PREFACE

Yeduguri Sandinti Rajasekhar Reddy, popularly known as YSR, hails from Pulivendula, a small town in Kadapa District. Having attracted to Indira Gandhi’s Policies and Programmes, he entered into party politics as the general Secretary of Youth wing of Kadapa District Congress Party. Y.S.R contested the elections from Pulivendula as a congress – (Reddy) candidate in 1978 for the first time. Since then, he contested five times to Legislative Assembly from Pulivendula and four times to the Lok Sabha from Kadapa. In all the elections, he never faced the defeat. He “defeated the defeat”. “He is the only Chief Minister of A.P who has never faced the defeat”. As the leader of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Legislative Party from 1999 to 2004, he played key role in exposing the misdeeds of Telugu Desam Government in the Assembly. As the floor leader he fought with the govt. tooth and nail in the Assembly Ventilating the aspirations of the people in the state.

Y.S.R’s Padayathra, in fact, was a turning point, not only for Y.S.R but also for the congress party, the state of Andhra Pradesh as well as the country on whole. Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in 2004 and initiated and implemented a number of policies and programmes from time to time which touched almost all sectors such as Agriculture, Irrigation, Health, Education, Welfare, Industries as well as rural development and information technology. Rajasekhar Reddy started his second innings with much clarity on his priorities of Jalayagnam and other
development schemes to turn the state into a power house of economic growth across agriculture and industry. But the destiny was different. He was killed in helicopter crash in Kurnool district on September 2, 2009. With the sudden demise of YSR in a helicopter crash on September 2, 2009, Andhra Pradesh lost one of its most charismatic and resourceful leaders. Though there were limited studies on YSR from time-to-time, they did not cover all the policies and programmes of Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhar Reddy. Hence, the researcher attempts to discuss and analyze all the policies and programmes of Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhar Reddy and their impact on the road to development of Andhra Pradesh.