rest, liberalised reviews based on certain guidelines ensuring justice, fairplay and compassion were ordered to be undertaken.

He has been closely associating with the welfare of Government employees, for example, he had the X All India Civil Service Wrestling Championship hosted in A.P. was closely associated with it all throughout, giving a fillip to sports among Government employees.

Of all the measures of administrative reform, however, the one that constitutes a real break - through, is his very original scheme, conceived in all detail by himself, of redressal of public grievances. To begin with, he immediately had a Complaints Cell opened in the Secretariat so that petitions submitted to him or directly to the Government are centrally dealt with by an agency that will act as a liaison on behalf of the aggrieved parties, obviating the need for them to run from Department to Department and table to table.

At the District level, the task of going into public grievances was first entrusted to the District Review Committees, each under a Minister. However, it was at the Collectors' Conference held at Hyderabad on 18th and 19th July, 1978 that a full-fledged scheme and mechanism was spelled out by Dr. Reddy which has been already put into effect (through G.O. (p) No. 511 / AR & T. 1/78, dated 16-8-1978). This is a break-through in citizen - administration relationship, a field level administrative grievances redressal system. The Revenue Divisional Officers have been designated additionally as Divisional Grievances Officers for all the complaints within their territorial jurisdiction regardless of the Department they pertain to. They act as liaison for the complainant and they seek and monitor redressal of the Complaints. At the village level, in all the offices, the link-up of this mechanism has been so dexterously devised that the citizen today has a centralised field agency in every division to attend to his grievances no matter what Department they pertain to or where he registers the complaint--be it the Government level, village level or in any office. In the twin - cities the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad is the Grievances Officer. This is a pioneering scheme that will one day outshine the Ombudsman idea.

Dr. Reddy has an expert's intuition for the vital areas of attention. Thus, no sooner had he taken charge he saw the need for moral rejuvenation through education. Through his Abhyudaya Pradhama Samstha he has laid foundations for an educational system that will turn out not mere literates, but that will fill the moral and spiritual void in our society. Similarly, again sensing the need for a full development of child's personality and potential, he has a plan for a chain of self-sustaining Bal Bhavans in all the districts. He could see the communication system is the primary infrastructure needed for all rural developmental effort. In no time, and against all odds, he has taken up the programme of linking all the villages by bus routes. In the field of uplift of the weaker sections, he has created a special cell with a dynamic officer to work out special schemes for employment of weaker sections. Similarly, for the economically backward, another similar cell with an able officer is working out a comprehensive rural housing scheme, so that where Government have allotted a housesite, it also ensures that a house is built for the allottee.

Nothing escapes his notice. Nothing escapes his attention. Nothing escapes his memory. Often no one escapes his administrative lash, either. For the first time here is a political leader of all India stature who leads the Administration and is not led by it.

Dr. Channa Reddy's record of achievement will be as replete with the political events of his life as with his administrative achievements. For, in an independent country, politics without administration spells anarchy, and administration without political lead is tyranny. It is only when politics and administration meet in the same person in full measure that there is verily liberty and progress. Dr. Channa Reddy's leadership, therefore, ensures to the citizens liberty and progress.

MAN OF THE MASSE

A. ESWARA REDDY

Our beloved Chief Minister is essentially a man of masses and for masses. For their sake, he is prepared to meet any challenge and face any crisis. No one can motivate, mobilise and even mesmerise masses like Dr. Channa Reddy on the contemporary Andhra Political Scene

As one hailing from a farming community, he is hard working with 'down to the earth' pragmatic approach to men and matters, endowed with a streak of determination and defiance. Being a medical man by training, he is methodical and meticulous in tackling the ailments of humanity, with a missionary zeal. It is possibly this facet of his personality that has captured and captivated the imagination and esteem of common men and women in the countryside.

It is likely that his rare gifts of oratory – whether it is in English, Telugu or Urdu – personal magnetism, remarkable foresight have made Dr. M. Channa Reddy an outstanding leader, loved and respected by one and all.

More than anything else, his indomitable courage, inexhaustible energy, exuberant enthusiasm, ingenuity and impatience at tardy progress might have fired the imagination of both the Urban elite and the uneducated poor people everywhere.

Another amazing quality in Dr. Reddy is that he wears his greatness very lightly. Anybody who has not known him earlier would hardly believe that he was not too long ago the Governor of the largest state in the country, or that he is the Chief Minister of an important state, or a former minister of Steel and Mines at the Centre or that he was once the leader of several agitations against oppression of one kind or the other.

Thus it will not be far too wrong to state that he is more an institution than an individual and a multifaceted personality. Over the years, he meant several things to several people. He defies any precise description both by his admirers and adversaries. He has been an enigma and a Chinese puzzle to his friends and foes alike, as he does not conform to any personality characteristics or pattern. But it cannot be denied that he is original in outlook, incisive in intellect, sharp in reacting to a situation and a strategist par excellence with an element of suspense and surprise to baffle even his staunch supporters.

Another fact that is sometimes overlooked is that Dr. Reddy is simple, sincere, service – minded and singularly devoted to the welfare of the State and its people. He is deeply religious and a great votary of Vedic traditions and culture of this great country

As he completes sixty years I fervently pray to Lord Venkateswara to shower his choicest blessings on him and the members of his family.

LUCK OR EFFORT ?

B.N. REDDY

Talking of the providential escape from the Delhi bound flight accident on December 17, 1978 Dr. Channa Reddy said “it is the will of God that I should live for some time to serve the people of this country.”

In a lighter vein Dr. Reddy said “God wanted to transfer me from this world to assign a new job somewhere else, but realized at the nick of the moment, that the present assignment is not yet completed.”

As we know hundreds of millions are born in this world to die unheard of and unnoticed whereas some are born to perform memorable deeds to live for thousands of years to come. This big gap between man and man makes one believe that there is something supernatural which may be called God or Providence.

Dr. Channa Reddy believes in Destiny. He is one of the very few political leaders who declares publicly his belief in God. But it makes one wonder why Dr. Reddy who believes so much in his Destiny, should work for eighteen to twenty hours a day at the cost of his health and personal comfort. When one expresses this doubt Dr. Reddy replies “Perhaps I am destined to work hard to achieve my objectives.”

In reply to a question whether there was no chance for an individual to struggle hard and come up in life, he said “there is a Chance,” quoting the science of palmistry wherein it is said that left hand indicates the providence of a person, whereas the right hand reveals what one can achieve through one’s own effort.

Late S.S. Vasan of Madras wrote that life was like a game of cards in which the cards so distributed to a player were his providence. If he did not know how to play even after he got good cards, he would lose the game. On the other hand, if somebody knew how to play but did not get good cards, he was also undone. In his view, life was a combination of both luck and effort and the lucky were very few who not only get good cards but also knew how to play the game.

Destiny is forecast through occult sciences such as Astrology, Numerology and Palmistry and the degree of exactness depends on the depth of the knowledge of the person concerned.

To the astonishment of many, Dr. Reddy has good knowledge of Astrology and corrects some of the astrologers who try to impress him with their shallow knowledge.

Looking at Dr. Reddy’s Horoscope one, with some knowledge of Astrology, finds the following facts:

His ascendant is VIRGO.

JUPITER is placed in GEMINI, the 10th house and

MARS is exalted in CAPRICORN, 5th house from the ascendant,

Which are responsible for his occupying high positions in his political career.

MERCURY deposited in 4th house having PARIVARTANA YOGA with JUPITER and VENUS deposited in CAPRICORN 5th house make him an eloquent speaker, lover of fine arts and occult sciences.

MOON exalted in TAURUS in association with KETU makes him highly sensitive and spiritual.

SATURN, the lord of sixth house deposited in LEO indicates that he will have enemies but conquer them using both his Mercurian and Martian qualities.

Besides MARS and SATURN are responsible for causing emotion, irritation and delays at times

Running MERCURY DASA is supposed to be the most important in his life. He will achieve all his objectives against all odds and is supposed to shoulder bigger responsibilities during MERCURY – VENUS antardasa, not only at State level but at national level also

Dr. Reddy is a multi – faceted personality with tremendous confidence in himself. He puts his heart and soul in work and expects it from others. He is very frank and very affectionate. He is always found bubbling with enthusiasm and energy, full of new ideas and ambitious programmes for the welfare of the Nation as a whole and the State in particular.

Every person born on this earth possess both positive and negative qualities. More the positive qualities greater the person becomes.

Dr. Reddy said many a time he would not occupy the chair of chief Minister one day more than the will of God but would go all out in implementing the developmental programmes until that time. While he is fighting with Nature on one side and the outside world on the other, he is very optimistic that he would succeed in all his attempts slowly and steadily.

In the critical times through which the country is passing unless the collective involvement is more and more our problems may not get solved. Of course one has freedom to criticize the state of affairs prevailing in the country, but then what about one's responsibility towards the Nation ? Many such critics do not even take pains to exercise their franchise and elect one proper representative who can solve their problems to some extent.

It is high time we realize that nothing can be achieved by being passive spectators When situation demands. Let us rise up to the occasion and lend a helping hand to solve the problems confronting the nation. While we discharge our duty as responsible citizens the elected representatives and the governmental machinery should do their best for the welfare of the Society and I am sure Dr. reddy would do his best in this direction

After attaining the age of sixty, it is said to be a new birth. In the case of Dr. Reddy this is proved beyond doubt with his miraculous escape from the ill fated Boeing Crash on which he was travelling on December 17, 1978. This is verily a new lease of life granted by the Almighty to accomplish the unfinished task. May God give him extraordinary powers to elevate himself further so as to forget and forgive the past.

On the festive occasion of his ‘Shashitipoorthi ‘, I pray God that He may mitigate the evil effects of malefic planets and effectivise the benevolent functioning of the benefic planets so that he should shower love and affection more and more and carry all the people along with him on the path of progress and prosperity. May God bless Dr. Reddy with health and happiness on his 61st birthday while I wish him many many Happy returns of this day.

DR. REDDY’S CONCERN FOR
WOMEN AND CHILDREN

RODA MISTRY

Important milestones in the lives of our great leaders are occasions when we should look back and learn from our mistakes and triumphs achievements and failures. This, and the examples set by them are the true guides and they provide inspiration to face the uncertain future.

The life of Dr. M. Channa Reddy is a profile in courage and principles a life of solid achievement in whatever high position he was placed. He had not sacrificed his principles for expediency. He advocated the active participation of women in the economic life of the Nation. He saw a bright future for the women who constitute 50 per cent of the population – a tremendous human potentiality for enriching the Nation. Way back in 1957, as Finance Minister in the Cabinet of Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy now our distinguished President of the country, Dr. Channa Reddy gave the women of twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad various self – employment schemes. These schemes provide employment to so many women who otherwise would have been suffering from utter poverty. Some of the schemes started then are still continuing.

Dr. Reddy’s favourite programme of economic uplift of women got a spurt on his assumption of office as the Chief Minister of this premier State. The Andhra Pradesh Women’s cooperative Finance corporation which had received a total grant of Rs. 60 lakhs in three years of its existence. Received an equal amount in one year alone. The Corporation’s abjective is to help women to have independent income.

The welfare services for women and children in the state were earlier budgeted around a few lakhs of rupees. Dr. Reddy would not rest content with a sprinkling of services. His aim is for much wider coverage of the programmes in the rural areas and he has, therefore, advocated a liberal expansion of the scheme. We now spend more than three crores of rupees on welfare of women and children.

India’s biggest asset is its human resources. The Nation needs a statesman to lead it. A statesman naturally sees far ahead of his times. Dr. Channa Reddy’s statesmanship has been amply demonstrated when almost immediately he took over as Chief Minister, he wanted that all resources should be pooled to make the children –the future citizens of our country – the happiest. He sanctioned a sizeable amount of Rs. 25 lakhs as an initial grant

even before the idea of International Year of the Child was given shape to .While in all other states exclusive plans for International Year of the Child are still in the making. Dr. Channa Reddy took the lead and showed the way. The total development of all children is the aim of our Chief Minister.

The good wishes of the people of the state in general and mothers and children in particular , for the long life and prosperity of Dr. Channa Reddy is evident. “That sign from Heaven “ that we received so clearly at Begumpet airport on December 17,1978 is significant of the tremendous blessings he enjoys from the masses.

DR. CHANNA REDDY WHOM I KNOW
H. SYED ALI

The Chief Minister, our beloved Dr. M. Channa Reddy completes sixty years of full and meritorious life and on this happy occasion I should, with extreme pleasure and pride, recall a few of the many memorable events of his early years.

Born in January 1919, Dr. Reddy Joined the Osmania Medical College in 1936 full of promise and enthusiasm. In the first professional examination, he topped the list of 25 students in Physiology and secured first rank in the class. Though more deserving than any other scholar, his application to the Reddy Hostel authorities for a scholarship failed by this cold gesture on the part of the hostel authorities his life and stood first in the first year M.B.B.S. and secured a scholarship of Rs. 17,00 per month with freship.He passed with credits all the medical examinations in the first attempt and of the 25, he was among the seven candidates who passed the final examination. His ability and enthusiasm were not restricted to academic work only. In extra – curricular activities he took a leading part. His skill at debates was really incisive while his deep interest in social service won him popularity and the regard of all. Even during his student days, he flung himself whole – heartedly to the side of the downtrodden and readily took up and worked for the cause of poor students.

After a brilliant career in the Medical College, Dr. Reddy joined service under the previous H.E.H. the Nizam’s Government. But his fiery and independent spirit originality of thought and courage of conviction would not allow him to be subservient to an unthinking bureaucracy. Subordination to officialism and vindictive authority has always been to Dr. Reddy a red rag and he relinquished office to set up independent practice. The quest for freedom began. Then began his fearless fight against the autocratic regime.

Dr. Reddy,s interest in medicine did not stop with mere academics but has been revealing itself as a blessing to the country in many ways. As Governor of Uttar Pradesh, he

took keen interest in the reinforcement of medical care and the augmentation of health facilities. Along with Nawab Mehdi Nawaz Jung, he worked as one of the main architects of the Cancer Hospital in Hyderabad. Though trained in modern medicine, Dr, Reddy has always been a keen student and earnest enthusiast of the ancient oriental systems of Medicine like the Ayurveda and Unani, The Yoga Research Centre owes its present existence to his great interest in the field.

Dr. Reddy is versatile, revealing genuine interest, enthusiasm and deep know ledge of matters outside the clinical world, He is almost a polyglot with knowledge of Telugu, English, Urdu and Hindi. An educationist in the true sense of the term, he has championed the cause of education in ways more than one. Had it not been for his farsight, Osmania University would not have received the multi – crore foundation which it has now for its stability.

During his visit to Sheffield, United Kingdom, in 1967 as the Steel Minister of the Government of India, I had the rare privilege of accompanying him after attending the World Health Organization Conference. We met quite a number of technical experts in Steel industry. His searching questions to them revealed his extraordinary power of observation and ability to elicit from experts a fund of technical information.

As a statesman, for sheer integrity, selflessness and untiring endeavours, Dr. Reddy is second to none. He can never tolerate injustice from any quarters and he has been in the forefront in the battle against regional imbalances. With dignity and humility, he has occupied several responsible positions in public life. His candour is unquestionable and his political beliefs unimpeachable. A doyan of the co – operative movement, Dr. Reddy always believes in people’s participation in nation – building activities.

As a man, Dr. Reddy is God – fearing interested I India’s culture and her great heritage. He is one of the great torch – bearers who will guide the destinies of the nation to greater heights.

A GENUINE FRIEND OF MINORITIES

CHANDSRIWASTAV

Dr. Marri Channa Reddy, who will be completing sixty years on January 13, 1979, could be the topic for a book.

Dr. Reddy’s multi-faceted personality, which continues to inspire and guide the people of Telangana in particular and of Andhra in general, itself mirrors several political changes that took place in this part of the country.

For me and many other like-minded friends, Dr. Reddy has been and is a genuine rebel who always rose in revolt against untruth, exploitation, parochialism, and all known forms of undemocratic and inhuman treatment of the weakest among the weak.

I am fortunate to have known him for the last 15 years and had occasions to study him from close quarters. The quality which I appreciate utmost in him is his outspokenness in expressing his opinion on men and matters in a very objective manner. He is not among those politicians who talk something in private and act differently in public. For some people this quality of Dr. Reddy looks cruel but to others it is unique trait of his personality which makes him not only loveable but also admirable.

In my journalistic career of 18 years, I had occasions to meet, discuss and talk with several eminent persons ; but Dr. Reddy was the one who inspired me to a very great extent which ultimately enabled me to develop as non-compromising journalist over certain basic issues relating to well-cherished national ideals.

Dr. Channa Reddy truly represents the cosmopolitan character of the cultural heritage of Hyderabad and creative genius and talent of my region - Telangana - which forms part of the state of Andhra Pradesh. Since he took over as chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, attempts were being made by certain elements to distort his image as believer in Hindu - Muslim Unity, and later they did fish in the troubled waters. It may be worth mentioning here that in 1965 when Pakistan launched aggression against India, Dr. Channa Reddy addressed a largely attended public meeting in the old city and vehemently condemned those elements which had been accusing Indian Muslims of Pakistani tendency and questioning their loyalty to Mother India. Dr. Reddy, in his historic speech, described such elements as foreign agents and held them responsible for sabotaging the second-line of defence within the country.

This masterpiece of exhortation by Dr. Reddy was hailed by the entire Indian Urdu Press, mostly owned and controlled by the Muslims. These newspapers, editorially commenting on Dr. Reddy's observations, described them as reflective of the truth and urged on other political leaders to emulate the examples set by Dr. Channa Reddy.

For Dr. Reddy, Urdu is a national link language for whose development and sustenance he spares the needed time and energy. He is most powerful as a speaker in that language as he had studied through the medium of Urdu. His concern and anxiety for preserving the non-communal, secular and cosmopolitan character of Urdu is commendable. During Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy's tenure as Chief Minister, the state government contemplated to declare Friday as a weekly holiday for all Urdu - medium schools instead of Sunday. This move was opposed by the Anjuman Tahafuz - e - Urdu, led by Shri M. Baga Reddy (now Minister for Panchayati Raj). Dr. Channa Reddy took up this issue with the government and, ultimately, due to his effective intervention the proposal was dropped.

The present status of Urdu in Andhra Pradesh is more due to the fact that it was Dr. Channa Reddy who provided a firm basis at the time of the formation of an integrated state of Andhra Pradesh. The Gentlemen's Agreement arrived at between the leaders of Andhra and Telangana, provided, among other things, a clause for the retention of the status enjoyed by Urdu in the erstwhile Hyderabad and the provision for its further growth and development in the new state of Andhra Pradesh. The state government, led by Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy, incorporated clause (7) in the A.P. Official Language Act, 1966, to this effect. But the statutory obligation for notifying the purposes of official use of Urdu in both administration and law courts was kept pending for more than 12 years.

The students and youths of Telangana, led by Anjuman Tahafuz - e- urdu, took up this issue with the government and launched a democratic movement for the fulfilment of the

requirement as envisaged in the said Act . The agitators reminded the then government of the provision made in the Act and forced it to yield. Finally, in July 1977, the state government accorded second regional language status for Urdu and specified the purposes for its official use. This was notified in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette also. The Urdu - speaking people of Andhra Pradesh thus succeeded in getting their legitimate and long pending demand only on the basis laid by Dr. M. Channa Reddy.

As a believer in communal harmony and cordial relations between various communities the role of Dr. Reddy has been commendable. Even during the height of the movement for separate Telangana, Dr. Reddy, addressing a massive gathering at Malwala Palace, near Charminar, had called upon the Muslim brethren to fall in line with the rest of the people in their own interest and assured that their problems would always receive utmost priority and equal attention.

The old city of Hyderabad, which is predominantly of Muslims would naturally look to Dr. Reddy to redeem his assurances. Against this background, it is but natural for the Muslims to extend their wholehearted cooperation to him and his government so that he may be able to do his best for the all-round development and progress of this area and the Muslim minority.

Muslims of this part of the city have been nursing a grouse for the last 30 years that they were a neglected lot and the government was not sincere in bettering their lot. Thus, they became the victims of certain vested interests and sources of political existence for unhealthy and narrow - minded politicians.

Dr. Reddy deserves credit for his perfect understanding of the situation and embarking upon a programme of socio- economic development of this area. If such proposals and programmes, as envisaged and urgency by the administrative machinery, if not now at least within the next five years, the source of frustration and distrust among Muslims would be eliminated

Dr. Channa Reddy, for the first time in the history of Andhra Pradesh, provided representation in the State Cabinet to three Muslims, appointed another Muslim as the Chairman of the Rayalaseema Planning and Development Committee. In addition, a Muslim Legislator has been assigned the responsibility of being the Chief whip of the State Assembly. From all accounts, Muslim representation from top to bottom has gone up manifold.

At the same time, Dr. Reddy has not lost sight of the other minorities like Christians Parsis and sikhs, besides the weaker sections, backward classes, Harijans and girijans. They too have been given representation in various bodies.

Dr. Channa Reddy is undoubtedly a leader of thought and action and whichever task he embarks upon gets a facelift.

For Dr. Reddy power and authority are only a means to do service to the suffering humanity and not a source of personal benefit.

Whether in or out of office, he has his own place and position in the hearts of the people, a rare phenomenon indeed.

Dr. Reddy in fact combines in him the quality of a unique administrator, an academecian, an agitator, and a Yogi too.

May he live long to continue to serve his countrymen.

A VERSATILE PERSONALITY

R. VENKATAVARADAN IYENGAR

It is now nearly thirty years since I have been in close touch with Dr. M. Channa Reddy. I first met him as a co-passenger in a second class coupe travelling from Hyderabad to Khammam, to gain, on behalf of the Agent - General, Shri K.M. Munshi first-hand knowledge of one of the atrocities committed by the Razakars, Dr. Reddy on his part, was visiting the scene of trouble on behalf of the state Congress to know things for himself and reporting to the state congress. As we got into the compartment at Hyderabad, he, considering my elderliness, sportively offered me the lower berth, though he was the allottee of it. After settling down, we began exchanging views on local politics, evacuation of Hindus to neighbouring states and the encouragement that was being given by the Nizam to the Razakars, particularly its chief kasim Razvi, to wipe off disloyal Hindus from the state. That was the time when there used to be violent attacks on Hindus at the railway stations, market place in daylight. In such a situation, unmindful of the consequences Dr. Reddy freely gave vent to his feelings and determination to fight against injustice and repression, even without bothering to know who I was and what I was doing. His candid exposition of the situation in the state impressed me that here was the man with a bright future in store, and I decided to keep in touch with him off and on for checking any disputed version in regard to the affairs of the state, I was sure that I would get the correct version from Dr. reddy. He placed great faith in truth and frankness - a rare virtue for a politician.

After the police Action, Dr. Reddy, who represented the aspirations of the youth of the state, helped the elders like Burgula Ramakrishna Rao and K.V. Ranga Reddy in bringing the state back to normalcy. When the occasion for the formation of the first popular ministry arrived, Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, as chief minister, took Dr. Reddy into his Cabinet to handle the difficult , but important portfolio of Food, Agriculture and Rehabilitation. The drive and dedication that Dr. reddy brought to his department was a point of envy to his Cabinet colleagues. In a lighter vein, Chief Minister Ramakrishna Rao used to remark that Dr. Reddy, who always took a right stand, would be a headache, if he was kept out of government.

After my retirement from service I moved to Madras ; but I continued maintaining my contacts with Dr. Reddy. With age, Dr. Reddy matured into a fine and able administrator and astatesman. He occupied ministerial positions in the state s well as at the Centre, holding charge of important portfolios, before landing in the gubernatorial office of Governor of Uttar Pradesh for a while and finally returning to his state of Andhra Pradesh, as its Chief Minister.

Whichever position or office he held Dr. Reddy held each one of them with distinction and left indelible impression of his ability and efficiency.

The most striking feature of Dr. Reddy is that even in adverse circumstances, he never loses his cheerfulness and remains ever willing to serve the people in some capacity or the other. He has unshakable faith in God. There have been many occasions when his indomitable courage and righteous action had converted the most hostile crowds into docile gatherings, the moment he rushed into them singly to the dismay of his supporters.

Dr. Reddy has a craze to meet saintly persons in caves and mansions. He has endeared himself to all the Matadhipathis in the country and enjoys their blessings and good wishes in great measure. Probably, the secret of his great energy for work lies in the love and affection he enjoys not only from the people but also from the saints and sages.

On the happy occasion of his Shashti-poorthi, as an elder to him, I offer my hearty blessings and wish him many happy returns of the day.

A TOTAL PICTURE OF COURAGE

M.V. NARAYANA RAO

Monday, December 18

The temple of Hanuman at khairatabad in Hyderabad is well known in the area. Devotees flock there every Tuesday and Saturday to worship the powerful deity. This temple always attracted me because outside it had the picture of Hanuman opening his chest to show Sita Mahalakshmi that he is not a fake 'Doota' sent by Ravana but Lord Sree Rama's emissary. His devotion to the Lord was such that one could see the Lord himself in his heart. I accompanied the Chief Minister and his family to pay our thanks giving to Lord Hanuman for saving us all in the tragedy enacted at Begumpet the previous day at the same time. In hushed silence we made our silent prayers to the Lord for his mercy. Mrs. Abraham, a survivor who accompanied us to the temple was saying her silent prayers from a distance doubtful whether she could join us, till our Chief Minister beckoned her to join us in the silent prayers to the Lord who reigns high and supreme, by whatever name each calls him. We heaved a sigh of relief. Our hearts are heavy. The faith and the prasadam lightened our choked emotions.

Sunday, December 17

The fog was dense in the twin cities. I was on my way to the airport when o the police Radio network. I heard that the Chief Minister Dr. M. Channa Reddy had also left his residence for the airport to go to Delhi to attend the Chief Minister Conference, called to discuss how communalism and continuing fratricidal strife should be ended, Even as he alighted from his car, we reported to him that the plane had arrived a few minutes earlier, had circled over the airport and as it could not land due to fog it flew back to Madras. The Chief Minister in a pensive mood wondered whether we should make the journey. "Did he have a premonition?" our Chief Secretary Sri I.J. Naidu asked much later when we got out of the burning plane. But that was later. The Chief Minister jocularly remarked that we would be

going only for the lunch and not for the conference. Accompanied by Sri M.M. Hashim, Sri B. Ramdev and others, the Chief Minister returned to his residence.

The Police Control Room announced that the plane was returning from Madras to take us to Delhi at least by 21-30 hours –not bad. Andhra Pradesh could still participate in the evening conference. Dr. Reddy, as usual came just in time for the take off. A large number of ministers, officials and other admirers accompanied him right up to the plane.

By the time we got into the plane it was packed to full capacity. There was some more avoidable delay because it was discovered that one passenger was extra. The air hostess, always cheerful and pleasant, said that more tickets were issued than the seats. There were whispers. The irritated passengers were impatient as it was announced that an unknown passenger bound for Bombay got into the plane.

As the engines roared and the plane took off I was watching the Chief Minister who was in his usual cheerful mood. He was having an animated and pleasant conversation with two co-passengers on his side. Little did I realise that lost in this conversation he did not tie his safety belt. A vague indistinct and lovely voice announced in Hindi that our journey to Delhi would take approximately one hour and fifty minutes. This heralded our move to an unknown destination, The plane was ready to take off with Captain Joseph in charge. I began wondering why Shri Naidu, our Chief Secretary, had filled up the accident form in the VIP lounge. For some time, the front door would not shut, The feminine hand that attempted to close it was not able to do so, but the other airhostess helped and the door was shut so strongly that I wondered whether it could be reopened. After taxiing, the plane took off What fell ? why ? The plane's rear touched the ground with a thud it shivered and vibrated violently I clutched the front seat. Are we landing or taking off, I wondered. The pilot was desperately braking the plane. It looked as though we were riding a 'Bull in a China Shop ' furiously rushing forward, or was it a vibrating bird clipped of its wing. The barbed wire fencing gave way. There were huge boulders in the distance. Would we, the front-seaters including our beloved Chief Minister, get crushed by their enormity and the speeding "Indian Airlines bird " ? The boulders were before the plane. The quagmire is below the plane. Would it act as a brake and achieve what the hydraulic brakes could not ? God's will be done. Shri Naidu was seated on the left side in the second row, and Shri Ramamurthy, secretary to the Chief Minister, further behind us, The plane came to a grinding halt amidst groans and prayers, In the bewildered confusion, everyone heaved a sigh of relief when the plane halted. I looked to the left and found something on fire.

“ Do not panic, there is fire “, I found myself shouting. The shout was lost in excitement, fear, moans and shouting. How did the handle open ? The feminine hands that struggled to close it. Fumbled – did the pressure push or a divine key open it ! “ Jump out, ladies and gentlemen ; the plane is on fire. “ Where is our leader, the man who is to guide the destinies of the State of Andhra Pradesh ? Where could I get a telephone ? Where are we stranded ? Sixty people got out.

How many more are there ? Would the God of Fire be merciful ? Would 'Pavana ' relent ? Would ' Maruthi Nandan ' control 'Moruthi ' ? At what stage did I jump out ? I found Dr. Channa Reddy enquiring anxiously “what happened to Narayana Rao ?” By the time I arrived on the scene, I found the Chief Minister cool and collected, conversing with Shri Ramamurthy and Shri Naidu and Mrs. Abraham whom he had helped to get out of the burning plane. In that moment he looked to me the very embodiment of courage and

fortitude. Despite his composure I could see right on his face the anxiety and concern for the safety of the other passengers in the plane who were being encircled and engulfed in tongues of flame. He was apparently lost in silent prayers for their safety. When Shri Naidu asked whether he had a premonition about such a disaster when he proposed that we might drop our plan to go to Delhi, the Chief Minister said that he had some second thoughts about whether we should make the journey at all. What is it we are doing ? We are discussing these matters and anxiously watching the other passengers jump to safety . I reminded them that we cannot take any more grave risks. The flames are getting closer to us. One more blow – up of the fuel would engulf us in the heat wave of the high octane gas. Whatever might happen, the Chief Minister should not tarry any longer so near the scene in spite of his concern for the safety of the other passengers. We had to move him away from the scene of the disaster.

Who is this kindly gentleman waving his hand and offering us a lift in his car ? We availed of his generous offer because we wanted to rush all possible help for the injured and the dazed in the accident. The Chief Minister, the Chief Secretary, myself and Mrs. Abraham got into the car near Bowenpalli. Despite the disastrous fire and the nerve – racking experience, conversation flowed as smoothly as ever. We had to stop for a short while at a petrol bunk for fuel for the car. I rang up Police Telephone Exchange 30191. Involuntarily, as desired by the Chief Minister, I was rushing out the words to the telephone operator asking her to rush all doctors to the Airport .The radio announced the appeal interrupting the Cricket Test Match commentary. This was heard all over Hyderabad. At the air terminal, Shri M.M. Hashim Home Minister, was anxiously waiting to hear the news about the safety of the Chief Minister, was anxiously waiting to hear the news about the safety of the Chief Minister and other Passengers. When he saw us, he rushed and embraced the Chief Minister. Tears rolled down from his eyes and he lifted his hand to “Allah the Merciful “ for saving all of us in this ghastly tragedy. I rushed back to the tarmac with the available vehicles, certain that the Chief Minister is in safe hands . After an hour, I returned to the Chief Minister’s house in Taramaka to find Dr. Channa Reddy relating to various admirers and friends the details of the tragedy which, but for Divine Mercy, would have deprived us of a dynamic personality and an able leader who is to guide the destinies of the state to take it forward into an era of prosperity and peace. I could not resist the temptation of rushing into the Chief Minister’s private prayer room and got lost in deep meditation for some time. I thanked Providence that he had spared us all from one of the worst disasters in aviation history.

All cars rushed to Tranaka. It was in the mouth of everyone. “ Is Dr. Channa Reddy safe ?” All the three phones in the house were ringing continuously enquiring of the safety of our beloved Chief Minister, Doctors rushed and advised him to take rest, but ‘ No ‘ , he would not relent. He received all those who came to see him and to reassure themselves that their leader is safe.

My mind wanders. To whom do we owe this survival by accident ? Would it be to the brave Captain or the Faith which is the sheet – anchor of our Chief Minister. Sometime after he took charge of the Office as C.M. I mention to him that the Jagadguru of Sringeri and the Sharada peet would take the State forward despite the gathering clouds. At the khairatabad temple, after receiving the prasadam of Lord Hanuman on 18th December, I expressed the hope that this night-marish experience ended, the clouds have cleared and the path of the State to prosperity assured by providence with him at the helm of affairs. Tired as he was, I thought he would return to his Taranaka residence. No, for him Duty comes foremost. He went to see the injured and dazed who were admitted in Gandhi hospital. Compassion for the

poor and the sick, in a crisis courage and fortitude in adversity, equanimity even in victory and prosperity, these sum-up the personality of our beloved Chief Minister.

The tragedy on Sunday, December 17, brought out these dominant qualities of our Chief Minister to the fore. In conversations all over the State one thought reigned supreme. God in his mercy has saved Dr. Channa Reddy so that he could in the years to come render even greater service not only to our State but to our country as well, and particularly to the poorer sections of the humanity for whom his heart melts. His “ Punarjanma “ in the year of his Shashtiabdapoorthi is an act of Divine Grace, which has no other connotation

TEN MONTHS IN OFFICE

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHIEF MINISTER CHANNA REDDY

Page no 103 & 108

Date PLACE

6-3-1978 Hyderabad Elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions Municipalities to be held by

the end of June.

Redressal of public grievances to be done expeditiously

Land Reforms to be vigorously implemented.

Large and Small Scale Industries to be accorded equal prominence

8-3-1978 Kesara Hills Compulsory Scouting and Guiding in schools envisaged.

11-3-1978 Hyderabad Will strive for the unity and integrity of the State. Top priority to be

Accorded to Primary Education.

15-3-1978 Hyderabad Bifurcation of State ruled – out.

Public grievances cell set up.

17-3-1978 Hyderabad Decision to reinstate prematurely retired employees announced.

20-3-1978 Hyderabad Panchayati Raj Institutions to be revitalized for democracy and deve-

lopment.

21-3-1978 Hyderabad Minorities Commission contemplated to look into the grievances of the

Minority community.

24-3-1978 Hyderabad Setting-up of a University Service Commission envisaged.

25-3-1978 Hyderabad Suggestion for making Hyderabad as Second Capital of India hailed.

Government support assured to SCs, STs, minorities and other Economically backward class.

28-3-1978 Hyderabad Reservation of jobs and concessions to economically backward class

Not far off.

31-3-1978 Hyderabad Immediate reinstatement of all prematurely retired low paid Employees announced.

Judicial enquiry to report on alleged police atrocities announced.

1-4-1978 Hyderabad Induction of the salient features of the traditional Gurukul system in the

Present educational framework strongly pleaded.

9-4-1978	Hyderabad	Priority to all programmes aimed at the welfare of the rural people
		Assured.
12-4-1978	Hyderabad	Consent to the special police establishment (CBI) for exercise of
		Powers and jurisdiction in the State withdrawn.
		Cabinet sub – committee set – up to examine and report amendments
		In P.R. Act and Municipality Act within a month.
		Government decision against recruitment of employees on temporary
		Basis announced.
16-4-1978	Hyderabad	Basic amenities to slum areas to be provided on priority basis.
17-4-1978	Hyderabad	Collectors asked to implement the programmes of uplift of weaker
		Sections STs and SCs expeditiously.
23-4-1978	Vijayawada	Necessity of an integrated State under the existing conditions
		Reiterated.
26-4-1978	Hyderabad	Improvement of drinking water situation in the villages decided.
		Bifurcation of Hyderabad district into Hyderabad Urban and Hyderabad Urban and Hyderabad Rural announced.
2-5-1978	Hyderabad	Dearness Allowance on par with Centre and rise of Rs.5/- for Village officers announced.
5-5-1978	Tirupathi	Tirupathi to be developed as the nerve-centre for spiritual Development of the entire nation.
		4 to 5 lakh acres would get irrigation facilities additionally in Rayalaseema districts from the surplus waters of the Krishna River.
7-5-1978	Hyderabad	Employment schemes to provide relief to the educated unemployed
		Belonging to weaker sections in A.P. from August 15, 1978, Announced.
10-5-1978	Hyderabad	Quantum of boarding grants to inmates of the Government run Houses enhanced.
15-5-1978	Hyderabad (na-college	Students, Teachers and Staff committee suggested in every
	Tional Students Union	to discuss and solve problems.
	Of India)	Primary Education system to raise standards.
17-5-1978	Patancheruvu	Favoured more periodic meetings between entrepreneurs and the
		Government Officers to identify problems and find timely solutions
		Of them.
20-5-1978	Visakhapatnam	Nationalisation of all bus routes in Visakhapatnam announced.
		Work on the much delayed public sector steel plant at Visakhapatnam may commence before the end of the year.
20-5-1978	Hyderabad	Abolition of confidential reports for Government employees Contemplated.
21-5-1978	Hyderabad	The film subsidy scheme to be reviewed .

24-5-1978	Hyderabad	SCs, STs and BCs to get reservation in Panchayati Raj and co-Operative institutions. Panchayat Act, Co-operatives Act and the Municipalities Acts to Be amended for this purpose. Voting age to be reduced to 18 to the local bodies. Land Revenue On holdings measuring 2 1/2 acres wet lands and 5 acres dry Lands to be exempted. A Permanent standing committee with the Chief Minister as the Chairman to review the drinking water situation in the State
	mooted.	
2-6-1978	Hyderabad	Compulsory Yoga Classes in schools upto 10 th class proposed.
15-6-1978	Hyderabad	Accord on Krishna water to Madras reached with the Chief Minister
		Of Tamil Nadu.
16-6-1978	Hyderabad	The jousting schemes in the State will get fillip
18-6-1978	Hyderabad	Sale of temple lands to tenants proposed.
20-6-1978	Vijayawada	Law to regulate voluntary aid would be introduced.
21-6-1978	Hyderabad	A qualifying test for all temporary staff promised.
23-6-1978	Hyderabad	Complaints cell to redress grievances.
	(Assembly)	
24-6-1978	Hyderabad	The Panchayati Poll would not be on party basis.
25-6-1978	Paunar	Job guarantee scheme under study.
25-6-1978	Hyderabad	Steps to ensure proper supply of note books.
30-6-1978	Hyderabad	Decision to hold Bhargava Commission's session in Cenera defended.
5-7-1978	Hyderabad	Change in Office hours from 7-30 A.M. to 1-30 P.M. contemplated.
5-7-1978	Hyderabad	Forests plans to help the poor.
8-7-1978	Visakhapatnam	Water assured for Vizag Steel Plant.
12-7-1978	Hyderabad	Balabhavans in all districts proposed.
4-8-1978	White field School	Free Uniforms, Text books and Mid-day meals for Primary Children in the State Promised.
5-8-1978	Tripurantakam (near Ongole)	Waters of Nagarjuna Sagar Right Canal released to block 15.
6-8-1978	New Delhi (News Conference)	Apprehensions about the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant dispelled.
14-8-1978	Assembly	Nationalisation of Bus routes in Visakhapatnam from 1-11-1978
		Announced.
16-8-1978	Assembly	Inquiry into alleged raid by police on the Polytechnic College. Warangal on 10-8-1978 announced.
19-8-1978	Hyderabad (at The meetings of recently reconstituted development committee for 3 regions)	Extension of special assistance under Six Point formula which will expire by March 1979 to be sought.
20-8-1978	karimnagar dam,	Construction of Godavari South Canal beyond lower Manair dam,
		With a minimum capacity of 85,000 cusecs inaugurated.
22-8-1978	Hyderabad	Centre urged to release Rs. Crores for relief works in the flood

	Affected areas.
23-8-1978 Assembly	The follow-up action on the interim report of the Vimadlal Commission to be taken in consultation with the Union Home Ministry.
24-8-1978 Vijayawada loans	Aerial survey of flood affected areas undertaken. Short term
	With a subsidy of 25 % to the small farmers and 33/2/3% to the Marginal farmers in the flood affected areas of the districts of
West	Godavari, Krishna and Guntur districts announced.
25-1978 Hyderabad Corporation,	Vijaya Spray, Baby food of A.P. Dairy Development
	A.P. launched.
30-8-1978 Hyderabad	The citizens of Twin Cities urged to maintain peace.
30-8-1978 Assembly National	Serious action against all those involved in the burning of
	Flag at Visakhapatnam on 15-8-1978 assured.
1-9-1978 Mecca Masjid, Hyderabad	Commitment to the policies of secularism, the foundations on which India had built up its traditions reiterated.
2-9-1978 Machilipatnam (public Meeting)	Jobs for about a lakh persons during the current financial year announced.
5-9-1978 Hyderabad as	Formation of a Committee of non-officials with Chief Minister
	Chairman to help speedy restoration of normalcy in the Twin
Cities.	
7-9-1978 Assembly	Action on Mukhtadar Commission Report assured.
8-9-1978 Assembly	Appearing before the Supreme Court in connection with the
	Proposed legislation for setting-up special courts stoutly
defended.	
9-9-1978 Assembly	Decision taken to lift curfew in the city from 11-9-1978.
11-9-1978 Hyderabad lands to the	No more cutting down of trees for distribution of Forest
	Landless.
10-9-1978 Warangal	Panchayat Samithies directed to utilize their unspent funds (or face disqualification 0 within three months.
13-9-1978 Assembly	Extension of freedom fighters pension scheme to those who Suffered in the separate movements in Telangana and Andhra to Be considered.
14-9-1978 Assembly	Suggestion to release Naxalite leaders Mr. kanu Sanyal and Mr. Gowri Bose turned down.
15-9-1978 Hyderabad (10 th Annual confer- Ence of Urology)	A medical university to be set-up in the State.
19-9-1978 council	A Magisterial enquiry into the Khammam incidents where the Police resorted to lati charge and teargas on CPI volunteers On (16-9-1978) to be ordered.
19-9-1978 Assembly proposed.	An Electronic Development Corporation by the APIDC
(Budget note)	

19-9-1978	Hyderabad of the (K.V. Dist. ZP Advisory Committee)	A separate Directorate to co-ordinate the loaning programmes various Govt. financing agencies to avoid duplication proposed.
27-9-1978	Assembly	A new administrative system aimed at quick disposal of files And papers would be introduced in the State.
4-10-1978	Patancheru (Medak Dist)	All rural areas to be declared as backward.
4-10-1978	Chandanagar (near Ramachandrapuram)	A massive rural housing plan to subsidise poor man's housing scheme being worked –out
24-10-1978	Hyderabad	W.H.O. aid to provide drinking water in villages sought.
25-10-1978	Hyderabad (Cabinet decision)	P.R. Polls to be held in April.
3-11-1978	Cabinet Meeting	An Expert's Committee to be appointed to examine and Streamline the Super Bazars system in the State. Government's decision to entrust the APSRTC bus body Building work to the State owned Allwyn Metal works and Reservation of 15 % of the work for small scale industrial Units in the State announced.
5-11-1978	Nizamabad christened	Pochampad Irrigation Project on river Godavari re- As Sri Rama Sagar. Inaugurated construction work on the Rs. 47 Crores north Canal which was named Saraswathi canal. Inaugurated work of High Level Canal of the Project, which Will be called Lakshmi Canal. Government examining the possibility of debentures being Floated by Panchayat Samithies and Zilla Parishads to augment Their resources.
16-11-1978	Medchal (at the Foundation laying Function for police Quarters)	Revival of the State Raffle and bulk of proceeds to go to welfare of the policeman will be considered.
16-11-1978	Medchal (at Inauguration of an RTC Bus station)	The state Government to construct one lakh houses every year for the benefit of weaker sections.
18-11-1978	Hyderabad (AP particularly Chartered Accountants Convention)	Complete restructuring of the centre state relations in fiscal sphere urged.
22-11-1978	Hyderabad announced. (cabinet meeting)	Rs. 3,966 Crore draft Five year Plan for 1978-83
22-11-1978	Hyderabad blocks kept	The proposal to recognise the Panchayat Samithi In abeyance is due to hold elections to these bodies on Existing basis.

Existing disparities between Andhra and Telangana Procedures
 In diferent departments would be removed from 1-1-1979.
 Extenssion of Andhra pay Scales to Village Officers in
 Telangana
 Region announced.
 27-11-1978 Hyderabad Chief No places, colonies, buildings etc., to be named after
 Minister.
 28-11-1978 Ramayampet those Legislation soon to provide deterrent punishment to
 those indulging in destruction of public property including in
 (laying foundation stone destruction of public property including state-owned Road Transport buses
 For a bus station) Mooted.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

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