

Report on National Conference on “The Holistic Development of the Dalits” on 28th & 29th December, 2021

A two-day National Conference on “The Holistic Development of the Dalits” was organized by The Department of Economics & The Department of English, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (Autonomous), Khammam, Telangana. The conference was sponsored by Rashtriya Uchatar Siksha Abhiyan (RUSA) and The Telangana State Council of Higher Education. Despite serious developmental efforts of the state and the civil society, the Dalits still remain excluded from economic, cultural, social and political benefits that accrued to a large number of other communities. In spite of implementing several schemes and plans for dalit empowerment for the last seventy five years of independent India, the socio-economic and political status still sets them apart from the other upper castes and backward classes. Government reservations have increased their number in schools, colleges and government institutions but they do not alone materialise the much awaited goal of social inclusion. For, still can be seen the discrimination, oppression and the silent suffering of the dalits in various forms and magnitude across the country. The strong hegemonic sentiment is adversely affecting the incessant efforts of the government to benefit this most marginalised group in India and made them remain an underclass in the debris of institutionalised discrimination and marginalisation. Therefore, the Dalits must raise their voice against the organised negligence, question the entire methodology for not producing effective outcomes and strive for equality, full participation, greater autonomy, respect and honour for their ceaseless and untiring contribution for the welfare of the society.

The two day National Conference aimed at providing a discussion platform for the issues and challenges concerning the holistic development of the dalits and an attempt was made in this Conference to arrive at a reasonable solution of the issues and challenges in the holistic development of the Dalits in India in general and Telangana in particular.

The conference started with the inaugural programme graced by honourable Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, Telangana & Former Chairman of Telangana State Public Service Commission, Hyderabad. Sri. Banda Srinivas, Chairman, Telangana State Scheduled Caste Development Corporation, Dr. Doneti Sivaji, Assistant Professor, Department of History & Archaeology & Co-ordinator, Department of MSW, North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya and Dr. Mohammad Zakirullah, Principal, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam, Telangana.

The session started with a welcome address by Dr. N. Gopi, Assistant Professor of Economics, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam, Telangana and Convener of

the Conference. Dr. N. Gopi welcomed all the dignitaries, presenters and all present in the programme with a brief introduction of the theme of the conference and about the keynote speaker Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani. The lightening of the lamp by the distinguished guests followed.



The inaugural speech was delivered by Dr. Mohammad Zakirullah, Principal, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam, Telangana. He appreciated the conference theme on the holistic development of the Dalits.



Following this, the Special Guest, Sri Banda Srinivas addressed the delegates. He emphasized the necessity of organizing programmes on Dalit issues and challenges. He also explained various schemes that the Government of Telangana is providing the Scheduled Castes including the latest programme of Dalit Bandhu.



Later, the Guest of Honour, Dr. Doneti Sivaji addressed the delegates. He stressed on the necessity of conducting research on various issues and challenges of the Scheduled Castes and marginalized people.



Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani, in his key-note address, elucidated in detail various issues and challenges faced by the dalits. He meticulously defined the theme the holistic development of the dalits and expressed that the Scheduled Caste people should be not just economic development but what is actually wanted is holistic development i.e. the overall development – social, political, cultural and economic. He opined that in spite of providing various developmental schemes for these marginalized people, most of them are still under poverty. He stated that the economic or social development of a few of these people cannot be considered the overall development. Efforts of the governments both at the centre and at the state should continue to uplift the masses and he appreciated the organizers for conducting a conference purely on the theme of Dalit development.



The proceedings of the conference are brought out through, LangLit: An International Peer Reviewed Open Access Journal. It was released by the Chief Guest. Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani.



The inaugural programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. K. S. S. Ratna Prasad, Associate Professor, Department of English, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam. Following the inaugural session there was a technical session chaired by Dr. E. Ram Bhaskar Raju, Assistant Professor of English, Kakatiya Government College, Warangal and Dr. A. Venkateswarlu, Associate Professor of Economics, Government Degree College, Paloncha.

In this session participants presented their papers. It continued in the post lunch session as well. The paper presenters are Ms. S. Anjani, G.Shivaji, Ramu Rudroju, Dr.Gollapudy Varalaxmi, Dr. Y. Sumithra, Dr. Giri Prasad Vidudhala, Mr. Kotaparti Srikanth, D. Ramakrishna, Dr.K.Gayathri, Smt. A.Narasamma, P. Saritha, Namratha Erra, and K. Vijaya Lakshmi.

Second day of the conference started with a technical session chaired by Dr. K. S. S. Ratna Prasad, Associate Professor, Department of English, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam and Dr. A. Venkateswarlu, Associate Professor of Economics, Government Degree College, Paloncha. The paper presenters in this session are Dr. B. Venkateshwar Reddy, S. Ramesh, Dr. C. V. Muralidhar, Sri. K. Sukumar, N. Venkanna, , Sri.M.Pitchaiah, Dr A R Satyavathi, Dr. B. Lakshmana Rao, Lt.Dr.J.Ramesh, T.Nagur, Gattigunde Venkaiah and Dr. N. Vijaya Bhaskara Sarma.

The post lunch session of the conference started with an invited talk by Prof. Dasari Murali Manohar, Department of English, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. He explained various research trends in English and Economics.



Sri Lingala Kamal Raju, Chairman, Zilla Parishad, Khammam was the Chief Guest of the valedictory session. He described in detail various schemes that the Government of Telangana is offering to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes. He also highlighted the Dalitabandhu scheme, a new scheme for the Scheduled Castes introduced by the Government of Telangana. This was

followed by certificate distribution. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Sri. N. Venkanna, Head of the Department of Economics, SR & BGNR Government Arts & Science College (A), Khammam.

