

A View on Scheduled Tribes Constituencies in Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract — Electoral victory is based on the decision of voters in any democratic society. Voting behaviour is a form of election behaviour. Elections must represent the free expression of the people's will to be considered credible. As a result, elections must be open to everyone, inclusive, and responsible. In this aspect, this research paper observes that the electors' decision regarding Scheduled Tribes candidates in various political parties in 2019 assemble elections and provides the finding of the study.

Keywords — *Scheduled Tribes; Constitutional Provisions; Reserved Constituencies; Election Results.*

1. Introduction

The tribe denotes a group of people of theoretically common origin. It generally refers to a community, race or class of people. The people of the listed tribes represent one of India's poorest and most socially, educationally, culturally and economically and politically marginalized groups. But people's economic and political behaviour is also determined by the caste system. Political awareness of rights and duties, improvement of living standards, autonomy, self-esteem and self-confidence lead to political empowerment. Most of the tribes listed live in rural areas and have received very little education, health and resources. Active participation of members of the lower classes would facilitate change in society itself. The term "political participation" refers to the engagement of individuals of society in the system's decision-making process.

2. Scheduled Tribes

Under Article 366(25) of the Constitution, the phrase "Scheduled Tribes" is defined as "such tribes or tribal communities or sections or groups within such tribes or tribal communities that are regarded under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for this Constitution." More than 99% of Indian groups that refused to accept the caste system and decided to dwell in remote areas of India are included in this category.

India was a nation with a rigid, caste-based hierarchical structure. In this regard, many people came to be known as Shudras and were assigned the lowest kinds of jobs. Since time immemorial, these depressed classes have, from generation to generation, continued to be deprived of the right to participate in a fair share of social, economic and political rights. After independence, the constitution's drafters faced the daunting task of transforming a traditional society, classified by many social classes linked

by customs and conventions, into a unified political community. Indian law and reservation policy are based on a profoundly ingrained classification system based on a person's caste in society. The constitution of India prescribes justice, freedom, equality and fraternity as the highest values to build an egalitarian social, economic and political democracy. In this way, the constitution provided reserved seats for the Scheduled Tribes.

3. Constitutional Provisions for Political Participation of Scheduled Tribes

The most prominent preferential policies are the reservation of seats in elective legislative bodies. Under Article 330 of the Indian Constitution, the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabha have reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population. However, neither the central nor state upper chambers have any reserved seats. Constitutional and statutory provisions bolster the Scheduled Tribes' political participation. Article 243D was introduced by way of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, 1992.

This article safeguards compulsory protective discrimination and reservations favouring Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and women who are Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and provides the Legislature with the discretionary power to provide for the same for other Backward Classes.

The primary purpose of granting the reservation is to ensure socio-economic and political equality for disadvantaged people of scheduled Tribes. One of the most explicit constitutional provisions concerns reserving seats for listed tribes in the Union and state legislatures. These constitutional provisions on the political reservation are binding. Only the person belonging to the scheduled tribe's category can participate in these reserved constituencies. One purpose of this type of reservation was to allow the group of tribes listed to voice the grievances of the tribes.

4. Scheduled Tribes Population in India

The following table shows the Scheduled castes population in India.

Table 1: Scheduled Tribe population in India

Year →	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Total Population	5,480	6,851.47	8,463.03	10,275.10	12,101.93
Scheduled Tribe Population	380.15	538.16	683.81	807.29	1000.83
Percentage	6.93	7.85	8.08	7.86	8.27

Source: Population census reports of 1971,1981,1991,2001 and 2011

As can be seen from the data above table -1, the number of Indian tribal people has steadily risen along with the country's overall population. To be sure, tribal membership isn't evenly distributed. From 6.93% in 1971 to 8.27% in 2011, it has similarly risen. Census work has been more efficient throughout time owing to better transportation and public awareness, and as a result, previously uncounted tribes have been included in the census.

5. Scheduled Tribes Population of Andhra Pradesh

The following table shows the Scheduled Castes population in Andhra Pradesh.

Table 2: District Wise Population of Scheduled Tribes of Andhra Pradesh 2011

S. NO	District	Population	ST Total	ST Male	Female	Percentage of Male (ST) Total Population	Percentage of Female (ST) Total Population	Percentage of ST Total Population
1	Srikakulam	2703114	166118	81382	84736	3.01	3.13	6.15
2	Vizianagaram	2344474	235556	114687	120869	4.89	5.16	10.05
3	Visakhapatnam	4290589	618500	302905	315595	7.06	7.36	14.42
4	East Godavari	5285824	297044	144548	152496	2.73	2.88	5.62
5	West Godavari	3994410	133997	65439	68558	1.64	1.72	3.35
6	Krishna	4517398	132464	66734	65730	1.48	1.46	2.93
7	Guntur	4887813	247089	125105	121984	2.56	2.50	5.06
8	Prakasam	3397448	151145	76677	74468	2.26	2.19	4.45
9	SPSR Nellore	2963557	285997	145168	140829	4.90	4.75	9.65
10	YSR Kadapa	2882469	75886	38571	37315	1.34	1.29	2.63
11	Kurnool	4053463	82831	42052	40779	1.04	1.01	2.04
12	Anantapur	4081148	154127	78573	75554	1.93	1.85	3.78
13	Chittoor	4174064	159165	79756	79409	1.91	1.90	3.81
Andhra Pradesh		49575771	2739919	1361597	1378322	2.75	2.78	5.53

Source: Census of India, 2011, Data includes ST population of Submergence of Scheduled villages of 7 Mandals from Khammam district to the A.P. State (as per reorganization act 2014)

The above table-2 shows that the population statistics in district wise in Andhra Pradesh. The total Scheduled Tribes population 5.53 percentage and most of the scheduled tribes are living in Visakhapatnam and follows Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh.

6. Scheduled Tribes Reserved Constituencies in Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh was allocated 175 legislative assembly seats and 25 Lok Sabha Constituencies. Out of 25

Lok sabha constituencies, 4 reserved for Scheduled Castes and one reserved for Scheduled Tribes. Out of the total 175 constituencies, 29 constituencies are reserved for Scheduled Castes and seven constituencies for scheduled Tribes reserved. The reserved Scheduled Tribes constituencies are in various districts like the Palakonda Assembly constituency in the Srikakulam district. There is a total of 184,414 electors in the constituency. Kurupam Assembly constituency is reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the Vizianagaram district. Salur assembly constituency is reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the Vizianagaram district.

There is a total of 190,619 electors in the constituency. Araku valley Assembly constituency is reserved for Scheduled Tribes in Visakhapatnam district. There is a total of 220,773 electors in the constituency. Paderu assembly constituency is reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the Visakhapatnam district. There are a total of 227,042 electors in the constituency. Rampachodavaram assembly constituency reserved for Scheduled Tribes in East Godavari district. There is a total of 260,323 electors in the constituency. Polavaram Assembly constituency is reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the West-Godavari district. There is a total of 245,483 electors in the constituency.

Since the 1990s, when other regional parties began to form throughout India, tribes have continued to support Congress in significant numbers in elections. When it came to Scheduled Tribes (ST) votes in 2014 and subsequent Lok Sabha elections, however, BJP outperformed Congress. According to the latest results, India's BJP gained 13 percentage points in vote share, while Congress lost ten percentage points. The Congress's performance in ST-

reserved districts was no better. Andhra Pradesh's Scheduled Tribe seats were won by the regional party, Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party, in 2019. At least in these reserved seat elections, the national parties like the Indian National Congress (INC) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) were unable to collect deposits.

7. Methodology

Secondary data formed the foundation of this study. The secondary data was collected from the Indian Election Commission and other books and journals. The study made use of the descriptive statistical method.

8. Analysis of the Election Results

The present study explains the decision of the electors regarding Scheduled Tribe reserved constituencies in Andhra Pradesh in 2019.

Table 3: Voting percentage in Palakonda (ST Constituency)

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage of Votes
1	JAYAKRISHNA NIMMAKA	Telugu Desam	53622	452	54074	39.55
2	VISWASARAYI KALAVATHI	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	70778	1276	72054	52.7
3	DVG SANKARA RAO	Communist Party of India	3283	60	3343	2.45
4	SUNEETHA THADANGI	Bharatiya Janata Party	1121	48	1169	0.86
5	H. PRASAD RAO	Indian National Congress	994	7	1001	0.73
6	ARIKA KRISHNA RAO	Independent	786	5	791	0.58
7	GANGAMMA SAVARA	Independent	730	2	732	0.54
8	NOTA	None of the Above	3544	4	3548	2.6
Total			134858	1854	136712	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-3 reveals, in the Palakonda constituency, the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) candidate has won the election with 72054 (52.7 per cent) votes out of 136712 total votes. The Telugu Desam Party candidate has got Second place with 54074 votes (39.55 per cent). At the same time, the Indian National Congress party candidate has got 1001 votes (0.73 per cent) only. At

the same time, the Bharatiya Janata Party candidate has got 1169 votes (0.86 per cent) only. But Communist Party of India candidate has got more votes 3343 (2.45 per cent) than INC and BJP. The important observation was NOTA option has got more votes, 3548 (2.6 per cent), than INC and BJP. Even independent candidates were not influenced by the voters.

Table 4: Voting percentage in Kurupam (ST Constituency) Vizianagaram

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage of Votes
1	AVINASH KUMAR KOLAKA	Communist Party of India (Marxist)	8551	54	8605	6.01
2	NIMMAKA.	Bharatiya Janata Party	4137	67	4204	2.93

	JAYARAJU.					
3	NIMMAKA SIMHACHALAM	Indian National Congress	2198	6	2204	1.54
4	PUSHPASREEVANI PAMULA	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	73863	664	74527	52.02
5	VEERA VARA THODRAMAL NARA SIMHA PRIYA THATRAJ	Telugu Desam	47607	318	47925	33.45
6	NIMMAKA VASUDEVARAO	Independent	1257	1	1258	0.88
7	NOTA	None of the Above	4534	1	4535	3.17
Total			142147	1111	143258	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-4 describes information about the Kurupam Constituency in Vizianagaram district, the YSRCP candidate, has won the election with 74527 (52.02 per cent) while the TDP candidate has got 47925 (33.45 per

cent). At the national parties, the INC candidate has got 2204 (1.54), and the BJP candidate has got 4204 votes (2.93). At the same time, the CPM(Marxist) candidate has got 8605 votes (6.01 per cent). In this constituency, the NOTA option has got 4535 votes (3.17 per cent).

Table 5: Voting percentage in Salur (ST Constituency) Vizianagaram

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage Votes
1	KONDAGORRI. UDAY KUMAR	Bharatiya Janata Party	3247	21	3268	2.15
2	PEEDIKA. RAJANNA DORA	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	77616	814	78430	51.7
3	R. P. BHANJ DEO	Telugu Desam	58085	316	58401	38.49
4	RAYALA. SUNDARA RAO	Indian National Congress	1731	6	1737	1.14
5	BONELA. GOVINDAMMA	Janasena Party	3257	51	3308	2.18
6	JANNI. SIMHACHALAM	Independent	361	0	361	0.24
7	M. PARAMMA	Independent	498	0	498	0.33
8	LACHAYYA. TELUGU	Independent	836	0	836	0.55
9	NOTA	None of the Above	4871	3	4874	3.21
Total			150502	1211	151713	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-5 shows information about the Salur assembly constituency was reserved in Vizianagaram for Scheduled Tribes. The YSRCP candidate has secured 78430 votes (51.7), while the Telugu Desam Party candidate has got 58401 votes (38.49 per cent). BJP

candidate has got 3268 votes (2.15 per cent), and INC candidate has got 1737 votes (1.14 per cent). The new regional Janasena party candidate has only got 3308 (2.18 per cent). The independent candidates were failed in the election. In this constituency, the NOTA option has 4874 votes (3.21 per cent).

Table 6: Voting percentage in Araku valley (ST) VISAKHAPATNAM

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage Votes
1	ADAPA BONJU NAIDU	Bharatiya Janata Party	4877	10	4887	3.1
2	KIDARI. SRAVAN KUMAR	Telugu Desam	19281	648	19929	12.65
3	CHETTI. PALGUNA	Yuvajana Sramika	52266	835	53101	33.7

		Rythu Congress Party				
4	PACHIPENTA SANTHA KUMARI	Indian National Congress	2546	0	2546	1.62
5	SURENDRA KILLO	Communist Party of India (Marxist)	10401	54	10455	6.63
6	DEVIKA PADI	Jana Jagruti Party	1508	0	1508	0.96
7	RAJENDRA PRASAD BUKKA	Independent	2035	0	2035	1.29
8	DONNU DORA SIYYARI	Independent	27598	62	27660	17.55
9	P. RAJA RAO	Independent	10758	117	10875	6.9
10	VENGADA ANIL KUMAR MAJJI	Independent	4421	1	4422	2.81
11	SURYA NARAYANA JARSINGI	Independent	9830	150	9980	6.33
12	NOTA	None of the Above	10177	0	10177	6.46
Total			155698	1877	157575	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-6 provides information about the Araku Valley constituency that was reserved for STs in Visakhapatnam. YSRCP candidate has won the election with 53101 votes (33.7 per cent). In this constituency, one of the independent candidates were got 27660 votes (17.55),

and the independent candidates were influenced by voters differently. The national party candidates were from BJP secured 4887 votes (3.1 per cent), INC 2546 votes (1.62 per cent), CPM (Marxist) 10455 votes (6.63 per cent). NOTA option has got 10177 votes in this constituency.

Table 7: Voting percentage in PADERU (ST Constituency) VISAKHAPATNAM

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage Votes
1	ESWARI. GIDDI	Telugu Desam	27912	437	28349	20.16
2	GANDHI LOKULA	Bharatiya Janata Party	4602	29	4631	3.29
3	BHAGYA LAKSHMI KOTTAGULLI	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	70875	278	71153	50.6
4	VANTHALA SUBBARAO	Indian National Congress	4908	2	4910	3.49
5	GADUGU BALAYYA DORA	Jana Jagruti Party	836	0	836	0.59
6	JOSEPH. KINTUKURI	India Praja Bandhu Party	667	1	668	0.48
7	BALARAJU PASUPULETI	Janasena Party	5953	85	6038	4.29
8	KANNA BABU KOKKULA	Independent	789	1	790	0.56
9	KUDA KRISHNARAO	Independent	8501	46	8547	6.08
10	Dadiya. Satyanarayana	Independent	1078	0	1078	0.77
11	DONDA LAKSHMI VENKATA RAM PRASAD.	Independent	1341	1	1342	0.95
12	BUSARI. KRISHNA KUMARI	Independent	1079	0	1079	0.77
13	Boina Satyanarayana	Independent	1751	0	1751	1.25
14	Mudili Lakshmayya	Independent	1635	1	1636	1.16
15	NOTA	None of the Above	7801	7	7808	5.55
Total			139728	888	140616	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-7 explains, the paderu constituency total, polled votes were 140616. Out of the total, the YSRCP candidate won the election with 71153 (50.6 per cent), while the TDP candidate got 28349 votes (20.16 per cent). BJP candidate has got 4631 votes (3.29 per cent).

One independent candidate has secured 8547 votes (6.08 per cent), and the remaining independent candidates have not influenced the people. At the same time, the NOTA option has got 7808 votes (5.55 per cent).

Table 8: Voting percentage in Polavaram (ST Constituency) WEST GODAVARI

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage Votes
1	KANITHI RAMA CHANDRA SEKHAR @ CHANDRA SEKHAR	Indian National Congress	6639	8	6647	3.12
2	TELLAM BALA RAJU	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	109522	1001	110523	51.81
3	BORAGAM VENKATA LAKSHMI	Bharatiya Janata Party	1115	4	1119	0.52
4	BORAGAM SRINIVASULU	Telugu Desam	68117	336	68453	32.09
5	ANANDA RAO GAJJALA	Nava Samaj Party	522	2	524	0.25
6	KAKA JAYA PRAVEEN KUMAR	India Praja Bandhu Party	380	3	383	0.18
7	CHIRRI BALARAJU	Janasena Party	13322	56	13378	6.27
8	MADAKAM VENKATESWARAO	All India Forward Bloc	553	0	553	0.26
9	KAKA NAGAMANI	Independent	718	0	718	0.34
10	DHARMULA SURESH	Independent	3983	8	3991	1.87
11	SUNNAM SOMA RAJU	Independent	1017	1	1018	0.48
12	NOTA	None of the Above	6002	2	6004	2.81
Total			211890	1421	213311	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-8 reveals, the Polavaram constituency, the total votes of 213311 were polled. Out of the total votes, YSRCP candidate who has won with the majority the election. TDP candidate has got 68453 votes (32.09), INC candidate has secured 6647 votes (3.12 per cent), BJP

candidate has got 1119 votes (0.52 per cent) as well as Jana Sena party candidate has secured 13378 votes (6.27 per cent), the independent candidates were not influenced to the voters, but NOTA option polled 6004 votes (2.81 per cent).

Table 9: Voting percentage in Rampachodavaram (ST Constituency) EAST GODAVARI

S. No.	Candidate	Party	EVM Votes	Postal Votes	Total Votes	Percentage Votes
1	GONDI BALAIAH	Indian National Congress	5009	4	5013	2.48
2	TURSAM SUBBA RAO	Bharatiya Janata Party	1984	2	1986	0.98
3	NAGULAPALLI DHANALAKSHMI.	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	97853	465	98318	48.72
4	RAJIAH. SUNNAM	Communist Party of India	17888	294	18182	9.01

		(Marxist)				
5	VANTHALA RAJESWARI	Telugu Desam	59062	150	59212	29.34
6	GADA PARVATHI	Pyramid Party of India	527	0	527	0.26
7	SOMALA KUSALA	Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation)	504	0	504	0.25
8	KUNJA SRINU	Independent	843	4	847	0.42
9	KUNJAM. V. V. S. N. DORA.	Independent	3629	74	3703	1.83
10	KOMARAM PURNA RADHA KRISHNA PHANEESWARI.	Independent	1456	2	1458	0.72
11	KODI. SUJATHA	Independent	742	0	742	0.37
12	JULUVA. YETHI RAJULU	Independent	823	10	833	0.41
13	PARSIKKA PRAKHASH RAO	Independent	961	1	962	0.48
14	PALLALA. RAJAKUMAR REDDY	Independent	2260	13	2273	1.13
15	PALLALA. LATCHI REDDY	Independent	2794	0	2794	1.38
16	NOTA	None of the Above	4447	6	4453	2.21
Total			200782	1025	201807	

Sources: Election Commission of India

The above table-9 reveals, the Rampachodavaram constituency, the total votes of 201807 were polled. Out of the total, YSRCP candidate has won the election with 98318 votes (48.72 per cent). TDP candidate has secured 59212 votes (29.34 per cent). INC candidate has got 5013 votes (2.48 per cent), BJP candidate has secured 1986 votes (0.98 per cent), and CPM (Marxist) candidate has got 18182 votes (9.01 per cent). Independent candidates were not attracted to the voters. NOTA has got 4453 votes (2.21 percent).

9. Findings of the Study

1. The contested candidates belonged to Scheduled Tribes, and these constituencies were reserved for Scheduled Tribes, but the electors belonged to all communities.
2. The scheduled Tribes candidates contested through various national and regional parties
3. The Scheduled Tribes' political motivations were contested as independent candidates. But no one independent candidate succeeded in the election.
4. All the successful candidates in the assembly elections as MLA belonged to the regional party, i.e., Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP).
5. The most important observation from the present study NOTA option (None of the Above) has secured significant votes than National political party candidates. It shows that all candidates are not suitable for that position.

10. Conclusion

The Present study reveals the pattern of the election results regarding Scheduled Tribe Constituencies in Andhra Pradesh in 2019. Those who belong to YSRCP scheduled tribe candidates were won the election in 2019. They were elected under the leadership of the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Sri. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Most of the people of Andhra Pradesh have trusted Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and his promises at the time of the election campaign. As well as the dissatisfaction with the previous government and failure of the promises, unemployment, underdevelopment, caste and religious factors, regional disparities were the main reason for winning the elections in 2019.

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