CHAPTER-II

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The professionalization of the political activity as well as the formation of the political elite has introduced new questions to the study of politics: where do politicians come from, how does a political career evolve and what kind of opportunities it offers? The field of elite research has focused on the sociological background of elites.¹

Encyclopedia of Britannica defines a political party “a group of persons organized to acquire and exercise political power. Political parties originated in their modern form in Europe and the United States in the 19th century, along with the electoral and parliamentary systems, whose development reflects the evolution of parties. The term party has since come to be applied to all organized groups seeking political power, whether by democratic elections or by revolution. In earlier, pre-Revolutionary, aristocratic and monarchical regimes, the political process unfolded within restricted circles in which cliques and factions, grouped around particular noblemen or influential personalities, were opposed to one another. The establishment of parliamentary regimes and the appearance of parties at first scarcely changed this situation. To cliques formed around princes, dukes, counts, or marquises there were added cliques formed around bankers, merchants, industrialists, and businessmen. Regimes supported by nobles were succeeded by regimes supported by other elites. These narrowly based parties were later transformed to a greater or lesser extent, for in the 19th century in Europe and America there emerged parties depending on mass support”².

The term ‘Political Parties’ emerged in the nineteenth century with the development of representative institutions in Europe and the United States. It designated organizations whose goal was the capture of public offices in electoral competition with one or more other parties. The role of political parties in the system of responsible or representative government is not only dominant but creative and comprehensive. A party is the political force; that has emerged to make democracy

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workable in its direct form, when its classical order had become unworkable in the western mass societies. A party serves as the firm foundation of representative democracy and performs all its major institutional and functional activities. A party formulates the policies and programmes of government and implements them in furtherance of its objectives. It provides a stable basis for the majority principle in democracy and makes it legitimate realizable.

The distinction of democratic government lays in its resolve to reconcile its authority with the rights all liberties of its citizens. However, the conditions necessary for this reconciliation obtain only when politics is competitive enough to create in the contending parties, communal retains, vigilance and the fear of dislodgement. Paradoxically, democracy is a political partnership between opposing groups. The party in opposition is not a mere watchdog, it is essentially a national force to repel and possible inroads by the party in power into the realm of freedoms and the institutions which guarantee them. It is not an inimical entity but an integral part of the structure of government. It must make effective the system of checks and balances against the party in power and, if necessary, be able to offer an alternative administration. Hence it can be said that without a well evolved system of political parties the success of representative government would be far from success.

The choice before the electorate in any democracy is between different parties, as government by independents is mere wishful thinking in modern society. Hence, even in casting his vote the elector’s freedom is limited to the candidates of parties who should as a rule be taken for representatives of the people. The majority of the voters are taken to the polling booths by contending political parties themselves, their manifestos, speeches, publicity, canvassing, demonstrations and various other inducements count more in driving the voters to the pools than the inspiration of their independent minds filled with sovereign pride.

The displacement of a party in power normally cannot be brought about by the people nor by the electorate on their own. It can be done only by a strong opposition political party by mobilizing public opinion, creating dissatisfaction
against the existing government by exposing its shortcomings and follies and organizing strategically superior election campaign to secure the confidence of the people in its capacity to deliver the goods.

Edmund Burke rightly observes that “party is a body of men for promoting by their joint devours the national interest, upon some particular principle to which they are all agreed". A party often promotes its own interest under the cover of national interest and its principles tend to divide it as much as they unite. It does not invariably act in joint endeavor and its members tend to form groups and resort to in-fighting on issues and in branches individually preoccupy themselves with varying local issues. Moreover, the party of Burke is not necessarily a seeker of political power, for its sole objective of promoting national interest can be achieved by being outside the government or independent of governmental assistance.” Party” commented Jonathan Swift with his usual irony, “is the madness of many for the gain of a few”. Benjamin Disraeli described it as “Party is organizes opinion”5. But Disraeli knew that party, even a hundred years ago, was more than that. In 1816 Benjamin Constant described it as “a group of men professing the same political doctrine6. Max Weber identified a political party as “an associative type a social relationship, membership in which rests on formally free recruitment…devoted to secure power within a corporate group for its leaders in order to attain ideal or material advantages for its active members” which “may consist in the realization of certain objective policies or the attainment of personal advantages of both”7. Ramsay Muir thinks of it as “organized co-operation is party”8. Michaels says “the modern party is a fighting organization”9, while Dverger finds it,” a collection of communities, a union of small groups dispersed thought the country (branches caucuses, local associations, etc,) and linked by co-coordinating institutions10. In the words of Beard, “A political party is an organization of citizens formed and maintained for the purpose of gaining possession of the government and expressing their will in legislation and administration”11. Written Bone, expressed a different opinion saying that “in terms of American experience, a political party consists of a group of persons banded together to capture control of the government through
elective process in order to further a set of interests"\textsuperscript{12}. According to McKean, a party is, "an organized group of the electorate that seeks to direct some policies and furnish the personnel of government"\textsuperscript{13}. For William Goodman, "A political party is an organization whose members are sufficiently homogenous to band together for the overt purpose of winning elections which entitles them to exercise governmental power in order to enjoy the influence, perquisites, and advantages of authority"\textsuperscript{14}. "Political parties," observes Raymond Aron, "are...voluntary groups, some more organized some less, which claim in the name of certain idea of the common interest and of society to assume, alone or in coalition, the functions of government"\textsuperscript{15}. Neumann defines Political party, "as the articulate organization of society’s active political agents, those who are concerned with the control of governmental power and who compete for popular support with another group of groups holding divergent views. As such it the great intermediately which links social forces and ideologies to official governmental institutions and relates them to political action within the larger political community"\textsuperscript{16}.

While most of these definitions are applicable to parties of every kind, Neumann introduces an element which provides the essential distinction between the party conceived in democracy and those of the totalitarian order. It contemplates the existence side by side of similar organizations holding diverse views and the actual competition between them for the same ends, both of which are possible only in a democratic set-up. Political party in a democracy is an association of persons contributing to some common objectives and endeavoring to attain political power through free and competitive electoral process, in order that it may implement its policies and promote its interests, using mainly the organs and resources of government. A democratic party comes to power by institutional means, remains in power on the strength of its majority and goes out of power through a constitutional process.

The Oxford Dictionary defines 'Elite' as "A group of people considered to be superior in a society or organization"\textsuperscript{17}. 
Democracy or no democracy, leadership has always been something of an indispensable necessity. History tells us the tragic instances of the leaders who led their country to ruin and destruction. But the sentiment of democracy, if it is sufficiently enlightened and alert will at once put a check upon it. And the fact remains that no modern democracy can do without popular, and at the same time, capable leaders. The most effective leaders of today are those who are able to stamp their personality on the people, as also assimilate the mind of the people and give individual expression to it reflecting truly the spirit of the times.

Ever since the issue of the political role of elite small minorities who appear to play an exceptionally influential part in political and social affairs was first explicitly raised with relation to liberal societies in the closing decades of the nineteenth century, it has remained a central concern of political science, sociology and political and social thought. For some elites are the decision makers of the society whose power is not subject to control by any other body in the society. For others elites are the sole source of values in the society or constitute the integrating force in the community without which it may fall apart. Elites have been regarded as the chief threat to the survival of democracy. Their existence has been taken to be the very denial of democracy. Elites which have an exceptional access to 'key positions' in the society or which appear to wield control over crucial policies disproportionate to their numbers can understandably seem to be living contradictions of the nation of 'government by the people'. Despite this, other writers have been checking Elites as the bulwarks of democracy, protecting it from the dangers of totalitarianism. It is impossible, therefore to begin a study of the use of the elite concept in political science with a definition of the term. One has to regard as political elites not merely politicians but also the many minority groups, each with its inner group of leaders, which attempt to exert some influence, legitimate or otherwise, over the allocation of values in a society. Theories of Elites produced in the past, such as Plato portray an elite as the one guarantee of political truth or virtue or success or mere stability.
The study of elites was established as part of political science in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a result of the work of two Italian sociologists, Velfreco Pareto (1848-1923) and Gaetano Mosca (1858-1941). Political theory always reflects upon political practice and in many ways the political circumstances of the time favoured attempts to theorize about the nature of control and the role of leadership in society. The state appeared to be extending its influence into areas of society with which for a long time previously it had shown little concern. Governments were legislating in such matters as the limitations of hours of work, the regulation of working conditions and the provision of pensions and other rudiments of the welfare state.

The core of the elitist doctrine is that there may exist in any society a minority of the population which takes the major decisions in the society. Because these decisions are of such wide scope, affecting the most general aspects of the society, they are usually regarded as political decisions even where the minority taking them is not politicians, in the usual sense of members of government or legislative. The elitist thesis does not merely assert that in a society the minority makes decisions and the majority obeys. It's argument is much stronger one. It is that the dominant minority cannot be controlled by the majority, whatever democratic mechanisms are used. No mechanism for ensuring the accountability of the leaders to the public, no ideology which enshrines the principle of majority will can prevent the elite from imposing its supremacy over the rest of society.

Because of their power, their organization, their political skill or their personal qualities, the members of the elite are always potentially capable of exploiting their positions is as to preserve the elite's domination. An implication of this that the supposed elite constitute as coherent, united and self-conscious group. The lower stratum of the elite is a bridge between the core of decision makers and the rest of society. It mediates between the rulers and the ruled by transmitting information in either direction and by providing explanations and justification for elite policy. It may also be the source from which the higher elite are recruited as well as the level at which outsiders first enter elite circles from below. The cohesion
of a society depends on the lower stratum of the elite which produces the leadership material for the society as well as the essential linkage with those who are led. Elite owes its power predominantly to its organizational abilities. The elite’s domination has to be explained not as a product of the personal qualities of its members but of the positions they hold in a number of key institutions with the society.

The ‘Classic’ texts of elitist thought are undoubtedly Pereto’s. “The mind and Society (Treatise of General Sociology), Mosco’s “The Ruling Class”, and Michels’s “Political Parties”. To these might be added Burnham’s “The Managerial Revolution” and C.Wright Mills’s “The Power Elite”. Mosca and Michels adopted an organizational approach, Pareto a psychological one, Burnham an economic one and C.Wright Mills an institutional one.

The crucial criticism of elitists has come from Robert A.Dahl and his research associate in the New Haven Project, Nelson. It is that they have failed to define the ‘scope’ of the influence wielded by members of the elite. To assert that a person has power or influence is meaningless, unless it is specified which realms of activities he is able to influence. A person may influence agricultural policy but not industrial policy. His influence may thus be confined to single ‘issue area’ or he may exercise a more general influence over a number of areas. Furthermore, influence in any area should be measured for size and intensity. The members influenced need to be estimated as well as the degree of effort needed to be persuaded from their original intentions. Some persons and groups will be more hostile to moving in new direction than will others. The person able to move such men may be thought of as more influential than those who can convert the more fickle. Elitists, believing power to be cumulative, have tended to regard all influential as ‘generalists’ who exercise power in all matters. They speak of elite ‘power’ as such, giving the impression of monolithic, undifferentiated entity in the hands of the few.

The political leader is the person granted the authority to decide. This does not mean, however, that the political leadership wields absolute power. It is restricted by the competitive nature of democracy. It must draw up policies to gain
more support from the electorate than its opponents can obtain. Here Schumpeter stresses the competition between the members of the political elite itself\textsuperscript{21}. The chief danger to the existing leadership comes from other ambitious politicians looking for a pretext to state a claim for the foremost position rather than from any movement amongst the electorate itself. Such a movement is only effective when harnessed by one of the leaders to his own or his party's ends.

Elites are not an imperfection in a democracy, but, where they are themselves democratic, are the guarantor of the system, because democracy is as much dependent on the quality of its leaders as any other regime. The real danger for democracy, according to Sartori, comes from the absence of leadership which could result in the mass being exploited by anti-democratic counter-elites\textsuperscript{22}. The people assume a government role in a democracy only at the time of elections. The object of elections, in fact, is to select leaders. The best form of elections will be that which selects the best qualified leaders. That such leaders might group themselves as elites which consciously attempt to mould public opinion would be, for Sartori, a welcome development. The real participants in public affairs are the members of the political elite in the parties and in public office.

Thus it can be said that democratic elitists, however, show a concern for a range of political values of which central appear to be liberty, stability and legitimacy, the latter to be achieved by means of the electoral system. Where popular influence is very weak, a regime can certainly be termed elitist, where it is strong, a system in which it is impossible for all members to take part in key decisions, may still be called democratic. It may also be said of a society that it has elements of democracy, but that it should be made more democratic by opening up its institutions to greater participation; or it could be said that a society is sufficiently democratic and should be balanced by an elitist element. Politics is one of those areas of human life where what is at issue is often a matter of degree. But is seldom a matter of mere degree.
Ever since Hobbes produced his 'Leviathan', the concept of power in the realms of national and international politics has become a momentous subject to so much so that now it is regarded as the most significant area of fundamental research. It is so in spite of the fact that the real meaning of this term has been matter of controversy an account of its social economic political, psychological sociological and spiritual ramifications. Recently the idea of power has assumed an importance of its own in the realm of political theory. The reason for this lies in the fact that the meaning of politics has changed from one of being a 'study of state and government', to that of being a 'study of power'. As Curtis says "politics is organized disputes about power and its use, involving choice among computing values, ideas, persons, interest and demands. The study of politics is concerned with the description and analysis of the manner in which power is obtained, exercised, and controlled, the purpose for which it is used, the manner in which decisions are made, the factors which influence the making of those decisions, and the context in which those decision take place". Prof. Tawney emphasis on the identification of power with the 'capacity of an individual, or group of individuals to modify the conduct of others in the manner which one desires'. While a great political thinker like Hobbes identifies power with 'some future apparent good', a modern psycho analyst like Harold Lass well likens it with 'influence'.

Thus the word 'power' is used in different senses, power is ascribed to different things on different grounds. The term 'power' is derived from Old French poir, from poire to be able, from (assumed) Vulgar Latin porre, alteration of Latin posse— more at POTENT a(1) : ability to act or produce an effect (2) : ability to get extra-base hits (3) : capacity for being acted upon or undergoing an effect b : legal or official authority, capacity, or right 2 a : possession of control, authority, or influence over others b : one having such power; specifically : a sovereign state c : a controlling group : ESTABLISHMENT — often used in the phrase the powers that be ,3 a : physical might b : mental or moral efficacy c : political control or influence.25 One may therefore, take a generalized view of power as one denoting "the whole spectrum, those external influences that, by being brought to bear upon an individual, can make him move in required direction". If so, the sense of the term
'power' becomes interchangeable with several related themes like control, influence, authority, force, night, percussion, coercion, domination and the like. Some other writers, however, warn against the insidious tendency of equating power with other kindred concepts. For instance, max Weber says that power and authority are different things in as much as the latter invariably conveys within in the sense of 'legitimacy'. Force and power are dissimilar things in view of the former necessarily involving some brutal manifestation which may, or may not, form an integral part of the idea of power. Bertrand Russell takes power as 'the capacity to influence the actions of others'.

Thus it can be surmised that power is a social phenomenon par excellence and not merely a political or economic phenomenon. In fine, power is the ability to determine the behavior of others in accord with one's own wishes. In other words, a man is said to have power to the extent that it influences the behavior of others in accordance with his own intentions. Likewise, we ascribe power to those who can influence the conduct of others even against their will.

Thus it can be said that the elite in the society always plays an important part in shaping and molding the fortunes of the society and country in any given time. The elite who take politics to come to power through political platforms always aim at retaining the power for themselves. Political elites are those microscopic minorities of people who exercise influence on decision making in society, government and politics as leaders of political parties, far disproportionately to their numerical strength, thanks to their extraordinary talents and abilities compared to those of the common people who constitute the majority in a community. In or out of formal position and authority, they continue to wield real political power at any time, in some degree or other.

The political scene in Nellore district during the freedom movement and after independence presents a large number of distinguished personalities who influenced the course of political events many a time. The present study focuses on the important political elites, their political careers and their services to the people of Nellore district.
"History is but the biography of Great men", as Carlyle contended, all those men and women who have contributed in their own way, unmindful of reward and recognition, their might for the general welfare of all deserve to be remembered in history.

1. BEZWADA GOPALA REDDY

Sri Bezawada Gopala Reddy was born on 5th August 1907 in a wealthy family of landlords in the Buchirddypalem village, located in the Kovur taluk of Nellore district. Responding to the clarion call of Mahatma Gandhiji in 1920, Gopala Reddy, at the age of 13 years, left his studies in the Government School and joined the Jateeya Kalasala founded by Kopelle Hanumantha Rao at Machilipatnam—the centre of all nationalist movements in the Andhra area. Later, he graduated from Viswabharati of Rabindranabatbha Tagore, Santiniketan in 1927. It was there that his nationalist spirit rose to its highest pitch. With his sound knowledge and mastery over English, Bengali and Hindi, besides his mother tongue, Telugu, he became the foremost disciple of Tagore from Andhra. Gopala Reddy also had sufficient grip over Gujarati, Tamil and Urdu languages.

Bezawada Gopala Reddy, having already imbibed the deep spirit of nationalism on his return to Nellore in 1930, participated in the freedom movement in his 23 year by joining the Indian National Congress and participating in the Civil Disobedience movement. Since then and till the advent of independence he was jailed several times. He took part in the student processions many a time and played a very active part in the Quit India movement of 1942 in the Nellore district. His long prison life enabled him to acquire vast knowledge and develop his personality to such an extent as to help in establishing intimate relations with prominent national leaders. For his subsequent emergence as a leader at the district and state levels as well as entry into national politics, this background proved greatly beneficial to him. Throughout his political career, Gopala Reddy was an ardent congress worker, associated with the district and provincial Congress Committees in Andhra. He was a member of the All India Congress Committee from 1931.
The British Indian Government introduced in 1935 The Government of India Act with the intention of reducing the intensity of the freedom struggle and to satisfy the aspirations of the nationalists. As envisaged in the Act elections were conducted in 1937. When the Congress won the elections and formed popular ministries in several provinces in 1937, Bezawada Gopala Reddy was elected in 1937 from Kavali Division Constituency on the Congress Party ticket to the Madras Provincial legislature, defeating no less a person than his uncle, Bezawada Ramachandra Reddy—the pillar of the Justice Party in Andhra. Gopala Reddy was sworn in as Minister for Local-Self Government in the Cabinet headed by late Sri C. Rajagopalachari and earned the reputation of being the youngest at the age of 30 to occupy the high office at that time. Since then he was the automatic choice of minister ship whenever the Congress was returned to power, except in 1952 when he lost the election to the Madras Provincial legislative Assembly from the Udyagiri Constituency in Nellore district.

The national leaders were not happy with the working of the Government of India which was formed under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1935 and the powers delegated to the representatives of the people. The nationalists desired to get more political concessions from the British Government but in vain. As a protest the Congress Ministers in Provinces resigned to their posts in 1939. As a consequence Bezawada Gopala Reddy too resigned to his minister ship in 1939.

With the attainment of independence Bezawada Gopala Reddy became Finance Minister in Madras Province in Tanguturi Prakasam pantulu cabinet and continued to that portfolio till 1952.

In the First General Elections of 1952, Bezawada Gopala Reddy and A.C. Subbareddy faced defeat in their respective constituencies, viz., Udayagiri and Nellore. The reason was the mutual sabotage. During the mid-term election of 1955, Gopala Reddy came out successful from two constituencies, namely Atmakur and Sarvepalli. Then he was unanimously chosen for the Chief Ministership of Andhra, thus earning the unique reputation of being the first leader from Nellore district to occupy the highest political office at the state level.
In the first Andhra Pradesh Cabinet headed by Sri Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, who defeated him in the contest for leadership of the Integrated State, he accepted, with grace and humility, Home Minister ship for a brief period before being drafted into union Cabinet as Minister of State for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, which post he held for three years under the Prime Ministership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It should be noted here that Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy who received solid and substantial assistance to become the Chief Minister did not offer a berth for A.C.Subbaraydy in his cabinet.

Bezwada Gopala Reddy was elected to Parliament in 1958, as a member of the Rajya Sabha, from, Andhra Pradesh. He was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1961-62 from the Kavali parliamentary constituency, once again scoring victory over his uncle Bezwada Ramachandra Reddy who contested then as a Swatantra candidate. In the Union Cabinet he acted as Minister for works, Housing and supply during 1961-62 and later Minister for Information and Broadcasting in 1962-63. In August 1963 he resigned under the Kamaraj Plan. In May 1967 he was appointed Governor of Uttar Pradesh for a term of five years.

Bezwada Gopala Reddy's ministerial term or career lasted for sixteen years. Then he was Governor of Uttar Pradesh for one full term. Following his retirement from active politics, Gopala Reddy rendered yeoman service as President of Andhra Pradesh Sahitya Academy. He was an emotional and powerful orator in English and Telugu. He had translated several works of Rabindranath Tagore into Telugu direct from Bengali. He was a keen and active chess enthusiast and was, for a time, president of the Indian Chess Federation. Andhra University had conferred on him in 1955. The honourary Degree of D.Litt. He passed away on 9th of March 1997.

2. BEZAWADA RAMACHANDRA REDDY

Sri.Bezwada Ramachandra Reddy hailed from the famous and popular joint family of Dodla at Buchchireddypalem of Nellore district. He became a member of the Madras provincial legislature at a comparatively young age soon after his
graduation in the year 1924. Thereafter, he was a prominent leader of the Justice Party in Nellore district, which governed the Madras Province during the period diarchy.

Bezawada Ramachandra Reddy proved his metal as President of the Nellore District Board and Presiding over the provincial legislature. With his genial temperament and amicable manners, he was respected by all sections in society. Endowed with clear and comprehensive understanding of various political issues of the time, he was not, nonetheless, a political turn-coat. He kept himself away from the lure of power game by not joining the ruling Congress Party. Instead he contributed to the emergence of the brightest opposition in Independent India by being one of the founders of the Swatantra party and President of its state wing in Andhra Pradesh.

B.Ramachandra Reddy and B.Gopala Reddy were arch rivals. Twice the former faced defeat in the elections, once in the Assembly elections and the other in the Parliamentary elections. Sri.A.C.Subbareddy, who opposed B.Gopala Reddy in Nellore district politics was the ally of Ramachandra Reddy.

3. ANAM CHENCHU SUBBA REDDY

Late Sri A. C. Subba Reddy was born at Rajahmundry on 17-3-1906 while his-, fatherlate Sri.Subba Rami Reddy was working there as a Police Official, A.C.s mother was Smt.Narayanamma. At his birth, astrologers predicted that the child would become a great man and achieve fame in Andhra Pradesh.

He commenced his lower education at Nellore, his native place. He could complete it successfully even by his twelfth year, with due appreciation of his teachers,

For higher education he was sent to Madras, where he used to move about in pant, boot and tie in the fashion of a boy from a zamindari family. Late.Sri.Kasu BrahmanandaReddy, the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and Sri. Rebala Dasaratharami Reddy a freedom fighter from Nellore, were his class-mates then. He
continued his education up to 1927 at Madras, for eight years i.e. up to his twentieth
year. Even he was married to Sowbhyavathi Annapurnamma when he was a boy of
fifteen years.

While studying his Intermediate Class at the Pachiappa’s College, Madras, he
discontinued his studies at the call of Gandhiji and jumped into the national
movement.

The death of his father on 14th July, 1928, was a matter of great sorrow for
him. After the death of his father, Sri A. C. Subba Reddy is stated to have beheld in
his dream the image of Venugopalaswamy, whose temple is in existence in Mulapet,
Nellore Town, directing him to undertake the supervision of the Devasthanam. In
1934; A.C. was elected as a Director of Central Co-operative Bank of which
Sri Rebala Dasaradharami Reddy was unanimously elected as President.

In 1936, he was elected as President of Taluk Board. In 1937, when the
fight for the country’s freedom was in full swing Nellore Town Municipal elections
set in and A.C. Subba Reddy was elected as Chairman of the Nellore Municipality.
As Chairman of the Municipality he did much constructive work. He was
helpful to the people of the town irrespective of caste or creed. He could gain
the good will of the citizens on account of the sincere interest evinced by him in
fulfilling their needs or redressing by their grievances. At the request of Sri Vemula
Kurmaiah and other Harijan leaders,

Sri A.C. Subba Reddy allotted a site in Nellore Municipal area for starting a
Harijan Hostel. Several boys from Harijan families were admitted in to this hostel
for prosecuting their studies. Several boys enjoyed the benefits of this hostel as a
Chairman of Nellore Municipality.

He participated in 1942 Quit India movement after tendering resignation to
the Chairmanship of the Municipal Council and he was imprisoned. He was
sentenced for six months Rigors Imprisonment his participation in the said
movement. He underwent the sentence in the Central jail, Vellore.
On 5-10-1949 he was again elected as Chairman, Nellore Municipality, in November 1952 also he was reelected as Chairman Nellore Municipality.

The General Election held in 1955 attracted this young and dynamic leader and he contested from Nellore Assembly Constituency on Congress ticket and was successful.

On 12th October 1959; A.C. was again elected as Chairman of the Nellore Municipal Council. He was responsible for getting drainage scheme sanctioned for Nellore Town. He was also equally responsible for getting the water supply scheme expanded and for getting the town electrified. For some time he was Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Marketing Federation.

When he was Vice-chairman of Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee, there arose a controversy as who should be chosen as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Sri A.C.Subba Reddy with great thought and sagacity proposed the name of Sri Damodarm Sanjeevaiah, with a view to establish an example in selecting a Harijan for highest post.

In the General Elections of 1962 he contested from Rapur Constituency and came out successful. Sri.Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy was elected as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the took A. C, Subba Reddy as a Minister with the portfolios of his choice. Similarly in the General Elections of 1967 he contested from Rapur Constituency and as elected. This time A. C. proposed the name of Kasu Brahmananda Reddy as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. In the Ministry of K. Brahmananda Reddy A. C. was taken as Home Minister.

To his bad luck, while he was functioning as Home Minister in K Brahmananda Reddy's cabinet he became a victim to the most horrid and fatal disease, cancer. He was advised to take treatment at Madras, He underwent treatment at Cancer Institute, Adayar for some time and returned to Hyderabad. Due to exertion and strain the disease relapsed. He was again taken to Madras and was admitted in a private Hospital. He stayed at H.T.Veera Reddy- Hospital for treatment but in vain- After treatment for some time he breathed his last on 20th September, 1967.
Thus ended an era in Andhra Pradesh Politics in general and Nellore in particular. During his lifetime and political career Nellore district politics revolved around Sri.A.C.Subbareddy.

4. NALLMOTHULA CHENCURAMA NAIDU

Sri.Nallamothula Chenchurama Naidu hailed from an ancient wealthy kamma family. Known for his patience and consistent public conduct, he came to lime light only through the blessings of Sri A.C.Subba Reddy. A.C.Subba Reddy with the intention of mustering the support of the kamma community in the district he patronized Chencurama Naidu. He was made as the President of the Nellore District Board and later on Chairman Zilla Parishad in the reconstituted District Board under Panchayat Raj system in Independent India. He was elected to the State legislative Assembly several times.

The rift between Brahmananda Reddy the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the 'Steel Man' of Nellore, Sri A.C.Subba Reddy, brought a change in his political moorings. Originally he was a staunch supporter of A.C.Subbareddy. To check the rise of A.C.Subba Reddy, Sri Brahmananda Reddy made Naidu as a Minister in his cabinet. Thus Chenchurama Naidu became the staunch antagonist of Sri A.C.Subba Reddy.

5. REBALA LAKSHMINARASA REDDY

Sri.Rebala Lakshminarasa Reddy was a prominent and well known philanthropist of Nellore district. He was popularly known as R.L.N.Reddy. He donated huge sums of money for the maintenance of hostels and educational institutions. He was Chairman of the Municipal Council of Nellore for one term. In 1957, he was elected to the Lok Sabha on the Congress ticket from the Nellore parliamentary constituency.

R.L.N.Reddy was a friend and political ally of Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy. A.C.Subba Reddy and others brought pressure on Sri.B.Ramachandra Reddy to withdraw from the contest and made the way clear for R.L.N.Reddy's victory.
6. VENNALAKANTI RAGHAVAIH

Sri Vennelakanti Raghavaiah, ever since his student days, devoted himself to the service of mother-land and to the spread of nationalist patriotic feelings. He was related to late Sri.V.V.Giri, former President of India. Intimately associated with Lokamanya Balagangadhar Tilak, Sri.Raghavaiah participated in every freedom struggle movement conducted from Potlapudi village.

Vennelakanti Raghavaiah was a Lawyer by profession. He championed the cause of the Scheduled Tribe people in general and that of the Yanadi community in particular throughout his life. In fact, his public life became inseparable from the welfare and progress of the Scheduled Tribes, not withstanding his Brahmin background. Having taken active part in every nationalist movement since 1920, he courted imprisonment a number of times. Till he breathed his last, Raghavaiah tirelessly worked for the welfare of the tribals.

Sri Vennelakanti Raghavaiah, was a gifted orator. He challenged the concept of national education and asserted that education should be ‘universal’ and not national. While he held that the English form of government was the best, he recorded his protest against the system of taxation and pointed out that tax should depend not upon income.

Vennelakanti Raghavaiah was closely associated with the ‘Sadachar’ movement in South India and with the Bharat Sevak Samaj for a long period. He organized a series of labour strikes during 1927-1940. He was initiated into the national movement in 1917 through his association with the revolutionary movement in Pondicherry. Mastermink like Sarva Sri.Aurobindo, Subrahamanya Bharati and V.V.Subrhamanya Ayyar, who were in exile in Pondicherry, exerted a strong influence on Raghavaiah. He smuggled rifles and seditious pamphlets from Pondicherry into Andhra. He took part in the Swadeshi movement and lent enthusiastic support to the V.C,Chidambaram Pillai’s struggle against the monopoly of the British Steam Navigation Company.
Vennelakanti Raghavaiah worked for Hindu-Muslim unity and played a notable part in reducing communal tensions in Nellore district. He was modern in his outlook on social and religious questions and an ardent revolutionary in political issues.

Sri Vennelakanti Raghavaiah was elected in 1946 as member of Madras legislative Assembly. He joined the Prakasam pantulu Ministry as Parliamentary Secretary.

Vennelakanti Raghavaiah was not only a follower of Sri Bezawada Gopala Reddy but a staunch supporter and thereby became a political enemy of Sri A.C.Subba Reddy the strong man of Nellore. In the 1962 General Elections, A.C.Subba Reddy supported Annadata madhava Rao, a jana Sangh party candidate, against Raghavaiah and thereby the prime cause of his defeat. Besides, Raghavaiah got the least number of votes and was ultimately relegated to the fourth place in the voting rank. That was influence of A.C.Subba Reddy and that was the intensity of the factional fight in the Congress ranks in the district of Nellore.

7. REBALA DASARATHA RAMI REDDY38

Sri Rebala Dasaratha Rami Reddy was one of the well educated persons of the Rebala family and also a renowned lawyer. Keenly interested in the co-operative movement. He became the President of the Central Co-operative Bank of Nellore for than twenty-five years and then became President of the State Co-operative Bank too.

Rebala Dasaratha Rami Reddy was a congress man to the core. He went to the jails several times during freedom struggle. He was Public Prosecutor for some time. As a public prosecutor, he did not indulge in the practice of obtaining concocted witnesses. He had the reputation of defeating the Communist candidate in the Assembly elections in the Kovur constituency- which regarded as the red-fort for Communists.
Rebala Dasaratha Rami Reddy, instigated by Kasu Brahmmananda Reddy (the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh) tried to lead the opponents of A.C.Subba Reddy in Nellore district. But he could not provide the desired leadership as expected by all the diverse elements.

8. VENGALLU KODANDARAMI REDDY

Sri. Vengallu Kondandarami Reddy was one of the staunch supporters of Bezawada Gopala Reddy and therefore he was not the fiend of A.C.Subbareddy. He played an active part in the district politics for about a quarter century. He worked as President of Taluk Board and the President of the District Board. He was also nominated to Constituent Assembly in 1946-1947. Then he developed contacts with national leaders. After the formation of Andhra State, he became the member of the Assembly.

He was associated with the Co-operative movement for three decades. He became the Executive Member of the Central Co-operative Bank and also President of Land Mortgage Bank, Nellore.

Vengallu Kondandarami Reddy, in the Assembly elections of 1962, defeated Somireddy Audinarayana Reddy, who was staunch supporter of A.C.Subbareddy in the Sarvepalli lconstituency. But in the Assembly elections of 1967 he was defeated by Vemarddi Venku Reddyt who was supported by A.C.Subba Reddy. The defeat of Vengallu Kodandarami Reddy was a blow to the prestige of Bezawada Gopala Reddy and a boon to A.C.Subba Reddy.

9. NALLAPA REDDY CHNDRASEKHARA REDDY

Nallapareddy Chandrasekhara Reddy belonged to a wealthy and traditionally reputed family of Kota village in the Gudur taluk of Nellore district. At first he succeeded in making his native village ideal by providing all basic amenities required for modern life. His election as President of the Kota Panchayat Samithi was the real turning point of his life. He was extremely tactful and utilized every opportunity to advance his position at the expense of others. He
was an excellent judge of the pulse of the people. He calculatingly exploited his position as the President of Panchayat Samithi and became the most popular politician in the souther taluks of Nellore district. It was at this time. It was at this time, Sri A.C. Subba Reddy was trying to establish his power and supremacy in those quarters and this gave an opportunity for Nallapareddy Chandrasekhara Reddy to align himself with A.C. Subba Reddy and became a strong supporter of A.C. Subba Reddy which made him in a later period the Chairman of Nellore Zilla parishad.

During his tenure as Chairman of Zilla Parishad Nallapareddy Chandrasekhara Reddy acted according to the mandates and wishes of A.C. Subba Reddy and his supporters. In the meanwhile, being a politician of first rank improved his position vastly. With the advent of Kasu Brahmamanda Reddy’s Chief Ministership a sea of change occurred in his relations with A.C. Subba Reddy. He became the bitter critic and opposed every political move of A.C. Subba Reddy. But he, like Rebala Dasaratarami Reddy, could not provide the required leadership to the opponents of Sri A.C. Subbareddy to cause damage to the prestige and position of Sri A.C. Subbareddy.

Sri N. Chandrasekhara Reddy resigned from the Congress party and became an active member of Telugu Desam party founded by Sri N.T. Rama Rao, from the very first day of its inception. He came out successful twice in the Assembly elections, once defeating his arch rival Sri. Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy, former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and present member of Rajya Sabha, from the Venkatagiri constituency. His brother, Sri Nallapareddy Srinivasula Reddy too was an active member of the Telugu Desam party and got elected from Kovur constituency and became Revenue Minister in the N.T. Rama Rao’ cabinet. Soon after both the brothers were victims of power game and power politics and became rivals in the same political party, Telugu Desam. As result the infighting in the ranks of Telugu Desam Party reached its feverish pitch which created confusion and disorders in the party. This may be the result for gaining supremacy in the party and power game.
10. SRI. SOWDAGAR MAHABOOB KHAN

Sowdagar Mahaboob Khan started his life as an ordinary man. By sheer dint of his hard work coupled with luck he entered into transport business and within no time he earned popularity and credibility in his business. He became one of the leading bus operators in the district of Nellore. He commanded good respect from the Muslim community of Nellore town in particular and in the district in general. Sri. A.C.Subba Reddy, with the intention of getting his support and in turn Muslim community's support, made him first as Vice-Chairman of Nellore Municipal Council. Mahaboob Khan became a trusted lieutenant of Subba Reddy and was both politically and personally remained loyal to him throughout his life. With the support extended by Mahaboob Khan Sri.A.C.SubbaReddy got unqualified support of the Muslim community of Nellore town in particular and the district in general.

Mahaboob Khan was not a religious fanatic- a rare quality and phenomenon amongst orthodox Muslims. Even during the Muslim League agitation period under the leadership of Mahummud Ali Jinnah, Mahaboob Khan stood solidly by the Indian National Congress. even tried to promote unity amongst Muslims and Hindus during the communal rites that occurred in Nellore.

11. PASUPULETI SIDDhaiAHA NAiDU

Sri Pasupuleti Siddhaiah Naidu started his life as a common man. He was neither from a rich and wealthy family nor from political family background. Though luck and fortunes smiled on him by making him a rich man he was not puffed up with the sudden luck and never forgot his past. By his good and decent behaviors and kind treatment extended to the needy he became a very popular man in Gudur taluk and surrounding region. After Gudur was made a Municipality Siddhaiah Naidu became it's first Chairman. Taking into account his popularity Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy entered into a political friendship with him. As a result both became very close allies and friends. In 1962, Sri.Siddhaiah Naidu was elected from the Gudur constituency to the Andhra Pradesh legislative Assembly on the Congress party ticket. In 1967, General Elections held for Legislative Assembly, Siddhaiah Naidu who contested on Congress ticket from the same constituency was defeated by Vemareddi Ramachandra Reddy who contested as Independent candidate.
12. PEDURU LAKSHMANA GUPTA

Sri Peduru Lakshmana Gupta was one of the prominent citizens of Nellore town from Vaisya community. He was a staunch follower of Indian National Congress and allied himself politically with Sri A.C. Subba Reddy. Because of his unbroken association with the Congress Party and Subba Reddy he was rewarded with the Municipal Chairmanship after the sad demise of Sri Mahaboob Khan. Prior to that, he was Vice-Chairman for two terms to the Nellore town Municipality. He stood as good example for others, one who secured political domination through his wise reorganization of the strength of senior politicians in general and that of Sri A.C. Subba Reddy in particular. Very tactfully, he dealt with the opposition during his tenure of office by attending to the developmental activities of the Nellore town and its development. Citizens of Nellore admired at his administrative qualities and political acumenship.

13. DUVVURU BALARAMI REDDY

Sri Duvvuru Balarami Reddy was one who secured a memorable place in the political history of Nellore district by participating in the national movement. His mother hailed from the famous and prominent Rebala family. Around 1939, he took part in the secret revolutionary movement and became one of the principal accused in many a case. He was convicted earlier in the Congress movement. During his imprisonment, he came into contact with Bhakteswara Dutt, a friend of Bhagat Singh who had thrown a bomb in the Delhi Assembly. Although he leaned towards communism and was attracted by its ideology for some time, he later settled down as a loyal congress man. He was elected as President of the Indukurpetta Panchayat Samithi and to the Central Co-operative Bank, Nellore district.

Duvvuru Balarami Reddy has risen both socially and politically after his alliance with A.C. Subba Reddy’s family. His daughter Sailaja was given in marriage to Sri Anam Bhatavatsala Reddy, the son of A.C. Subba Reddy. Balarami Reddy’s son Sri Muralidhar Reddy married the daughter of Vallapareddy Subbarami Reddy, another prominent citizen from ‘reddy’ community of Nellore district whose knowledge of Co-operative movement was matchless.
14. SUNKU CHENGLRAYA-SETTY

Sri Sunku Chenglraya Setty popularly as 'sunku' belonged to a renowned 'vaisya' family in Nellore town. He was the son of the renowned business man B.A.NarayanaSettyu. He too good interest in managing the orphanage centre for several years. He was responsible for the promotion of women education in Nellore town, inspired by the ideology of Sri.Kandukuri Veeresalingam pantulu , a social reformer and protagonist of women education in Andhra. He was known for his philanthropy in extending his assistance to many poor students in persecuting their education. He was Chairman of Nellore Municipal Council for one term. He and his followers were source of great strength to A.C.Subba Reddy.

15. TUMULURI VENKATA SIVARAMAIH

Sri Tumuluri Venkata Sivaramaih was a lawyer by profession from Nellore town. He he became famous by taking up and arguing political cases, like that of Batliwalas in which the great national leaders like Sarva Sri. Jyaprakash Narayan, Dr.Pattabhi Sitaramaih, Bulusu Sambamurthy and a host of others gave evidence.

He was the President of Andhra Sabha for several years. He was a committee member of the Venkatagiri Rajha's college, Nellore for two terms during which the college saw phenomenal growth in providing qualitative education to the students not only from Nellore district but also to the students from neighbouring districts. He was staunch supporter and follower of Gandhian philosophy and ideology. He took keen interest in spreading Gandhian philosophy of non-violence.

16. BATHINA RAMAKRISHNA REDDY

Bathina Ramakrishana Reddy, with a distinguished record of purity and self respect had the distinction of shaking the very foundations of the most powerful politicians in Nellore district. More than monerary power, what is needed for the success of any individual in public life is a stout heart with self-confidence. Bathina Ramakrishan Rddy proved this with letter and spirit.
Sri Ramakrishna Reddy inspired by the clarion call of Mahatma Gandhi jumped into the freedom struggle and dedicated himself to the cause of country’s freedom and the uplift of Harijans. Having served the Congress organization for several decades, he came into direct collusion with Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy in the Nellore district Congress politics. Elected to the Composite Madras State Legislative Assembly in 1946, he was reelected in 1952 and 1955 elections also to the state Assembly. He was associated with Tanguturu Prakasam Pantulu in the formation of ‘Praja Party’ and became instrumental in inflicting humiliating defeats on the Congress party in Assembly elections. He was born in May 1905 and passed away on 10th of March, 1960.

Sri Ramakrishna Reddy started a telugu journal, namely ‘Praja Rajyam’ to enlightened public. His son edited this journal considerably for a long time after the demise of his father. Now this journal is defunct.

17. DHANEKULA NARASIMHAM

Sri.Dhanekula Narasimham was born in 1925 in a middle class peasant family. He participated in the freedom struggle and arrested for the same several times. He was an ardent disciple and follower of Sri.N.G.Ranga. He worked with N.G.Ranga both in the Congress and Kisan Party. He was also one of those associated with the formation of Swatantra party along with N.G.Ranga, but refused to follow him when the latter joined the Congress. His devotion to Swatantra party and Rajagopalachari were total and unreserved.

Sri Dhanekula Narasimham contested in the General Elections of 1967 on Swatantra Party ticket and defeated the Congress candidate who was very actively supported by Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy and Congress Party cadre of Nellore district.

18. SRI GANGA CHINA KONDAIAH

Sri.Ganga China Kondaiah, popularly known as ‘G.C.’, was an intellectual par-excellence among the Nellore district political elites. He was born in a small village, Vasili, in the Atmakur taluk of Nellore district. He had elementary education

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in the local primary school and by sheer dint of of assiduity and firm resolve learnt Telugu and English. He was a voracious reader and a prolific writer. He was in the habit of purchasing books and not borrowing them from others. A rare quality indeed. He was a veteran journalist. He authored not less than thirty books on various subjects in Telugu language.

‘G.C’ tasted different shades of life. He stayed for some time in Burma wherein he pulled rickshaw to earn his livelihood. Then he returned to India and became a revolutionary. He had intimate relations with communists and for a long period he was underground to escape arrest.

He made his mark in 1952. In that year he was elected as an Independent candidate from Atmakur constituency to the Madras legislative Assembly. But in the mid-term polls conducted to the Andhra Legislative Assembly, Sri. G.C. Kondaiah faced defeat in the Atmakur Constituency in the hands of Sri. Bezawada Gopala Reddy, a Congress candidate. Then he joined Congress and contested in the General elections of 1962 from the Nellore constituency and was successful in getting the support of the congress party big wigs and cadre and defeated the Communist candidate, Sri. Ramakotaiah. This was the last success faced by Sri. G.C. Kondaiah in the Assembly elections. He was very often criticized by many politicians for his change of loyalties and opportunist policies. Yet, all unanimously hailed him as great intellectual.

19. PULI VENKATA SUBBA REDDY

Sri Puli Venkata Subba Reddy popularly know as ‘P.V.’ was one of the pillars of which the strength of Sri. A.C. Subb Reddy rested. He was a well read man and well informed. He was an expert in Municipal law and worldly affairs. He was councilor of Nellore municipality from 1948 to 1972. He became the President of the District Library Association and was at the helm of its affairs from 1951 to 1954. During this period he improved and enriched the library by collecting and purchasing books. As a senator of the Sri Venkateswara University, he exhibited his interest in promoting the cause of higher education. During the Chairmanship of
Sri Veguru Lakshmana Gupta of Nellore Municipality he was elected its Vice-Chairman and lived up to the expectations of the leaders and public. He was known for his sincerity and loyalty.

20. NAGIREDDY HARISCHANDRA REDDY

Sri N Harischandra Reddy, was a follower of Congress ideology and followed Sri A.C.Subba Reddy in the Nellore district political power games. After Sri P.V.Subba Reddy, Harischandra Reddy became the president of the District Library Committee. It was he who procured the house of Rebala Pattabhirami Reddy to accommodate the District Library in the name of the former.

He was, for some time, at the helm of affairs of Land Mortgage Bank of Nellore. During his tenure of office he provided a permanent housing facility for this Bank. These instances exhibit his talent and constructive geniuses of Harischandra Reddy.

21. PONAKA CHANDRASEKHARA REDDY

Sri Ponaka Chandrasekhara Reddy was popularly known by his nick name as Ponaka Abbayya or Abba. He belonged to Alluru village of Kovur taluk of Nellore district. Allur and Buchchireddipalem are political hubs of Nellore district. Even during the national struggle and after the attainment of independence this region, always played a significant role in the Nellore district political history. Both the places are replete with fertile lands and overflow with prosperity. Sri Ponaka Chandrasekhara Reddy was a philanthropist and staunch supporter of congress ideology. Though he did not contest the elections he mobilized the masses and was responsible for creating political awareness among the people of this region. He was responsible for the spread of Gandhian ideologies and cottage industries in the villages of this region.

22. PELLAKURU RAMACHANDRA REDDY

Sri Pellakuru Ramachandra Reddy was born in Ramannapalem village near to Kovur Taluk head-quarters. Short in stature but became tall when he became the
opponent of Sri A.C.Subbareddy. His enmity and opposition to A.C.Subba Reddy made him a leader in his own way. He was a close follower and personal friend of Late Sri P.V.Narasimha Rao, (Ex-Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Ex-Prime Minister of India). Sri.Ramachandra Reddy contested as an independent candidate in the General Elections held in 1962 against Sri.Anam Sanjeeva Reddy, the brother’s son of Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy. In this contest, Ramachandra Reddy was defeated. But again when general elections were held to the Legislative Assembly in 1967 he defeated the same Anam Sanjiya Reddy who won 1962 election from Kovur constituency from Atmakur constituency. He was elected twice to the Legislative Assembly from Kovur constituency successively in 1972 and 1978 elections. It was during this period, he became the President of Coastal Development Committee with the blessing of P.V.Narasimharao. However he tasted defeat from the same constituency in the General Elections of 1983 and the newly established Telugu Desam Party wave was responsible for it. He never enjoyed the honor of becoming a minister in the Andhra Pradesh cabinet.

23. ANAM VENKATA REDDY

Sri.Anam Venkata Reddy was the brother of the celebrated A.C.Subba Reddy. He is popularly known as ‘Venkanna’ in Nellore district. He was the man behind the indomitable power and undisputed authority enjoyed by A.C.Subba Reddy. Though, in fact, the main spring of A.C.Subba Reddy’s supremacy in the district, Venkata Reddy never hankered after recognition of his name. With excellent physical prowess, determination and will power, he was a trust worthy friend to his well wishers.

Venkata Reddy inherited the political legacy of his powerful elder brother, A.C.Subba Reddy, in the form of control over several institutions, like Sri Venugopalaswami Trust Board, V.R.College Committee, and Co-operative Central Bank etc.

Venkata Reddy, for a brief period, was the Home NMinister in the cabinet of Sri. P.V.Narasimha Rao. But he resigned the same at the height of the agitation for a
separate Andhra State during the early 1970's. He again won the Assembly seat by contesting on Congress ticket from the Nellore constituency in the elections of 1972. He was the minister in the cabinet of Sri. Jalgama Vengala Rao from 1975 to 1977. But he faced defeat in the same constituency in the hands of Sri. K.V. Subba Reddy in 1977.

Venkata Reddy came to lime light in 1983. He left off congress and joined Telugu Desam. He contested to the Assembly from Rapur constituency in 1983 on Telugu Desam Part ticket and came out successfully. He was taken into the cabinet by Sri. N.T. Rama Rao who formed the government. But fortunately or unfortunately he sided Sri. Nadendla Bhaskarao who revolted against N.T. Rama Rao. Sri. Ramlakhan then Governor of Andhra Pradesh dismissed N.T. Rama Rao's government and invited Nadendla Bhaskarao to form the government who was given one month time to prove his majority on the floor. Venkata Reddy was provided a berth in the cabinet by Bhaskarao whose ministry was lasted for one month as he could not muster the required strength to prove his majority on the floor. Hence he resigned. So Venkata Reddy's period as minister too came to an end after one month. However, N.T. Rama Rao recommended for dissolution of the house and went for a fresh mandate from the people. The Telugu Desam Party came out successful and this sealed the political future of Venkata Reddy. But his son, Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, who stood loyal to N.T. Rama Rao was given ticket and was successful from Rapur constituency. Thus he salvaged the fallen prestige of the family and damage caused to their political existence.

24. ANAM SANJIVA REDY

Sri. Anam Sanjiva Reddy was the son of Anam Ranga Reddy, elder brother of A.C. Subba Reddy. He discontinued his legal studies and jumped into politics as an active worker of Congress Party. He was known for his tremendous energy, dynamism, courage and high moral character. He was a prominent Youth Congress leader at the state level. He was an inspiration to the youth and carried many a programme of Congress party. He was an important corner stone in the political edifice of A.C. Subba Reddy.
Sri.Anam Sanjiva Reddy got elected as Member of Legislative Assembly in year 1958 from the Atmakur constituency when it was vacated by Bezawada Gopala Reddy. He was re-elected from the same constituency in the 1962 elections by defeating Pellakuri Ramachandra Reddy and independent candidate. But in the elections of 1967 Pellakuri Ramachandra Reddy defeated Anam Sanjiva Reddy from the same constituency. At this time the prestige of the Congress party was at its lowest ebb.

When the congress party was split into two, one section was headed by Smt.Indira Gandhi and later by Old guards i.e. seniors in the organization. In Andhra Pradesh the Congress (O) was headed by Sri.Kasu Brahmananda Reddy. Anam Sanjiva Reddy, after a careful thought joined Brahmananda Reddy Congress leaving Indira Congress, much against to the advises of his followers and well wishers. This act was literally the end of the active political life of a dynamic politician of Nellore.

After the death of A.C.Subba Reddy, Brahmananda Reddy provided political shelter to the orphan Anam group in Nellore district and took Anam Sanjiva Reddy into his ministry. He became the Minister for Civil Supplies. Brahmananda Reddy did not do this favour out of any compassion for the Anam family but only to be benefited by their organizing ability and capability in Nellore district political power game.

25. NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Sri.Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy is brother's son of Padmasri.Sri. Nedurumalli Blakrishna Reddy who was the founder of Harijana Vidyardi Uddaraka Sangam in Vakadu village of Gudur Taluk during freedom movement.He founded this institution to uplift the down trodden in the remote corners of Gudur taluk and its surroundings.He expanded the institution and established Arts &Science College, an Engineering College, and an Educational College in Vidyanagar. Right from his early career Sri.N.Janardhana Reddy was associated with these institutions and became correspondent of these institutions soon after the death of his uncle Sri.N.BalaKrishna Reddy.
N. Janardhana Reddy contested for Legislative Council membership in 1971 from East Rayalaseema constituency as Congress candidate and won the election by defeating a political stalwart Sri. Y. C. Ranga Reddy. Thus started his political career.

He was a follower of Sri. P. V. Narasimha Rao. This acquaintance paved the way for his entry into Rajya Sabha in 1972 as Congress candidate. His stint as Rajya Sabha member brought him close to party high command and became close ally of Smt. Indira Gandhi.

After the split in Congress in 1978 he was with Indira Gandhi and identified himself with Congress (I) and became staunch supporter of Congress (I) faction in Nellore district. He grabbed this opportunity and carved political space for himself in the district. He became unquestionable leader of Congress (I) in the district and was successful in securing tickets to his followers. During the ensuing elections to the State Legislative Assembly his political strategy brought success to Congress (I) in 10 seats. He was taken into ministry with Revenue portfolio in Marri Chenna Reddy cabinet.

During 1983 elections he contested from Venkatagiri Constituency as Congress candidate and was defeated by Sri. N. Chandrasekhar Reddy of Telugu Desam party. Though he was defeated in the electoral front he was active in building the cadre and strengthening his base in the district as a staunch supporter of Smt. Indira Gandhi and Congress (I).

During 1989 general elections to the State Legislative Assembly he contested from the same constituency i.e. Venkatagiri and became minister for Agriculture in the Marri Chenna Reddy's cabinet. When Indira Gandhi replaced Marri Chenna Reddy as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, she found a suitable person in N. Janardhana Reddy, a staunch follower of her. Hence he was appointed as Chief Minister and he was there for 20 months only. However he is an inspiration for educated youth who took interest in contemporary politics.
Sri. Nallapareddy Srinivasula Reddy belonged to Kota village in Gudur Taluk and brother of Sri. Nallapareddy Chandrasekhar Reddy. He did his Bachelor of Law from Andhra University, Waltair, in 1956 and plunged himself into politics. He became the President of Kota Panchayat Samiti in 1967. From then onwards there was no looking back in his political career. He was considered as an upright politician both by his friends and foes alike.

He contested the General Elections held in 1972 from Gudur constituency as an independent and got elected by defeating the Congress party candidate Smt. T.K. Saradamma. Later he joined in Congress (I) party and secured ticket to contest from Venkatagiri constituency in the General Elections held in 1978. By defeating Venkatagiri Rajha Sri. V.V.K. Yachendra, who contested as Congress (R) candidate. Venkatagiri constituency was not his choice, as nurtured and promoted Gudur constituency. Since the Gudur constituency was reserved for Scheduled Castes he was forced to contest from Venkatagiri by the party high command. It is very interesting to note here that the Nellore district political scene was dominated by Sri. N. Janaradhana Reddy, a staunch follower of Smt. Indira Gandhi, in the post 1978 election period forced Sri. N. Srinivasula Reddy into political oblivion. The political situation in Nellore district pushed him to search for political alternative for his survival and to be in the public life. Hence he took a bold step when Sri. N. T. Rama Rao started Telugu Desam Party and became an important leader in the party.

After joining into Telugu Desam he contested from Kovur constituency on behalf of Telugu Desam and won with huge majority by defeating Sri. Pellakuru Ramachandra Reddy of Congress (I) and became minister in N.T. Rama Rao’s cabinet. In 1985 when by-elections were conducted to the State Legislative Assembly again he contested from Kovur constituency and defeated the same candidate Sri. P. Ramachandra Reddy of Congress (I). Due to differences with N.T. Rama Rao he resigned to his membership in the party and joined into Congress (I) and contested from Kovur constituency and was returned to the Assembly. He defeated Sri. Bezawada Papi Reddy of Telugu Desam.
Sri Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu was born in Chavatapalem village of Gudur taluk and had his early education in Nellore town. From his early days he was attracted towards Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh and became an active worker of RSS. When he was prosecuting his studies in Venkatagir Rajha’s college, Nellore, he was actively involved in student union activities and was attracted towards Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad. While doing his Bachelor of Law course in the Andhra University, Waltair, the movement for separate Andhra attracted him and he actively participated in it and became a well known person among the students of Andhra Pradesh. During this time he came into contact with national leaders of Jansangh party namely Atal Bihari Vajpayee, L.K. Advani etc. This association with movement and political leaders made him to join Janata Party founded by Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan in the post emergency period. On behalf of Janata Party he contested first time from Udayagiri constituency and defeated the well known communist leader Dhanekula Narasimham.

After the split in Janata party he joined Bharatiya Janata Party in 1980 and started involving himself actively in the politics. During 1983 General Elections again he contested from Udayagiri as a Bharatiya Janata Party candidate and won the seat by defeating Mekapati Rajamohan Reddy of Congress (I). However in 1985 by-elections held to the State Legislative Assembly he preferred Atamakur constituency than Udayagiri. Telugu Desam party extended its support to his candidature. In spite of the Telugu Desam party’s support he lost to Dr. B. Sundrarami Reddy, a leading medical practitioner, of Congress (I). This defeat made him to concentrate on national politics and party organizational matters. He was elected to Rajya Sabha from Karnataka. He was the National President for BJP for one term during which he reorganized the party and tried to take its philosophy to the rural India. He turned the urban coloured party into rural oriented party.
28. ANAM RAMNARAYANA REDDY

Sri.Anam Ramnarayana Reddy is from renowned political family of Nellore district. He is son of Anam Venkata Reddy, brother of the prominent leader of Nellore district Sri.A.C.Subba Reddy. He started his political career by joining into Telugu Desam against the wishes of his well wishers and friends and entered into election fray by contesting the Nellore Assembly seat as a Telugu Desam party candidate and won the seat by defeating Sri.K.V.Subba Reddy of Congress (I) by a margin of 30,000 votes.

During the mid-term elections to the State Legislative Assembly held in 1985 he contested from Rapur constituency again on Telugu Desam ticket and won the seat by defeating the sitting M.L.A of Congress (I) party candidate Sri.Nuvvula Venkataratnam Naidu.In 1989 he was inducted into cabinet and was given Roads and Buildings.However he was defeated in the next General Elections.

29. KALIKI YANADI REDDY

Sri.Kaliki Yanadi Reddy is another political elite from Nellore district. He was born in Jammalapalem village of Kavali taluk of Nellore district. He was elected as Sarpanch of Jammalapalem village panchayat in 1967. Thus he entered into political arena and never looked back from then onwards. In 1972 by defeating Sri Ayyapa Reddy he got elected to Kavali Samiti as Samiti president. In 1978 he joined into Congress (I) party and contested from Kavali Assembly constituency on the same party ticket. He won the election by defeating the Janata Party candidate Kondapa Naidu. However he tasted defeat in the hands of Telugu Desam Party candidate Sri.P.Vengala Rao in 1983 elections. However within two years he regained his strength and organized and strengthened his cadre in the Kavali Assembly segment. In 1985 by-elections he defeated the Telugu Desam candidate Sri.M.Venkata Ramana, a local advocate. In 1989 elections he again contested as Congress (I) candidate and this time he defeated his Telugu Desam rival P.Vengala Rao For a short period he was minister for endowments during Kotala Vijayabhaskara Reddy Chief Minister’s regime. During his political career he became very dear and near to the people of Kavali constituency and was a popular congress leader in and around Kavali region.
The political parties and their managers i.e. elite in Nellore district played a vital role in creating political awareness among the masses during pre-independence era. They succeeded in their task. After attaining of independence in 1947 they took keen interest in shaping the fortunes of their political organizations and their political careers. Since the formation of separate Andhra state separating it from composite Madras state, the political elite of Nellore district always took forefront in national and provincial political power game as well as interests of the district in promoting socio economic welfare of the people. Nellore district played very crucial role in getting abolition of ‘zamindari’ and feudal systems in the country.
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33. Ibid.


35. Personal interview with family members and personal friends of Bezawada Gopala Reddy. Much information was provided by Sri.Bezawada Obula Reddy, freedom fighter now residing at Buchchireddypalem, Nellore district.

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37. Personal interview with his grandson Vennelakanti Sri.Madhavarao-Inspector of Endowments (Retd), who is residing in Nellore The information Is provided by him by going through the personal diaries of Sri.V.Raghavaiah.

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56. Personal interview with Sri.C.V.Seshareddy, City Congress President.

57. Personal interview with Sri.N.Prasanna Kumar Reddy, Son of N.Srinivasula Reddy and presently TDP M.L.A. from Kovur.
58. Personal interview with Dr. Ch. Varadaiah, BJP ex-state secretary.


60. Personal interview with Granthi Yanadi Setti, ex-Chairman, Kavali Municipality.