

# Unveiling Telangana State

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**EMESCO**

## Index

1. Impossible times	11
2. Congress: A victim of its own policies	17
3. TJAC in a cleft stick	24
4. Congress must get its act together on AP	31
5. Time for decision is now	37
6. Hope springs eternal!	44
7. Is it history repeating itself or Is it human nature?	52
8. A Story of missed Opportunities	63
9. Supreme example of bungling	73
10. Discreditable dithering	83
11. The leadership moment	93
12. AP in catch-22 situation	103
13. Make history; don't make it up	114
14. Wages of poor strategy	122

15. Debate ballasts democracy	128
16. Rebuilding Telugus' future	135
17. Can a BC hope to become CM of T?	143
18. Sonia's thankless job	152
19. Putting chameleons to shame	161
20. Decoding KCR	168
21. Modi, KCR-Popular waves!	177
22. Heartening moves in Delhi, Hyderabad	185

## 1. Impossible times

### **Context:**

*The Congress High Command on Friday, 7 October 2011, stepped up its efforts to find an amicable solution to the vexed issue of Telangana. On a day of dramatic developments, there was a string of meetings in Delhi. AICC General Secretary Rahul Gandhi had a meeting with Mega Star- politician K Chiranjeevi. In one-on-one meeting with Chiranjeevi, Rahul reportedly said the government has to find a quick solution to end the strike by employees in Telangana. Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee met Congress president Sonia Gandhi and held discussions over the issue of Telangana. Mukherjee clarified that he was misquoted in his TV interview on Telangana issue. Later AICC General Secretary in-charge of AP Ghulam Nabi Azad along with other members of the Congress core group met Pranab Mukherjee at the latter's North Block office. Senior ministers AK Antony and P Chidambaram also took part in the deliberations. Azad told media persons that more discussions are needed to arrive at a solution. TJAC chairman Professor Kodandram has announced on Friday that the three-day Rail Roko agitation has been deferred to October 12-14 from the 9-11. Almost all important players in the AP Congress were in Delhi on Saturday. The Congress High Command appeared to be on the verge of finalizing the policy on Telangana. Ending Sakala Janula Samme (SJS) was its top priority.*

*Pranab Mukherjee and Azad told media persons that they are hastening up the process but cannot put any time limit. Chief Minister Kiran Kumar Reddy has been entrusted with the job of ending the SJS (Sakala Janula Samme-General Strike). CM was asked to talk to the leaders of the striking employees. The sub core committee held day-long talks with the leaders from all parts of the state. Most of them met Congress president Sonia Gandhi as well. The sub core committee led by Mukherjee consisting of P Chidambaram, AK Antony and Ghulam Nabi Azad, held talks at Mukherjee's office with Kiran Reddy, Union Ministers Jaipal Reddy, Kishore Chandra Deo, Pallam Raju, Purandeshwari and other leaders like Panabaka Laxmi, Damodar Raja Narasimha, Botcha Satyanarayana and D Srinivas. Governor ESL Narasimhan met the President, Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Defence Minister. It was made crystal clear that there was no question of imposing president's rule as part of a solution. The Telangana MPs threatened to join SJS. They also thought of planning joint action with Telangana TDP and launched indefinite hunger strike. Security was beefed up for KCR. TJAC declared that the SJS agitation would continue till the Telangana State is formed. It asked the teachers JAC not to attend schools. KCR threatened to launch once again fast unto death. TJAC announced dharna on October 11. TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu made it clear that he would not oppose Telangana statehood demand. He told the MLAs, MPs of the TDP Telangana Forum that it is for the Centre to take a decision on Telangana question. Sunday, 9 October 2011, was a hectic day for the agitators and the police. The State government cracked down on SJS and TJAC. Prof Kodandaram, Mallepalli Laxmaiah and Nayani Narasimha Reddy were taken into custody along with many others. They were brought back to Hyderabad after arresting them while they were going to coal belt area. Botcha met Azad once again. Parleys were held at the residence of Kavuri Sambasiva Rao, MP, in Delhi. KCR addressed the Maha Dharna organized by TJAC at Indira Park in Hyderabad and warned the Centre not to test the patience of the people of Telangana. The Visalandhra Maha Sabha and the*