CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION
Yeduguri Sandinti Rajasekhar Reddy, popularly known as YSR, hails from Pulivendula a small town in Kadapa District.

The forefathers of Rajasekhar Reddy were living in Balapanner village of Pulivendula taluk in Kadapa District. Yeduguri Pulla Reddy, great grand father of Y.S.R was doing cultivation in the village.

The house of Pulla Reddy was situated in a small street (popularly know as sandu in Telugu) of the village. So the people of village called them “Sandinti Varu”. Later it was added to the surname making his name as “Yeduguri Sandinti” Pulla Reddy” Venkata Reddy, a Christian converter the son of Pulla Reddy was running Christian organizations, besides working as a contractor. He had seven sons and five daughters.¹

Y.S. Raja Reddy was the fourth son of Venkata Reddy. He married his sister’s daughter by name Jayamma. Y.S. Raja Reddy participated in world war-II, and was respected. He had number of followers in Rayalaseema.

His father Y.S. Raja Reddy while serving in military in Burma converted to Christianity. Though a firm believer in Hinduism, he converted to Christianity, when he came across Christian minorities in Burma. After retuning to India, he was despaired by his caste people and shunted out of the village. By this time the missionaries in India were learning the shares and handling over the churches to the national Indians.²
It was in 1947, that the church of South India was formed. Y.S. Raja Reddy began to attend the Church services of this congregation. The CSI is head quarter in Chennai with dioceses throughout South India.³

Y.S. Raja Reddy had five sons and one daughter. They are as following.

The family tree of Y.S. Raja Reddy is shown in Fig. 1.1.
Early Life of YSR

Y.S.R is the second son of Raja Reddy. He was born on 8th July 1949 at Jamalamadugu Town mission Hospital.

Y.S.R completed his studies at various schools and colleges. He had his education in Venkatappa primary school at Pulivendula where he studied up to 8th class, and he completed his secondary education in Mission High School at Bellary. After completion of his secondary education he joined for his intermediate/P.U.C education in Veerasiva College Bellary.²

Y.S.R completed P.U.C at the age of 15 years. As there was a stipulation that one should complete 16 years to get admission into medicine, Y.S.R studied B.Sc course for one year at Bellary.

As he did not get medical seat in a government college, he joined a private college i.e. Mahadev Ramapura (MR college) college at Gulberga in Karnataka by paying donation of Rs. 5000.³ Y.S.R said that he joined MBBS as there was very much respect to the doctors.

In M.R.College Gulberga his was the 3rd batch. In the I and II batches there were many Telugu people, particularly from Guntur and Krishna District.

In the word of his classmate and a member of parliament (present central Minister) A. Sai Prathap, Y.S.R mingled with all college mates, affectionately. He was a loving person.
In the words of K.V.P. Rama Chandra Rao (M.P) Y.S.R was a Union leader and N.C.C Officer also. He studied very well at that time. As a N.C.C Officer he followed rules and regulations correctly.

In M.R. Medical College, Gulberga there was a fight between Krishna and Guntur students, led by Ramkoteswara Rao and Ravindranath (who later became chairman of Tennali Municipality and MLA respectively). By the time Y.S.R joined M.R. College, Kannada people's strength increased commendably.

Y.S.R was elected the president of the college students union, even in his third year MBBS. His father's blessings were always with him for ever when he was contesting for the president ship of students union at Gulburga, he wrote a letter to his father asking him for Rs.2,000/- but he received Rs.5,000/- from his father.

One day, a Telugu student was beaten by a Kannada local student. The Telugu students around fifty in member, led by Y.S.R hit the local Kannada student who hit Telugu student. An enquiry was conducted in which Y.S.R himself stated before the committee that he hit the student.

Though professors in the college objected Y.S.R as to why he said like that because there was no witness for the incident, but Y.S.R said that he won't lie. Y.S.R was suspended for one month. This was happened when the examinations were about commencing with in a week.
However, due to “God’s Grace” as laid by Y.S.R himself examinations were postponed to one month exactly. Thus he was saved.

He fought against groupism, from his college days. To cite an example one day two students belonging to Kurnool and Anantapur Districts were fighting with each other at the college gate. Y.S.R interfered and stopped their quarrel. He pacified them and later on. They used to come to him for advice. He also solved the ragging problem. When a first year student of Kurnool faced 2 hours ragging by some Anantapur students and was about to leave the college, Y.S.R pacified him. When a student questioned about ragging by a pulimendla (native place of Y.S.R) student. Y.S.R arranged a meeting of the students from Cuddapah, Chittoor, Anantapur, and Kurnool Districts and asked then to live peacefully and friendly.7

Y.S.Raja Reddy’s elder sister, Suguna was studying in the same college one day she asked him to come to the village but Y.S.R refused to do so as he was expecting a trouble in the hostel. A pre planed attack on Kurnool students was on the cards by Ananthapur students. While entering into the hostel, Ananthapur students attacked them with sticks intervention of Y.S.R saved them, and Y.S.R averted the attack. The principal of the college called Y.S.R asked him to name the students involved in the incident. But, Y.S.R did not name any one. Thus he saved the students not only in the incident but also averted their suspension. Thus leadership qualities in his were noticed even in the college days.
Y.S.R is one of the best examples for friendship. He always helps his friends and followers. In English there is a great proverb "A friend in need is a friend in deed". It is exactly suitable to Y.S.R.

One day, one of his classmates was in need of money to pay the fees. He told K.V.P Ramachandra Rao that he was going to his native place that night. K.V.P surprised to note that he was going to his place to get money for his classmate. As the next day of the was the last day to pay the fees, Mr. Y.S.R went on a motor bike to his place on the night itself and returned with money and paid the fees of a friend. His love for friendship made him to take adventures also. This shows the quality of friendship.

K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao and Y.S.R were best friends liked by Y.S.R deeds tooth and mail. He has been with Y.S.R for the more than four decades.

After medicine with good marks, Y.S.R joined S.V.R.R Govt. Hospital, Tirupati as House surgeon in the year 1972.

The S.V.R.R Hospital situated at the foot hills of Lord Venkateswara, was away from the main town of Tirupati. He entered into a general ward and came to know their plight. The leadership qualities, young age and pleasing personality in Y.S.R used to attract more people and they were satisfied with Y.S.R's words and deeds.

After completing his internship his ambition was to start a hospital in his native village Pulivendula as he was moved by a death of a poor man in his village due to lack of medical aid.
After getting MBBS Degree he served as a Medical Officer in Jamalamadugu Mission hospital for brief period. He worked day and night in the hospital and earned the affection of the poor people. In 1973 he established a 70 bed hospital named after his father at Pulivendula.

He saved the poor and needy by charging a nominal fee one rupee. He used to treat more than 200 out patient per day.

Y.S.R’s family established several educational institutions and training institutions. They started Elementary, High school, Junior College, and a Polytechnic college in Pulivendula and Simhadripuram.

Y.S.R was married to one, by name Vijaya Lakshmi on 9th Feb 1972, the eldest daughter of Ramanjula Reddy of Chimmelavaripalle situated in Tadipatri Town of Anantapur District. And they where blessed with a son and a daughter Jagan Mohan Reddy and Sharmila are their children who enjoyed a very special place in Y.S.R’s personal world.

Idupulapaya - His favourite Sojourn

Idupulapaya in Vernpalle mandai in his native constituency Pulivendula was most dear to Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, who was laid to rest there as per Christian rites on Friday evening. Dr. Reddy nurtured his sprawling estates with love and never let go an opportunity to spend time there with his dear ones.

Whenever he visited Idupulapaya, the YSH Estates buzzed with activity with security personnel, followers, Congress leaders and activists calling on him, especially after he became Chief Minister in May 2004.
Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy and wife Vijayalakshmi at YSR Estates in Idupulapaya.

Dr. Reddy, his family members and relatives, wherever they were, used to gather at the estates every Christmas to celebrate the festival. His father Y.S. Raja Reddy's anniversary on May 23 every year was another occasion when they used to all meet there. It was a common sight to watch Dr. Reddy, his wife Vijayalakshmi, son Jaganmohan Reddy and daughter Sharmila strolling around the sprawling estate in the mornings.

Dr. Reddy would go around the pomegranate orchard and the teak plantation and check other trees and the vermicompost yard, which he raised taking a lot of interest. United Progressive Alliance Chairperson Sonia Gandhi visited Idupulapaya to inaugurate IIIT and later attended a luncheon at the remodelled house of YSR in his estate last year. YSR had visited Idupulapaya umpteen times during his first term as Chief Minister but only once in the
second term. And it was on his funeral day. 9

Political Life of YSR

Having attracted to Indira Gandhi's Policies and Programmes entered into party politics as the general Secretary of Youth wing of Kadapa District Congress Party at the instance of his friend Jaya Prakash Reddy.

Y.S.R attended the AICC plenary session held at Gauhati Sanjay Gandhi who recognized the talent.

Y.S.R prepared a plan for propagating the 20 point programme of Smt. Indira Gandhi, and the 15 point programme of Sri Sanjay Gandhi.

The A.P.S.R.T.C workers Union in Kadapa Unanimously elected him as its leader. His interest for agriculture earned him the affection of the farmers also. So, that with in short period he emerged as a popular leader in the District.

In the 1983 Assembly Election, despite the N.T.R wave, he was re-elected from Pulivendula with a good margin. He became the Youngest President of A.P congress in 1983.

In 1984 he repeated his victory from Pulivendula.

In 1989 he won the Kadapa Lok Sabha seat while his brother Y.S.Vivekananada Reddy was elected from Pulivendula as M.L.A. Y.S.R won the Kadapa Loksabha first in 1989, 1991, 1996 and 1998.

In 1994 two groups emerged within the Congress at the State Level Town to Kadapa District. One group was headed by K.Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy and another one was led by Y.S.R.

On the other hand, Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy, Varadarajula Reddy, Sivaramakrishna and D.L. Ravindra Reddy belong to Y.S group emerged victorious. This clearly indicates the charisma of Y.S.R.¹⁰

The out come of 1994 assembly elections had its impact on 1996 Loksabha elections as the differences between the two groups widened further.

The Kotla group who had the wrath of voters in 1994 assembly elections worked indirectly for Telugu Desam Candidate K.Raja Mohan Reddy in 1996 Loksabha Elections against Y.S.R... The T.D.P was at the helm of affairs at the state level. So the contest was very close to fierce. Perhaps, for the first time Y.S.R had to work hard to win the election. But in spite of strong apposition from both within and outside the Congress Party, Y.S.R succeeded but with a narrow margin of 5,600 votes has shown in Table 1.1
### TABLE – 1.1
Lok Sabha Elections to Kadapa, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes Polled</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr. Y.S.R</td>
<td>INC</td>
<td>368611</td>
<td>48.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>K.Raja Mohan Reddy</td>
<td>TDP</td>
<td>363166</td>
<td>48.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ahmed Hussain</td>
<td>NTR (TDP)</td>
<td>6328</td>
<td>0.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>M.Lakshmi Narasimaiah</td>
<td>BJP</td>
<td>4783</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Official Records

The politics at the centre forced another Lok Sabha election in 1998. Again the same rivals Y.S.R. of congress and K. Raja Mohan Reddy of T.D.P vied with each other for Lok Sabha membership. As usual Y.S.R. won the election battle with a margin of 53,841 votes see Table 1.2

### TABLE – 1.2
Lok Sabha Elections – 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes Polled</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Timma Reddy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>K.Raja Mohan Reddy</td>
<td>TDP</td>
<td>3,20,881</td>
<td>43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Nagendra Prasad Kadiri</td>
<td>B.J.P</td>
<td>28,349</td>
<td>3.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Y.S.R</td>
<td>INC</td>
<td>3,74,762</td>
<td>50.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Official Records

The leaders of Rayalaseema started different movements for the cause of Rayalaseema problems. Rayalaseema Vimochana Samithi under the leadership of M.V. Ramana Reddy of Proddatur, Rayalaseema Karmika Karshaka parishad under the leadership of Ch. Chandra Sekhar Reddy and
Rayalaseema karyacharna Samithi under the leadership of M.V.Mysoora Reddy. Y.S.R was elected as honorary President of the movement.\textsuperscript{11}

Y.S.R’s father Y.S.Raja Reddy was murdered by his rivals while he was traveling from his garden Idupalapaya near Vempalli. Though Y.S.R followers wanted to take revenge, Y.S.R did not accept. In the mean time, with the withdrawal of support by AIADMK another mid-term poll came. While at the Assembly elections were also due at the same time.

In 1999 Y.S.R contested from Pulivendula to Assembly while his brother Y.S.Vivekananda Reddy was Congress candidate for Kadapa Loksabha constituency. Y.S.R was re-elected by the leaders of Proddutur and Mydukur to contest from their respective constituency.

But Y.S.R was very much interest to contest only from Pulivendula.

The T.D.P candidate was S.V.Satish Kumar Reddy. Y.S.R won the election by a margin of 30,009 votes as indicated in Table – 1.3

\textbf{TABLE – 1.3}

\textbf{A.P. Assembly Elections - 1999}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes Polled</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y.S.R</td>
<td>INC</td>
<td>62,019</td>
<td>64.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>S.Satish Kumar Reddy</td>
<td>TDP</td>
<td>32,010</td>
<td>33.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textbf{Source:} Official Records
In 1999, however, the T.D.P formed the Government in Andhra Pradesh State level. The congress party improved its tally to 90 in 1999 elections from mere 26 in 1994. Y.S.R was elected as the leader of the congress party.

In 2004 Assembly elections Y.S.R again contested from Pulivendula. After filing his nomination papers he didn’t campaign in Pulivendula, he concentrated on the other constituencies. But he was victorious as indicated in Table 1.4

**TABLE - 1.4**

**A.P. Assembly Elections - 2004**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes Polled</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y.S.R</td>
<td>INC</td>
<td>74,432</td>
<td>67.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>S.V.Satish Kumar Reddy</td>
<td>TDP</td>
<td>33,655</td>
<td>30.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Official Records

The congress voted to power in the State after a long gap of 10 years. Y.S.R was a natural choice for the post of C.M as he led the party to victory.

Since 1978, he contested five times to A.P Legislative Assembly from Pulivendula and four times to the Lok Sabha from Kadapa. In all the elections, he contested, but he never faced the defeat. He” defeated the defeat”. “He is the only C.M of A.P who has never faced the defeat”.

**Personal Life of Y.S.R**

Y.S.R was much disciplined in his personal life. He gets up before the sunrise. He was very particular about spirituality culture, yoga and meditation. His strong conviction, “A sound soul in a sound body” Y.S.R used to work for
18 hours a day. He was a healthy and hygiene person. Y.S.R was a reader interested in reading English fiction. He was a weight lifter also. He used to complain to his friends about being deprived of the habit of reading because of the multifarious activities day in and day out.

Y.S.R strongly believes that the human life is a boon provided by the almighty to share one's blessings with other, while seeing less privileged human beings.

He had belief on Christianity. He expressed his feelings about the almighty for a number of times. He usually attended Sunday prayers. He went to donate Mangalasuthram to poor couple. They donate lakhs of Rupees to C.S.I church to renovate the church. He went to Jerusalem with his family members in May 2009.

The two British Protestants stuck a word in Venkata Reddy's heart and he embraced Christianity. My father in law had having the said Jayamma. My father-in-law and his family were forced to stay back in the village. But he was too to stay back. They moved to Pulivendula in 1933. They donated 120 acres of land and the whole family embeds Christianity.  Y.S.R asked the Seventh day Adventist to build a church on his estate for his workers who converted to Christianity.

In 1978 when he entered into politics he contested to Pulivendula Assembly constituency he used to wear pant and shirt, but later he turned to white dhoti and a shirt made of handloom cloth.
As a Floor Leader

He was the leader of Congress Legislative party during 1999-2004.

Y.S.R became the leader of the Congress Legislative Party in Andhra Pradesh and he resigned for the post of President of Andhra Pradesh Congress Party.

As the leader of the APCLP he played key role in exposing the misdeeds of Telugu Desam Govt. 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.

He gave 21 notices under the Rule of 304 of A.P. Assembly and 8 calling attention notices under the rule of 74 of Assembly rules (See Table 1.5 & 1.6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Notices Under The Rule 304 Of The Assembly Rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Police firing on the Ryots of Chinaganjam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Collection of water cess from Ryots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Allotment Natural Gas to private sector for Generating power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>The statement made by the Chairman of the world Bank on power sector reforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Privatisation of Nizam Sugar Factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Losses suffered by A.P. Genco and A.P. TANSCO due to purchase of power at higher cost From Napatha based IPPs in the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Excess payment made by A.P. Beverages Corporation Ltd., to IMFL suppliers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Violence in local body elections held recently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Early completion of ongoing and pending projects on Godavari river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Irregularities in implementation of food for work Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Police excesses on SC’s, ST’s women and weaker Sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Erratic power supply in the state particularly to the Farming sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Irregularities in implementation of food for work Programme in the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Failure of the government to project innocent public From being cheated by white collar offenders in urban Banks, scams, lotteries, illegal prize chits, money circulation schemes viz., by Japan life magnetic Health products and southern wonder world resorts of southern group companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Filling up SC, ST, Bank log posts in different Departments and implementation of rule of reservation in aided education institutions in the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Failure of the government in implementation of smart Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Harassment of farmers to collect electricity of cess and confiscation of their starters, services service Wires, motors etc., by the AP TRANSCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Deviation to the original concessional agreements Allowed to the management of Kakinada seaport Limited to the deterrent of the interest of the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Action taken on the report of the National Water Link project part of peninsular River and Ganga, Kaveri link</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Official Records
**TABLE - 1.6**  
Calling Attention Notices Under Rule 74 Of The Assembly Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Acquisition of land payment of compensation Under Some project.</td>
<td>20-12-2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Privatisation of Kakinada port</td>
<td>24-12-2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sales tax and other exemption to India Cements</td>
<td>31-12-2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Issues of new ration cards</td>
<td>18-02-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Farmers suicides in the state</td>
<td>02-02-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>One time settlement of farmer's loan by cooperative Banks</td>
<td>25-02-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Alleged unethical practices in the election of Deputy Mayor of Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad</td>
<td>09-03-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Irregularities and bogus claims in payment of Compensation for the land acquired in Madhavaram Village, Ontimitta Mandal, Kadapa district under Somasila project and the role played by the Government pleader</td>
<td>17-03-2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Official Records
On Feb 11, 2000 police opened the fire in China ganjam of Prakasam District where two persons died. Dr. Y.S.R gave a notice citing that this was happened only due to the T.D.P Govt. illegal activity.\(^{15}\)

Food for work programme also questioned by Y.S.R about the irregularities in the implementation of food for work programme. Y.S.R said that the "yellow shirts" required crores of Rupees in the food for work programme.\(^{16}\)

Y.S.R opposed the privatization of Kakinada port in the Assembly.\(^{17}\) He also gave notice on police excesses on S.C, S.T, B.C and other weaker sections.\(^{18}\)

In 2000, Aug 14, day's hunger strike of legislators under his leadership to protest against the hike in power charges is still fresh in the memory of the people. His expose of the ruling party and its misdeeds both inside and out side the legislature Assembly made him an uncontested leader of the congress party in the State.\(^{19}\)

Padayathra, a Turning Point

The leader of Rayalaseema started different movements for the cause of Rayalaseema Problems. "Rayalaseema Vimochana Samithi" under the leadership of M.V.Ramana Reddy, Rayalaseema Karmika Karshaka parishad under the leadership of CH. Chandra Sekhar Reddy, Rayalaseema Karyacharana Samithi" under the leadership of M.V.Mysoora Reddy. Y.S.Rajasekhar Reddy elected as honorary president of the movement.
All the 3 organizations met in Kadapa and decided to fight jointly for the rights of Rayalaseema through “Rayalaseema Samyuktha Karyacharana Samithi”. They decided to organize padayathras in Rayalaseema Region.

Rayalaseema Samyuktha Karyacharana Samithi under took Padayatra in June 2, 1986.

“Y.S.R at Lepakshi, Ananthapur District, M.V.Mysoora Reddy, Sai Prathap from Tirupati, M.V.Ramana Reddy from Produttur, and B.Nagi Reddy from Chittoor have started simultaneously to Pothireddypadu regulator in Kurnool District.

Padayatra went on successful for ’21’ days. Perhaps this was the reason Y.S.R could finish marathon padayathra successfully later.

Padayatra is a non – violent technique that Mahatma Gandhi evolved to understand and appreciate the trails and tribulations of the people at large. Padayatra was started on 3rd April 2003 from Chevella to Ichapuram through Ranga Reddy District. Covering 1475 Kms in a hot summer was unique because no other person perhaps in the history of the world completed the task.

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. It was a turning point for Y.S.R. It made him undisputed charismatic leader in the state and he became a towering personality in the party.
It was a turning point for the Congress Party because the Padayathra made the Congress Party victorious in the state Assembly elections held in 2004. It was also instrumental in bringing the Congress Party back to power at the centre, also under the umbrella of united progressive Alliance (UPA) because the state of A.P sent 33 members of parliament to the Lok Sabha.

The day of Padayathra has arrived that was on 9th April 2003, all the roads lead to the road no. 2 of Banjara hills in Hyderabad where Y.S.R lived while he was opposition leader. The crowds thronged his home and gathered before his residence to extend solidarity and but wishes to him. The entire road was blocked with fleet of vehicles.\(^{20}\)

The slogans like “Congress Party Zindabad”, “Sonia Gandhi Zindabad” and “Y.S.R Zindabad” reached the sky. When Y.S.R came out from his house in pure white dress, the crowds were restless because the moment was history and crowds new that no one in future also would dare to repeat what he did on that day.

After garlanding Rajiv Gandhi Statue in Pan jagutta Circle and garlanding B.R.Ambedker statue at Tank bund, Y.S.R and his convoy reached the head quarters of the state Congress Party, Gandhi Bhavan. Before that, he had prayers in the house and visited masjid. People from all over the state welcomed him at Gandhi Bhavan. Then the president of A.P.State Congress M.Sathyamarayana Rao also was there to welcome him.\(^{21}\)
After garlanding Gandhi statue he started his journey at 10 a.m and reached Chevalla in Ranga Reddy District by 12 noon, where he was welcomed by the MLA of Chevalla, Smt. Sabitha Indra Reddy (later also it became to Y.S.R to start any of his programme) from Chevalla only.

He addressed a big gathering at Chevalla where he promised to bring Indira Rajyam (the return of rule of Indira Gandhi). The precious moment has come at 2 p.m wearing a dress of Kissan with a turban on his historical eventful and memorable padayathra.²²

His Padayathra had a brief stopping for lunch near Indra Reddy colony. The Yathra for the day stopped at 8 p.m at Manneguda village for a night halt.²³

Y.S.R received number of representatives in the Ranga Reddy District. The liberal economic policies in the field of agriculture have resulted in the increasing cost of inputs and decreasing cost of out puts. So the price level is not matching with the cost of collaboration. The net result is the alerting number of suicide by farmers of A.P out of the 400 farmers who are known to committed suicide in the country over 3000 were from A.P.²⁴

The DWCRA women met him and put forward their problems before him.²⁵

Women from velcher village in R.R. District wept before Y.S.R after looking into his legs with blood.²⁶

The Padayatra entered into the day '8'. At a public meeting he received a big applause when he announced that the congress govt. Would introduce the
scheme of free power to the farmers. At sultapur a farmer committed suicide as he was unable to pay back his credit that he took from a bank. Though he died, the bank officials were after his family for payment saying that they would drag them to the court. Y.S.R took the bank officials to the tank by angrily remarking that the banks were leading the rich aside and grabbing only the poor. 27

On April 24, the Padayatra covered 18 kms. The leaders, public and party workers found it difficult to follow the speedy walk of Y.S.R. 28

When the CLP Leader covered pratipadu a small town in East Godavari District, he had reached an important milestone of completing 1000 kms of his total 1400 kms of marathon prajaprasthaman which he had started more than 40 days ago. By then he had covered 431 villages of 36 Assembly segments. 29

He has walked across Cheballa parigi, Vikarabad and Tandur (RR Dist), sangaraddy, Medak, Ramayanpet, Narasapur (Medak Dist), Yallreddy and Kammareddy (Nizamabad), Merella, Hujarabad, Kamalapur (karimnagar) Sayampet, Parkal,Mulugu, Narasapet, Mahaboobabad and Dornakal (Warangal) Yellandu, Sujathnagar palair, Madhira and Sathupalli (Khammam) chintalapudi, Polvaram, Gopalapuram and Kovvr (West.Godavari) and Rajamundry, Kadiam,Burugupudi, Jaggampet, and Pattipuda (East.Godavari) before crossing the 1000/- kms mark. 30

Seeing that some work was going in ponthangicheruvu, Reddy went to the laborers and on enquires the contractor revealed to him that he was doing
the work under food for work programme. The laborers told Reddy that they were being given 5 kgs of rice while children were given only 3 kg of rice. How cold he employ child laborers? Why was he not paying the minimum wage? There was no response. Y.S.R instructed party workers to bring this to the notice of the collector and see that proper wages were paid to laborers.

Addressing a press conference during his padayatra at Veerabhadrapuram in Sarubujji Mandal of Srikakulam District. Y.S.R said the C.M who quoted examples from developed countries should think of the low interest rates on farm credit and the subsidies given to the famous sector.

The CLP leader Dr. Y.S.R is on the verge of completing his historic padayatra across 11 District of the state. The 68 days yatra is scheduled to conclude at ichapuram in Srikakulam District on June 15, after covering more than 1,470 kms.

The congress leader who participated in a meet the press programme organized by the vizag journalist forum, before he left for Tirupati after completing his padayatra at ichapuram in Srikakulam District.
FIGURE – 1.2
The Route Map of Y.S.R.’s Padayatra
He said that the conditions were very bad in the 11 district. He toured now but he found that the conditions in Mahabubnagar and Anantapur were wore (which he visited earlier).  

No other person in the nation, perhaps in the world, ever under took it. It was a turning point for the state and the nation also became the political parties and the politicians began to talk of farmer Rural areas and agriculture became a 'buzz word' after 2004 elections.

It was a turning point for the people of the State and the country because after Y.S.R become the C.M. The farmers who form more than 70% of the population got “free electricity” and the govt. of the other states and the central also took steps for the welfare of the rural people.

The marathon march which enabled the CLP leader to mingle with people and share their sufferings boosted his image and lifted the spirit of workers.

The spate of complaints Reddy received during the yatra and the way he articulated their grievances forced the ruling TDP to sit up and take a fresh look at its agenda.

The focus of the govt. shifted from reforms to a welfare package, which has come to be known as one crore books to the people.

Y.S.R’s mission seems to have served as an early wake up call for the TDP which has started “Jana Chaitanya Yathras” to counter the congress propaganda.
Jaithra Yathra

Y.S.R started his Jaithra Yathra (Election Campaign) on 5th April 2004 at chevella in Ranga Reddy district. He covered all most all Districts in the state. He also covered 5,500 kms, in the state 20 days of campaign. He toured 168 Assembly constituencies and 40 parliament constituencies. Out of 168 Assembly constituencies and 40 parliament constituencies. Out of 168 constituencies the congress party won more than 120 seats in the 2004 elections. The Jaithra Yatra was a mass contact programme a head of elections to state Legislature assembly in 2004. The Jaithra Yatra also started from Chevella of R.R.District. This would be his second Yatra with in a year time after his highly successful walk than of 1500 kms between April and June in 2003.

The Congress leader Y.S.R launched the party campaign with an appeal on 5th April 2004, to people to vote out of regime that “behaved worse” than the British using the Bullets to silence the voice of those who nearly demanded reduction in power tariff and subsidized seeds.

Y.S.R compared the police firing on left party agitators at Basheer Bagh in Hyderabad a few years ago, with the famous Jallianwela Bagh incident and said no other Govt. could unleash such terror” against its own people.

The Govt. again showed its cruelty by firing at farmers here when they were demanding subsidized seed and lathi charged on anganwadi women, demanding hike in the wages.
In contrast the congress in the event of coming to power would ensure free power to the farm sector, crop loan 3% interest, construct 8 lakh homes every year and register than in the names of women, and remove unemployment. Revolving fund would be released to DWCRA (Development of women and children in Rural Area) groups and loans provided at 3 percent.

Y.S.R gave a call to end the nine year misrule of the ruling Telugu desam party and promised to provide corruption from governance, if the congress came back to power.

He launched his election campaign on the third day of his “Jaithra Yatra” programme in the Karimnagar district from Metpally, Assembly constituency this afternoon.

Addressing the public meetings at Bhupal Palli, Chilpur, Regonda, Parakal and Shayampet, he reiterated his promise of free power and asked the farmers not to pay the power dues as the congress Government, if voted to power would wave the bills.\textsuperscript{35}

The Yatra passed through Peddapalli and the naxlite affected Manthani, Thadicherla.

Addressing roadside meetings as part of the “Jaitra Yathra”, he criticized Naidu for dubbing the Congress, TRS, CPI, CPI (M) alliance an unholy one. A day after the CM’s visit to Suryapet. Reddy could draw big crowds at the roadside meeting in the town. He also highlighted the incomplete irrigation
projects in the districts and assured the votes of completing them in a “time bound” programme.  

The congress leader addressed a series of public meetings in the sujathanagar and Kothagudam Assembly segments of the Khamam parliamentary constituency.

Addressing a largely attended meeting at the old bus stand area of Atmakur town, 48 kms from Nellore, Reddy referred to reports of a possible hike in the prices of LPG cylinder by Rs.94 and kerosene by Rs. 5 per litre with regards tobacco farmers Reddy remind as or how the Congress Government had earmarked as Rs.1000 crore funds to help farmers while present Government had been asking farmers to go in for a crop holiday. He appealed to the crowed that it was time they gave a holiday to the C.M.

An impressive turnout at the former CLP leader, Y.S.R’s road show covered 10 of the 15 Assembly segments in Chittoor District.

The 20 days “Jaithra Yathra” programme of the CLP leader Y.S.R concluded at ‘Nandikotkur” in Kurnool District.

The Government is widely popularizing “Sri” type paddy cultivation and striving to bring about among the farmers about this method through a programme called “System of Rice Intensification”.

YSR as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh
Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on 14th May 2004. Dr. Rajasekhar Reddy’s tenure as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh can be divided into three phases. In the first 18 months, he tried to live up the expectations of the people who voted him and his party to the power and used his power as chief minister to implement many promises he made during his walkathon. Free power to farmers bought an aura of credibility to his political persona which almost made him to sit above his rival Naidu in credibility plank. He never did anything to lower his position on credibility and actually made this as his cornerstone for all his political maneuverings unveiled later. During this phase, he shocked entire state by announcing a series of irrigation projects unheard in the past, later called as Jalayagnam.

Politically also he made some important decisions like reservations to Muslims without looking for constitutional hurdles and Supreme Court’s jurisdiction which later quashed these orders, but this act won the hearts of Muslims.

YSR never overlooked the basic duty of a gross root level leader. He never deviated from the path of devoted attention towards common people. He would start his day by mingling with daily visitors in his sprawling camp office, where he can gauze the pulse of common public on a daily basis, like a seasoned political doctor. His penchant for regular contacts with public as the Chief Minister took a new turn by his Pallebata and other mass contact
programmes. He displayed his warm-heartedness to the public with a touch of an elderly brother's image. So these dual stances of slaying the opposition dragons with one hand and extending another hand to common people puzzled many pundits, but majority of common people understood his compulsions very well and stood by him in every elections conducted in the state like local bodies or co-operative societies.

Dr. Rajasekhar Reddy made it clear that he would fight the opponents with his schemes for mass like free power, Arogyasree, Indiramma Houses, Rs.2/ kilo rice etc with the background score of jalayagnam. But contrary to his style of waging multi front attack, his election strategy was very simple and clear with a stress on his commitment and credibility.

When the elections results started coming out, it was like a tug of war as the results swayed from congress to mahakutami, but on the final count congress party and YSR romped home with simple majority of 155 members in a 294 strength assembly. But the performance of congress in Parliamentary Segments was a miracle of sorts, as 33 out of 42 seats were won by Congress Candidates. It was a sensational victory for the party and the image of YSR heralded into a hall of fame in the history of Congress.

Now it was crystal clear for everybody that the era of Rajasekhar Reddy truly arrived in the State with this consecutive win braving many hurdles like anti-incumbency and arrival of megastar, Chiranjeevi in state politics. Like a victorious kings returning from the war zone, he again chose LB stadium for
his second sworn-in ceremony, where he stuck with the tradition of signing an order of increasing the duration of free power to farmers from 7 hours to 9 hours and raising the limit of 5 Kilos rice per head to 6 kilos of Rs.2/- kilo rice scheme which he promised during his election campaign.

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. Further to these efforts, he wanted to put his own mark on the governance with a well conceived "Rachhabanda" programme for goading the state machinery to attend the difficulties of public through open house meeting at Villages.

YSR had special attachment of Tirumala

The special attachment that the Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy had for Tirumala needs no mention. He had visited Tirupati on over two dozen occasions and motored up the Tirumala on almost all the times to offer prayers to Lord Venkateswara.

Also, he successfully transformed the TTD, which was till then a religious body, into a major delivery channel to achieve many of the government's social obligations. Even in the height of proselytization charges that rocked the Tirumala in 2005-06, the YSR regime left no stone unturned to drive home the message loud and clear that it would not tolerate any delinquency in bringing the accused to book. When a Government Order issued in early 2006 was misconstrued as limiting the extent of the seven hills to only
two, which created a furore across the country, Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy came forward to put the record straight. After laying the foundation for S.V. Vedic University here in August 2006, he announced that Tirumala would have all the seven hills and the area of 101/3 sq. miles around the temple would continue to be under the control of the TTD. YSR got several projects inaugurated at Tirumala, keeping in view the growing demands of pilgrims. Lakshmi Narasimha (Tarigonda), Gandhi Anjaneya (Kadapa), Varadaraja (Nagari) and Lakshmi Venkateswara (Devuni Kadapa) temples languishing for funds were brought under the TTD roof for better maintenance. This apart, he sanctioned Rs.2,000 per month for maintenance of other small temples.
'Kalyanarnasthu', the mass marriage programme, became an instant hit where weddings were performed to the poor brides and grooms with blessings of Lord Balaji. Performing the Lord's celestial wedding (Kalyanotsavam) in metro cities, slums and Dalitwadas was another novel idea to reach out the glory of Lord Venkateswara as well as to get back the 'excluded' sections into the fold of Hinduism. 'Ayushmanbhava', a scheme to provide life insurance cover to priests and pundits in the 65-75 years age group, was inaugurated in February this year. 'Satha Kundatmaka Homam' was performed in Chennai and Hyderabad to propitiate the rain god. Under 'Geetha Govindam', copies of 'Bhagavadgita' were distributed to prisoners to bring repentance in them and make them useful to the society.

'Padmavathi Ammavari Pustaka Prasadam' was a TTD-funded project to distribute textbooks to all the poor students of State-run schools. 'Sravanam' is another TTD-run scheme aimed at identifying aural disability in infants and providing early intervention to treat the malady.

Tраги Енд оф Y.S.R.

ADHRA PRADESH lost one of its most charismatic and resourceful leaders ever when Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy was killed in helicopter crash in Kurnool district on September 2.

Comparable even to N.T. Rama Rao, who enjoyed a larger-than-life image during his short political career, Rajasekhara Reddy was growing in stature and settling down to serve a second consecutive stint as Chief Minister.
when death intervened. He had almost single-handedly delivered 33 Lok Sabha members to the Congress and achieved the difficult feat of defeating the Telugu Desam Part (TDP) in two consecutive elections.

His sudden departure has had a devastating effect on the State's political landscape, which now looks barren, as barren as the land where his Bell-430 helicopter left a burnt patch amid the green foliage in the inhospitable Nallamala hill range. It has left the Congress party shell-shocked and groping for suitable or even a makeshift replacement for the 60-year-old Rajasekhara Reddy as Chief Minister.

Thousands paid a tearful farewell to Dr. Rajasekhara Reddy, who died in a helicopter crash. A scene at Idupulapaya in Kadapa district, where the funeral was held on 04.09.2009

Although Rajasekhara Reddy successfully implemented his promise of free power supply to farmers, revived the Rs.2-a-kilo-rice scheme, which had been scrapped by his predecessor, and liberally sanctioned loans, pensions and scholarships and reimbursement of fee to all poor students irrespective of their
caste and community, he did not neglect industry, infrastructure and the IT sector. He consolidated the foundation for wealth creation programmes pioneered by Chandrababu Naidu. Rajasekhara Reddy who was often clad in white dhoti and shirt, the traditional attire of Telugus, was equally at home in formal suit during his visits abroad or when the occasion demanded it. He was known for his genial smile, brevity of speech, physical fitness and discipline. He sent out a clear message to his Cabinet colleagues and party cadre that he would only reward efficiency. The sea of humanity that thronged to pay homage to him at Hyderabad and Idupulapaya in Kadapa was a testimony to the enormous goodwill of the public Rajasekhara Reddy had earned. For a political leader who started as a rebel without a cause, his transformation as a mature politician determined to improve the lot of the poor and the underprivileged was tremendous. He has left a high stamp of credibility on the office of Chief Minister, making the going difficult for his successors.

"I am planning surprise visits to villages to check on the implementation of drought relief measures," were the last words he uttered to media persons before he embarked on his last journey. Although all the welfare measures may run as he planned, the personal touch that Rajasekhara Reddy gave them will be missing.\(^{41}\)
Condolence Messages:

In the sad and most untimely demise of Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, our country has lost an outstanding leader and the people of Andhra Pradesh have lost an ideal Chief Minister who was personally concerned to the welfare of the poor. My heartfelt sympathies go to the members of the bereaved family and the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Manmohan Singh  
Prime Minister  
04.09.2009
I am here to bid my last farewell to my colleague Chief Minister Rajasekhara Reddy. A dynamic, visionary, progressive leader who throughout his career strived for the upliftment of the Poor, of the farmers, for the empowerment of women and welfare of children. As Chief Minister he was untiring in his effort to Work for the people of the state. For us in the Congress party his passing is a huge loss. We shall always cherish his contribution and we shall take inspiration from the manner in which day and night he worked tirelessly for all sections of Society. I convey my deep felt condolences to his family, his friend and supporters.

Sonia Gandhi, UPA Chairperson
Chittoor turns YSR's last destination

Chittoor district or Tirupati, which normally I play host to leaders to launch their party programmes, election campaigns or agitations, sadly turned out to be the last destination in case of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy. His flight into the district into the fateful Wednesday to launch his State-wide programme 'Rachchabanda' ended in a tragedy. In fact, YSR had a busy schedule in the district on the fateful day. It was only at 5 a.m. on 02.09.2009 that he named Anuppalle, a dusty village on the outskirts of Chittoor town, as venue for the official launch of 'Rachchabanda' programme. Other programmes in his itinerary were having break-fast at the residence of Chittoor legislator C.K. Babu and later have a formal lunch at the wedding of MLC and former Chittoor MLA Gopinath's son. YSR had consciously fixed the two programmes to satisfy the groups led by the two leaders known for their group rivalries. In almost all the major junctions and street-corners, sharnianas were put-up and huge portraits and wall-posters of Rajasekhara Reddy were displayed and tributes paid to the leader with flowers and incense sticks.
Deserted Look: Traders voluntarily observed a bandh in Tirupati as a mark of respect to Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy on 03.09.2009

Reports of a similar gloomy stories came in from YSR's last destination, Chittoor, where the leaders offered a tearful tribute to him at the Gandhi statue and sat silently till noon.

Roads blocked

Chittoor district and Tirupati remained cut-off with the neighbouring Tamil Nadu and Karnataka States with villagers cutting off trees and putting them across the highways, ways. Outside the State, buses ferried passengers up to Andhra border and returned to their bases after dropping the passengers at the border in view of the road blocks.

Andhra Pradesh became a role model for governance

A visibly emotional Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday led the party in mourning the death of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, who played a key role in scripting the creation of
the United Progressive Alliance in 2004 and its coming back to power this year.

Both Ms. Gandhi and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh acknowledged this in their brief remarks to the media after the Congress Working Committee (CWC) met here to condole his death. In its resolution, the CWC said Dr. Reddy's outstanding record of achievements as Chief Minister helped the Congress return to power in the State in May-2009 and contributed to our remarkable victory in the Lok Sabha elections." Referring to the recent Lok Sabha elections, Ms. Gandhi recalled how the Congress senior leadership was apprehensive of the party's prospects in Andhra Pradesh. "Every time, he kept telling of us, 'Please trust me; I know the people of Andhra Pradesh, they will vote for us and I we will surely come back'. This confidence of Dr. Reddy has become part of Congress legend, as leaders privy to closed-door meetings remember him telling the high command that he would deliver 35 Lok Sabha seats to the party's kitty. He was not very off-target: the Congress won 33 seats, the highest number the party bagged from any State. Describing the Chief Minister as one of "our most charimatic leaders," Ms. Gandhi echoed the CWC resolution, stating his 'padyatra' ahead of the 2004 Assembly elections was instrumental in bringing the Congress back to power after a decade in the Opposition. Reflecting the mood in the Congress since when Dr. Reddy's helicopter went missing, Ms. Gandhi said: "We waited in hope day and night. We hoped he would be back on his feet alive. Sadly, we got this terrible news."
The Prime Minister said that under Dr. Reddy's stewardship, Andhra Pradesh became a role model for governance. A dynamic Chief Minster, he carried forward the idea, ideals and vision dear to the congress.

The resolution also conveyed condolences to the bereaved families of the others who dies along with Dr. Reddy. "Our hearts go out to all those who traveled with him but did not return" Ms. Gandhi said.\textsuperscript{43}

Valued Colleague

Expressing a deep sense of grief and personal loss, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, in a message to Dr. Reddy's wife, Vijayalaxshmi Reddy noted, "Rajasekharaji died as he lived – in the service of the people of Andhra Pradesh and the country. In this untimely passing away, the State of Andhra Pradesh has lost an outstanding leader and the country has lost an ideal Chief Minister, who was a role model for other States.

On a personal note, Dr. Singh added "I have lost a valued colleague on who my dependent for support and ideas. Rajasekharji life was one of tireless commitment and service to the people especially the poor and the underprivileged. His legacy will leave on and will inspire many others in the time to come. "Your husband was a natural leader of men, who was loved equally by the public, his colleagues and the common man. The void his passing away has left behind, will never be filled. My wife joins me in extending our heartfelt condolences to you and your family members. I pray to
God to give the strength and the fortitude to guide you in this hour of profound personal loss.

Son of the Soil

Cutting across party lines, political parties and their leaders paid rich tributes to Dr. Reddy, Bharatiya Janata Party president Rajnath Singh called him “a son of the soil, who had a special concern for the welfare of the poor and other weaker sections of society”.

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha L.K. Advani said that in his death, the people of Andhra Pradesh and the country had lost a very able and popular leader of the masses. “His contribution to the development of Andhra Pradesh, particularly the deprived classes of society, is praise worthy.

The former Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, described Dr. Reddy as a progressive leader who was full of promises. “He was hard working, energetic and full of possibilities, and a dedicated politician. In his death, Andhra Pradesh has lost a progressive leader.”

Review of Literature


Doraiswamy, R. studied the field activity of participatory training Programme capacity building of various stakeholders undertaken by Jalaspandana in large canal irrigation projects namely Kurnool, Cuddapah Canal, Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme and Priyadarshini Jurala Project in Andhra Pradesh.47

Ravikiran study focuses on how the introduction of innovative programmes like Rajiv Aarogyasri is making healthcare delivery system of the state more efficient and effective.48

Venkatesh Babu in his article “Dr. YSR-A Tiger who will Rore no more” uncovers the live of Dr. YSR.49

B. Karunakar Reddy in his book “Prajapasthanam-Naanubavalu” highlights his experiences with YSR during the latter’s padayatara. He also discusses the problems and the public response on it.50

“Prajapraasthanam” written by P.V.S. Moorthy narrates various kinds of representations given by the people to YSR in his padayatra.51

S. Venkata Subba Reddy book on “Dr. Y. S Rajasekhar Reddy- A Study” throws light on the various factors like early life, electoral politics, achievements, padayathra, policies, and programmes of YSR and public opinion on YSR.52

stated that how policies and programmes of Dr. Rajasekhar Reddy has transformed Andhra Pradesh as a Developed State.\textsuperscript{53}

Thus, though there were studies on YSR from time-to-time, they were limited and 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 people of Andhra Pradesh.

Need for the Study

The study of contribution of political personalities to different fields of society is not a new one to social discipline. Such studies have generally come to occupy an important plan in Social Science Research.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are as follows;

1. To study the early life of Y. S Rajasekhar Reddy,
2. To analyse the performance of policies and programmes under YSR government,
3. To evaluate the functioning of agriculture and irrigation related programmes such as free power and jalayagnam programme,
4. To highlight the importance of health programmes like as Rajeev Arogyasree,

To assess the performance of housing programme such as INDIRAMMA.

Methodology

The study is based on both primary secondary data. The primary data were collected from various sources such as the report, of UNDP and
Government of Andhra Pradesh. The secondary data were elicited from available literature on the topic such as newspapers, books, journals, and magazines.

Significance of the Study

The policies and programmes of the governments before YSR could not reach the target groups as they were also not popular as that of the policies and programmes of YSR. Dr Rajasekhar Reddy has gone to the ground level of the system and prepared and implemented his policies and programmes for the welfare of the least and lowliest people in the ladder of the society. These policies have reached the target group that every person in a household has enjoyed the fruits of one or the other which made so popular and dearer in the hearts of the people. Therefore, the study of these policies and programmes are of great significant and important.

Plan of the Study

First Chapter ‘INTRODUCTION’ deals with YSR early life.

Second chapter ‘POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES OF YSR’ discusses various programmes and policies implemented in YSR regime, and how these programmes and policies have become a tool for the development of Andhra Pradesh.

Third chapter ‘FREE POWER AND JALAYAGNAM’ assesses the implementation of free power, and its problems in implementation, and critically assesses the ongoing Jalayagnam programme.
Fourth chapter 'RAJIV AROGYASRI' explains the functioning of Arogyasri health programme and studies its impact on people of Andhra Pradesh.

Fifth Chapter 'INDIRAMMA' assesses the performance of Indiramma programme aiming to provide a house to the houseless.

Sixth Chapter 'SUMMARY AND SUGGESTIONS' concludes the study.
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