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The People's Perceptions on Performance of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government: A Study Samalkot Mandal Peddapuram Assembly Constituency in Kakinada District Andhra Pradesh

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Political perception refers to the process by which individuals develop impressions of the characteristics and positions of other nations and their foreign policies. These perceptions can be influenced by mass media and emerging digital media, as well as cultural and social experiences, personal understanding, and institutional impacts. Media plays a significant role in shaping these perceptions, especially during adolescence and adulthood, by providing information that forms impressions.

The media's portrayal of political events and figures can lead to biased or inaccurate views, as suggested by cultivation theory, which posits that television can cultivate a worldview that viewers often assume reflects real life. Political perceptions influenced by media can have both domestic and international impacts, affecting how individuals view political candidates and issues (S. Iyengar and W.J. McGuire, 1993).

Political participation is closely connected with Political Awareness. Political awareness is the very basis of Political Participation. The greater the political Awareness greater the Political participation. Of course, Political awareness and political participation are to be discussed in the context of the prevailing political system. The political system may be democratic, totalitarian or of mixed type.

There is a correlation between political awareness and Political participation. Milbrath has pointed out the relationship between the two in a nice manner. "The more sophisticated a person's cognitions and belief about politics, the greater the likelihood of his participation in the political process". Political awareness is nothing but cognition and beliefs about politics such as the constitution of his country political developments in the country, problems faced by the government, political parties, political leaders, various political issues and political events in other countries.

Meaning of Political Participation:

International Encyclopaedia of Social Science (Vol. XII) defines Political Participation as voluntary activities by which members of a society share in the selection of rulers directly or indirectly in the formation of public policy.

According to this definition activities like casting a vote, seeking information, holding discussions, attending meetings of a political nature, making financial contributions to a political party, going on a strike, staging demonstrations, communicating with the legislators, and other leading figures. However, the most active forms of political participation are formal enrolment in a party, canvassing and casting votes, speech writing, working in political campaigns and competing for public and party offices."

A Social scientist defines Political Participation as " the process through which the individual plays a role in the political life of his society and has the opportunity to take part in deciding what the' common goals of that society are and the best way of achieving the goals."3 According to this definition an individual can play a role in the political life in the society. He can participate in deciding common goals and try to achieve them. These are the contents of Political Participation.

In every society, individuals can participate directly or indirectly in political activities. But it does not mean that each and every person has taken part in political activities. Thus, there are two groups one is the participant group and the other is the non-participant group.

The degree of participation of the participant group may vary from an almost small activity to a very active and effective participation. Political participation in a democratic polity is voluntary. But in a totalitarian system, it is to a large extent coercive. In the fascist and communist set up political participation is generally not voluntary. There are various types of political participation.

There are various types of political participation.

Types of Political Participation:

1**. Individual and Mass Participation:**

Individual participation is voting at the time of election, giving donations to the political party listening to news of political events on the radio viewing the political news on television# to reading political news in the daily newspapers etc. There is also mass participation in politics, which includes attending public meetings, taking part in political conferences# going on strike, staging agitations etc. The mass political participation is very useful in influencing the government's policies.

2. Open or Secret Participation:

In every political system, there may exist open or secret participation. But generally, participation is open as the democratic set-up invites and honours open and large Political participation by the people. In the totalitarian state, there are restrictions on open political participation as individual freedom is curbed to a large extent in this set-up. The secret participation is preferred by the people particularly when they have to oppose

the policies of the Government and the Government itself. Generally, this type of Political participation is more or less underground.

3**. Voluntary or Compulsory Participation**:

In a democratic state political participation in politic®', is not compulsory. But their participation is supposed to be very important. Generally, the individuals take part in political activities as and when they want and to the extent they select. In democratic states, freedom of expression is given to the people by the constitution. People in such countries take part voluntarily in political activities. But in totalitarian states, people's participation is made obligatory. For example, in Communist Russia voting is made compulsory. Therefore, some people vote against their will.

4**. Supporting and Opposing Participation**

There are two kinds of Political Participation. One is to support the policies of the Government/ the other is to oppose the government policies. The activities to oppose the government's policies are protest agitation# gherao and strikes etc. To support the political leader or to the Government is a participation in favour of the Government.

As there are different kinds of 'political participation there are also various means of political participation.

Means of Political Participation:

1. **Election and Voting**:

   During the election period# people can participate in many ways, such as taking part in propaganda in favour of a particular political party# attending public meetings# delivering speeches at political events# giving donations collecting donations for the political party# giving slogans voting for a candidate etc. Generally, a candidate who is contesting an election tries to win it.

2**. Political Parties:**

Political parties are another means through which people participate in politics. People become members of political parties. They attend party meetings and try to win their party. Their members try to collect donations and support their party candidate.

3. Pressure Groups:

Pressure groups are also one of the means of political participation. In every society, there are various kinds of association# labour unions. They try to pressurise the government to change its policy in their favour.

1. **Political Movements:**

Various kinds of pressure groups and various political parties try to mobilise public opinion and try to pressure the Government to change its policy. People take part in submitting petitions to organise public meetings to publish articles in the newspaper to enlist the support of the people. Thus, participate actively in the political process.

5**. Legislature and Executives:**

The elected representatives of the people take part in the activities of the legislature and executive branch of the government. They enact new laws and amend or abolish old laws. Thus, they actively participate in political activities as a matter of fact they run the government.

6. Mass Media:

Mass Media is one of the important means of political participation. Thus the news broadcast through radio television and the news published in the newspaper influence the people and motivate them to participate in political activities in one way or another.

Political Participation can be arranged in a hierarchical order

Hierarchical Order of Political Participation:

1. Gladiatorial Activities:

1. Holding public and party office.
2. Being a candidate for office.
3. Soliciting for political funds.
4. Attending a strategy meeting.
5. Becoming an active member of a political party.
6. Contributing time to political campaigns.

Activities like these are turned Milbrath as Gladiatorial Activities. In this category, full political activists are there. They often hold official positions in the party or in the government at various levels. They are thus political elites. ' They provide a major link between the political systems and the masses.

2. Transitional Activities:

1. Attending a political meeting.

2. Making a monetary contribution to a party candidate.

3. Contacting a Political Leader.

The above activities are grouped under transitional activities.

3. Spectator Activities:

1. Wearing a button or putting a sticker on the car.

2. Attempting to talk to another into voting a certain way.

3. Initiating a political discussion.

4. Exposing oneself to political stimulation.

Activities like these are described as spectator activities.

In every society, there are some individuals who, have no interest in politics. They are called apathetic. They are the lowest in order in the hierarchy.

4. Apathetic:

Apathetic are those who never participate in political activities. Neither do they vote, nor do they show any interest in voting. And it is a fact that about l/3 of the citizens in the U.S.A. fall into this category. In India, the number of apathetic is much larger than U.S.A. because the apathetic are unaware of the political world. India is a democratic state. Almost half of the people in India are illiterate.

There is a correlation between political awareness and Political participation. Milbrath has pointed out the relationship between the two in a nice manner. "The more sophisticated a person's cognitions and belief about politics, the greater the likelihood of his participation in the political process". Political awareness is nothing but cognition and beliefs about politics such as the constitution of his country political developments in the country, problems faced by the government, political parties, political leaders, various political issues and political events in other countries (K.N, Sharma, 2004).

Objectives of the Present Study:

The following objectives were laid down for the study:

1. To analyse the People's Perceptions of the Performance of the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy Government.
2. To study the People's opinion on the Jagan Mohan Reddy Government's construction of Three Capital Cities''

Methodology:

This is an empirical study. Simple random sampling is used to select the sample respondents. A structured questionnaire was used to collect the data. This study is an empirical study based on the primary data obtained through the structured questionnaire, which was administered among the sample respondents on their political perception and political awareness of the Samalkot Mandal Peddapuram Assembly Constituency, in Kakinada District. Besides this, secondary data required has been collected from various books, journals, newspapers and various websites.

Data Analysis:

"The ubiquity of elections in the contemporary political systems has gained general acceptance. Elections are among the most ubiquitous of contemporary political institutions and voting is the single act of political participation undertaken by a majority of adults in a majority of the nation today" (Vakil, F.D., 1994:89).

Voting behaviour is conceptualized from different levels of political behaviour. The following attributes of the voting behaviour of the sample respondents are identified and analysed.

1. Voting
2. Reasons for not voting.
3. Perceptions on Performance of the Government.
4. Political Awareness and Party Attachment.

5. Influencing factors to vote and

6. Perceptions on Welfare Programmes.

Every democracy holds elections periodically to choose its representatives. Elections have become a plebiscite to decide whether one party or another shall be empowered for the next few years to govern. A vote is a valuable and sacred right and during elections, the importance of the voter increases and he/ she is much in demand. Various questions were posed to the sample respondents on their political perceptions.

Table- 1

Are You Getting Welfare Programmes?

S.No.	Whether the Respondents getting Welfare Programmes	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Yes	92	92.0
2	No	08	8.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

As shown in Table 1 reveals the beneficiary status sample respondents. Among the sample respondent's majority of respondents are beneficiaries from different welfare programmes, constituting 92.0 per cent (92) and the remaining sample respondents with a use gap 8.0 per cent (8) of the sample respondents did not get Welfare Programmes. The researcher or student finds that the MLA is not available to their Assembly Constituency.

Table- 2

Do You think Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy fulfils the Election promises?

S. No.	Whether the Respondents think Y.S Jagan Mohan Reddy fulfils the Election promises	No. of Respondents	Per Cent
1	Yes	36	36.0
2	No	64	64.0
Total		100	100.00

As indicated in Table 2 majority of the sample respondents constituting 64.0 per cent (64) responded that Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy responded negatively while they believed Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy did not fulfil the Election promises. Lastly who constitute 36.0 per cent (36) of the sample respondents stated that Y.S Jagan Mohan Reddy fulfilled the Election promises.

Thus, the majority of the sample respondents 64.0 per cent (64) opined that the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy did not fulfil the Election promises and they are not hopeful for the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.

Table- 3

How is the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government in the last 4 Years?

S. No	How is the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government for the last 4 Years?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Very Good	13	13.0
2	Good	12	12.0
4	Not Good	66	66.0
5	Can not say	09	9.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

The data presented in Table 3 indicates that the majority constituting 66.0 per cent (66) of sample respondents felt that the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government for the last 4 Years is Not Good, 13.0 per cent (13) of sample respondents felt the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government for the last 4 Years is Very Good and 12.0 per cent (12) of sample respondents felt just Good regarding the performance of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government. Lastly, 9.0 per cent (9) of respondents did not reveal their perception regarding the performance of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.

Thus, the majority of sample respondents 66.0 per cent (64) felt negatively regarding the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government for the last 4 years.

Table- IV. 4

If elections are held in Andhra Pradesh now, which party has taken power?

S.No.	If elections are held in Andhra Pradesh now, which party has taken power?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	NDA (TDP+ JANASENA)	72	72.0
2	YSRCP	27	27.0
6	BSP	01	1.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

The data shown in Table – 4 indicate that a major chunk constituting 72.0 per cent (72) of the sample respondents prefer the NDA (TDP+ JANASENA) has taken power if elections are held in Andhra Pradesh, 27.0 per cent (27) of the sample respondents prefer YSRCP and lastly, 1.0 per cent (1) of sample respondents prefer the BSP.

Table- 5

Who will be the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election?

S. No.	Who will be the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Chandra Babu Naidu	57	27.0
2	Pawan Kalyan	15	15.0
3	Jagan Mohan Reddy	27	57.0
4	Others	01	1.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

Table- 5 indicates that the majority of the sample respondents who constitute 57.0 per cent (57) felt that Chandra Babu Naidu would be the next Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election, 27.0 per cent (27) of sample respondents felt that Jagan Mohan Reddy would be the next Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election and only 15 per cent (15) of sample respondents felt that Pawan Kalyan would be the next Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election. Lastly, only one per cent (1) of sample respondents opined others would be the next Chief Minister.

Table- 6

Do you think there is corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government?

S. No.	Do you think there is corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Yes	57	57.0
2	No	30	30.0
3	Don't know	13	13.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

From the data presented in Table 6, the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent (57) think that corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government, 30.0 per cent of sample respondents felt that there is no corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government is and 13.0 per cent (13) per cent of sample respondents did not reveal their opinion on the Corruption of the Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.

From the above analysis, it can be stated that the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent (57) think that corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.

Table- 7

Do you think the Jagan Mohan Reddy Government's construction of Three Capital Cities'' is the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh?

S. No.	Do you think the Jagan Mohan Reddy Government's construction of Three Capital Cities'' is the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Yes	57	57.0
2	No	43	43.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

As the data in Table 7 indicates the major chunk of the sample respondents who constitute 43.0 per cent (43) were not aware that the Jagan Mohan Reddy's government's construction of Three Capital Cities was the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh, 57.0 per cent (57.0) of sample respondents are accepted or believed Jagan Mohan Reddy's government's construction of Three Capital Cities was the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh.

Thus, it is observed majority of STs (57.0 per cent) accepted or believed Jagan Mohan Reddy's government's construction of Three Capital Cities was the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh.

Table – 8

Do you think that the construction of Andhra Pradesh State Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections?

S. No.	Do you think that the construction of Andhra Pradesh state Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections?	No of the Sample Respondents	Per Cent
1	Yes	57	57.0
2	No	43	43.0
Total		100	100.00

Source: Primary Data

Table- 8 reveals the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent (57) reveal their perception that the construction of the Andhra Pradesh State Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections, 43.0 per cent of the respondents do not believe that the construction of the Andhra Pradesh State Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections.

It is observed majority of the 57.0 per cent (57) reveal their perception that the construction of the Andhra Pradesh State Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections. Because they are more aware of the three Capital issues.

Findings of the Study:

- ❖ It is observed majority of respondents are beneficiaries from different welfare programmes, constituting 92.0 per cent (92).
- ❖ The majority of the sample respondents 64.0 per cent (64) opined that the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy did not fulfil the Election promises and they are not hopeful for the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.
- ❖ The majority of sample respondents 66.0 per cent (64) felt negatively regarding the Administration of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government for the last 4 years.
- ❖ It is observed that the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent prefer YSRCP, which has taken power if elections are held in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It is observed that the majority of the sample respondents who constitute 57.0 per cent (57) felt that Chandra Babu Naidu would be the next Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the 2024 Election,
- ❖ It is observed that the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent (57) think that corruption in Jagan Mohan Reddy's Government.
- ❖ It is observed majority of sample respondents (57.0 per cent) accepted or believed Jagan Mohan Reddy's government's construction of Three Capital Cities was the right decision for the compressive development of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It is observed that the majority of sample respondents 57.0 per cent (57) reveal their perception that the construction of the Andhra Pradesh State Capital will be the main agenda in the 2024 elections.

Conclusion:

Political perception refers to the process by which individuals develop impressions of the characteristics and positions of government policies. These perceptions can be influenced by mass media and emerging digital media, as well as cultural and social experiences, personal understanding, and institutional impacts. The present study reveals the Jagan Mohan Reddy government is not satisfied with the different perceptions of respondents. The Administration of the Jagan Mohan Reddy has shown interest in some sections of respondents particularly beneficiaries of welfare schemes and not for all sections. Finally, it is observed that the people's perception of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's government is not satisfactory.

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