

Honorable Sri: VK Duggal and Committee:

Sir: I bring the following to your kind attention as to why Telangana should be restored to its own statehood with Hyderabad as its Capital.

"People's wishes must be respected"- Sir Abdul Kalam. Telangana people have been never happy in United AP. They need to be free from the perception of colonial occupation and step motherly treatment of the AP Govt, dominated by their own neighbor in the name of one language. Whether right or wrong there is overwhelming feeling of alienation among Telanganaites. Hence they deserve their wishes be respected.

The need for distributed developemnt:

1) Hyderabad has grown beyond manageable size due to its position as the Capital city. 12% of State's population is all concentrated in Hyderabad. Daily thousands of people are coming to Hyderabad from villages and other areas of state into Hyderabad in search of livelihoods, due to failure of agriculture and the allied vocations. Consequently, the traffic is a jungle. It is very in-efficient for business or Government. The residents that are already in Hyderabad are suffering and their quality of life is negatively affected due to this concentrated growth.

2) The congestion also is causing Polution, and over taxing the city services.

3) Such concentration of resources and people is a national and regional safety threat. One bomb or one bacterial or viral explosion, from any enemy of country and the whole state becomes paralyzed and won't recover for a century.

4) India's strenght was its villages and self sustaining areas, not mega cities. Indianeeds to find and go back to its roots.

5) AP state Govt's model of concentrating everything in one city has deprived and starved district head-quarters and other areas for development. If people can find livelihoods, they will stay put where they are. So, the model of development needs to be one of distributed invetments and employment genarters and livelihood opportunities throughout the state. Other than Hyderabad there are hardly any other cities in AP, especially in Telangana that have under ground Sewage. No municipalities have solid waste control and disposal policies. Dust

and open sewers and open defecation same as it was 60 years ago exists all over Telangana.

To reverse this trend there need to be other cities that have to be developed. Based on experience, the seat of Govt seems to be the preferred place for such development. So, let us create another Capital; so development of that city will take precedence. Two capitals means Hyderabad won't be neglected, in preference for the new Capital. Since there is a huge cry for restoration of Telangana to statehood from Telangana people, keeping Hyderabad as Telangana Capital and creating a Capital for Seemandhra satisfies this demand too. Andhra people have been deprived of their Capital when Madras was made Tamil's capital. They couldn't build Kurnool as Capital because their eyes were on already developed Hyderabad. They need a Capital of their own in Vijayawada, or Visakhapatnam or Kurnool. So, they can develop it and be proud of it. So creation of Seema and Coastal Andhra into its own state is good for them too.

The need for Administrative ease:

When AP was formed the Telugu's population was 30 million (Mukkoti Teluguvaru). To-day Telugus are 80 Million (8 crores). 80 million people under one state Govt means, some people get neglected and left out. Some become minorities and their welfare gets neglected. Decisions become harder. Political strategies etc become different than if there were two different states (administrative units). Hence, it makes sense to have another state (May be a third state of Seema isn't too out of probability for this purpose, if they want). Smaller State Govts are more agile and hopefully more responsive to its constituents.

The need for stronger federation and national integrity of India:

One of the recent phenomenon in India, is the growth of regional parties and their dominance in the Indian Parliament and blackmail of the Central Govt by these regional parties; sometimes to the detriment of National unity and National integration, and national interest of India. Having smaller states, with less MPs keeps such blackmail opportunities to minimum and protect the national integration leading to stable Central Govt. A stable center means fertile ground for investments in the country and thus over all national development. Hence smaller states is a desirable aspect from that aspect too. So, creating two states from these larger, most populous states is not only not against national interest but may be positive for India.

I know you will be overwhelmed with volumes of data and representations from both sides. It isn't my intention to add to your work load. But as a Telanganaite, I felt I owed it to you and Telangana and Andhra and India to share these views.

With warmest regards,

Sincincerely,

Purushotham, Gaddam
An Expat Telanganaite
greddy2mi@yahoo.com
Phoenix, AZ
March 06, 2010