CHAPTER VI

IMPACT OF HOUSING PROGRAMMES IN CUDDAPAH DISTRICT
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A survey is conducted, as a part of this study, in May 1992 to evaluate the impact of housing programmes on the development of weaker sections in Cuddapah district. The list of villages selected for survey on scheme-wise and Caste-wise basis is shown in the following table and the findings of the survey are presented hereunder.

6.1: FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

In the present survey it is revealed that housing accommodation has been provided by the district administration of Cuddapah since 1970 for the development of weaker sections. For instance, the huts provided for 35 families in Seethapuram village and the tile-roofed houses constructed for 21 families in 1972 in Salabad village of Vontimitta mandal reveals the efforts made for the development of Scheduled Castes in the district. The semi-permanent houses provided for Scheduled Castes in Salabad village are still in good condition and families are staying there while the huts constructed in Seethapuram village got damaged and ruined in the fire accident of 1990.

Large scale construction of permanent houses for weaker sections has been on in Cuddapah district under Rural
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the village</th>
<th>Name of the Mandal</th>
<th>Name of the scheme</th>
<th>Category of beneficiaries</th>
<th>No. of houses constructed</th>
<th>No. of beneficiaries contacted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Salabad</td>
<td>Vontimitta</td>
<td>RPHS</td>
<td>S.C., S.T., B.C. and E.B.C.</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rachapalli</td>
<td>Vontimitta</td>
<td>RPHS</td>
<td>B.Cs.</td>
<td>50 + 54</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tallaprodattur</td>
<td>Kondapuram</td>
<td>RPHS</td>
<td>S.C., S.T., B.C.</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Almaspet</td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
<td>UPHS</td>
<td>S.Ts.</td>
<td>80 + 86</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kamalapuram</td>
<td>Kamalapuram</td>
<td>UPHS</td>
<td>S.Cs.</td>
<td>30 + 25</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gollavaram</td>
<td>Proddatur</td>
<td>UPHS</td>
<td>S.Cs.</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chinnachowk</td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
<td>RLEGPIAY</td>
<td>S.Cs.</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Seethapuram</td>
<td>Vontimitta8</td>
<td>RLEGPIAY</td>
<td>S.Cs. five victims</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Peddaputha</td>
<td>Valluru</td>
<td>WHS</td>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Venkatapuram</td>
<td>Valluru</td>
<td>WHS</td>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kothapet</td>
<td>Pullampet</td>
<td>WHS</td>
<td>Weavers</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Permanent Housing scheme. In Salabad village 63 houses were constructed for all weaker sections and majority of them are for Scheduled Castes. Agricultural land was also distributed to Scheduled Caste people in this village and bore wells were provided for irrigation.

A colony, exclusively for the Backward Castes namely Dudekula Community, was constructed in Rachapalli village of Vontimitta Mandal in 1987 and the beneficiaries occupied them in the next year. Most of the houses have extension structures and the colony is provided with a submersible pump-set to lift drinking water from the bore.

Adjacent to the existing one, new colony is also under construction for the same community people in Rachapalli village which can accommodate another 54 families. The beneficiaries are asked to repay the loan amount of Rs. 4,000 in regular instalments. But, no such repayment is made by Backward Caste beneficiaries in Rachapalli.

Houses were constructed for weaker sections in Tallaprodatur village of Kondapuram Mandal. It took nearly two years for completing the houses and some of the houses were sanctioned on binami names and some houses remain vacant.
In Almaspet of Cuddapah, a colony for Yanadi, people belonging to Scheduled Tribes, is constructed in 1990. Besides the old colony of 80 houses another 86 houses are under final stages of construction here. Mahila Mandali, for imparting adult educators is also started. But school is not opened yet. Many of these yanadis are engaged in fish catching activity and some of them are riksha pullers.

Similarly, in Kamalapuram colonies for Scheduled Castes - 30 houses and 25 houses - are provided. Three borewells are sunk in this colony. Gollavaram in Proddatur town has a housing colony for Scheduled Castes. It appears that there was delay in executing the scheme for want of clearance from the Municipal Town Planning Department.

In 1987-88, under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme houses were taken up for construction to accommodate 32 families belonging to Scheduled Castes in Chinnachowk area of Cuddapah. This scheme was completed in the next year under Indira Avas Yojana Scheme. Many of the beneficiaries covered under this scheme are daily workers, coolies, servants, ricksha pullers etc. These houses are supplied with electricity and 2 borewells are sunk here to cater to the water needs of the colony.
Under Indira Avas Yojana Scheme 25 houses are taken up for construction for the fire victims in Seethapuram. Some of these houses are completed and the remaining are under progress. As these beneficiaries were already covered under hutting programme water supply, road and electricity facilities are provided to this colony. These Scheduled Castes were also provided with agricultural land to earn their livelihood by growing mango trees.

It is observed that houses were constructed for weavers in the district irrespective of their caste. Those who are economically sound could take advantage of the scheme. The weavers in Peddaputta and Venkatapuram villages of Vallur mandal regretted that the loan component of the cost of the house is more and hence some of them are not able to avail the the benefits of the scheme. Large number of weavers in Kothapet reported that the house construction activity was delayed for administrative reasons as the scheme is to be cleared by the Andhra Pradesh State Housing Board and the Assistant Director of Handlooms Industry.

From this analysis it is found that Rural Permanent Housing scheme has been providing larger housing accommodation in many places of the district. There has been some
flexibility in permitting the beneficiaries to build their houses according to their need. Since the size of the houses designed by the Andhra Pradesh State Housing Corporation is small, families with more members are allowed to construct additional rooms with their funds.

Since the designed size of the houses is small, the construction of a colony for Backward Classes in Rachapalli village was postponed twice and taken up in the third year since its proposal. Now, many of these houses have extension structures and the colony has a community hall also. Since many of them are pretty traders they plead for loans from the government under self employment.

Adequate care was not taken in identifying the beneficiaries covered under the housing schemes as there are instances of some houses being vacant since construction. Salabadas colony presents this case as 2 houses are left incomplete, 2 houses collapsed before completion and nearly 16 houses remained unoccupied. It is also noticed that two or three members of the same family become members of the scheme and construct big houses combining two units together.

No colony visited by the author has electricity supply and the borewells catering to the needs. For instance,
the agricultural lands distributed to the Scheduled Caste beneficiaries in Salabad village could not be irrigated, though irrigation wells were sunk, for want of electricity supply for the last two years. Hence, the development of this village received a serious set back.

The urban permanent housing scheme suffers from a series of serious obstacles at different stages. The house sites for the weaker sections' colonies in urban areas are to be identified by the Zilla Abhivriddi Sankshema Mandali (Z.A.S.M.) and it is to be approved by the Town Planning Department. Abnormal delays and problems of finalising the sites are noticed. As a result, it became difficult for the Housing Corporation to take up the schemes. Further, the size of Scheduled Tribes population which is smaller in small towns does not facilitate the construction of colonies.

The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Scheme/Indira Avas Yojana has been providing housing facilities with full subsidy. Covering Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and fire victims. TheChinnachowk beneficiaries feel that there need to be greater flexibility in grounding the scheme and employment avenues are to be opened by the Government by extending loans under self employment.
Weavers' housing scheme could not make a significant contribution as it is to be cleared by two Government Departments. The Assistant Director of Handlooms provides a loan of Rs.3,000 to each beneficiary while the Housing Corporation extends a subsidy of Rs.3,750 and a loan of Rs.4,000. There has been delay in clearing the scheme and the loan component seems to be a heavy burden on the beneficiary.

The State Housing Corporation is spending Rs.1,400 out of the unit cost of the house under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme/Indira Avas Yojana, on the provision of sanitary facilities in the colonies. These arrangements are not suitable to the colonies and therefore they became useless and waste.

Inspite of these shortcomings and problems the housing schemes executed in Cuddapah district, more specifically, the Rural Permanent Housing Scheme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Scheme/Indira Avas Yojana are delivering the fruits of its efforts and contributing for the development of weaker sections.

6.2: SUGGESTIONS

The following suggestions may be considered for enhancing the utility and contribution of housing schemes for the development of weaker sections.
1. Adequate care is to be ensured in identifying the beneficiaries and binami sanctions are to be avoided.

2. Infiltration of forward caste people into the colonies under the category of economically backward Classes need to be checked as they are dominating and creating problems to the wekare sections.

3. Greater flexibility is to be allowed to the beneficiary in the construction of his house.

4. Adequate number of borewells are to be sunk and the water supply and drainage systems are to be provided to these colonies. The defunct borewells are to be repaired immediately.

5. The road facilities, namely the internal roads and approach roads are to be strengthened for the benefit of the villagers.

6. Proper co-ordination is to be ensured between the Electricity Department and State Housing Corporation and street lighting is to be provided. By this the unauthorised used of electricity practiced in these colonies can be checked.

7. Schools and Adult Education Centres are to be started in these colonies to educate the weaker sections to make them aware of the opportunities available to them.

8. Abnormal delay in the construction of houses is to be avoided.
9. Proper co-ordination is to be ensured between Zilla Abhiviiddi Sankshema Mandali and the Town Planning Department in identifying, approving and securing sites for housing colonies for weaker sections in urban areas.

10. Fair price shops are to be opened in these colonies of urban areas.

11. Loan facilities are to be provided for the youth to take up self employment occupations like small business, Ricksha pulling etc.

12. Efforts are to be made to recover the housing loans from backward caste and economically backward caste beneficiaries.

13. The smokeless chowlas provided by the Housing Corporation are not used by the beneficiaries and they are selling them away. Hence, the funds on this head may be diverted to some other useful purpose.

14. The sanitary equipment supplied by the Housing Corporation is being sold away in these villages as they don't use it. The amount spent on this also may be transferred to some other purpose.