

ITS ALL GREED FOR POWER...

- 'Employment' works without the role of village conferences.
- Approvals in augapalli went into vain.
- All the works went waste in nomala.

V.Udaya Lakshmi

If the land is leveled it would be good. It would be convenient for cultivation. Plants should be planted after leveling the ground. Agricultural department should give the plants which will give better results.

Mondikatta pond height should be raised. If the height is raised it will become mini sagar. About 500 acres of land will be cultivated. Flood water will not go waste. Villages can be protected from floods.

Water on the water on the 'sileti mula' hill rock should be diverted to Nagulakunta stream (so that water⁵ will not flow into surrounding agricultural fields.). Due to this there will be no loss for the farmers. Water will also be available in Nagulakuta stream.

...these are the suggestions made by boyapalli Sankarayya, jangayya and lingayya of loyapalli village of manchala mandal in ranga reddy districdt for the sa,le of their village development. When they were asked "what type of works will be helpful for you under the employment scheme? What are your suggestions?" they gave these meaning proposals for the questions. But in the village conference they didn't get a chance to express such a valuable suggestions. No one discussed with them.

According to national rural employment assurance scheme, village panchayats should necessarily conduct village conferences. In these conference they should make the hundreds of village people like sankarayya and jangayya as partners. They have to prepare a list of works according to the proposals of village people. They have to implement those works by taking acceptance from mandal officers. But these are not completely known to loyapalli village sarpanch Mr.Midde Srinivasa Gaud. He is saying "I know only fifty percent regarding this scheme. I have to know the remaining fifty percent." Jangayya is saying that due to his unawareness of the scheme, that village conference which he has conducted went on without any discussions.

We cannot say that the situation of all the villages in manchala mandal is like this. Some village panchayats were reformed a best plan with sincere efforts. For example, take augapally.... The panchayat has accepted the proposals made by village

conference for the clearing of blockages in four ponds. It has sent the related approvals to authorities. According to the details given by the sarpanch Mr. Kandukuri Jagan, "even a little raise of water level in gandi pond, which is the biggest pond in the village, will raise the water level in 70 percent of the borewells. And the remaining three ponds are very helpful for the families of the fishermen who got a profit of 60,000 rupees during the year 2005 – 2006. so naturally the village conference has concentrated on ponds in the village.

Another important item in the list prepared by the augapalli panchayat is to lay the road from Kagazghat to manchala. Mr.Jagan is saying, "the people of Augapalli should travel 14 kilo meters for reaching the mandal office in manchala mandal for the purpose of their dialiy needs. If the road is laid from kagazghat to manchala, the distance will be reduced to 4 kilo meters. That is why this link road is necessary." One more important item in the Augapalli panchayat plan is removing the bushes and stones in the assigned lands and making them as cultivation land by leveling it. In addition to this, laying road to Gaddamallayyagudem, constructing mud banks, digging composed pits, planting beech plants in the waste lands are also included in the panchayat plan. Surprisingly mandal officers gave up all the important things. Just they wanted to give importance to the two items, constructing mud banks, and planting the beech plants. Only two items were handovered to japala panchayat from the list containing 9 works like, clearing the blockages in the small ponds, leveling the land etc.,

Nomula village panchayat has conducted the village conference with hundred members and prepared a development plan. According to the details given by that village sarpanch Mr.Mukhyamayya, the members, who attended for the conference are all SC and BC farmers. Among them half of the farmers asked for the leveling of the land. The authorities not at all aimed at the development plan sent by old panchayat which was prepared by reflecting the wishes of village farmers. They did not take over any work other than the construction of mud banks and digging basins for beech and mango plants. Half of the beech trees were died as water is not supplied. Till now mango plants were not planted in the basins. As the farmer who had dug the basins is not ready for laying drip, plants were not supplied to him. This means among the three works taken over in that village, two went on without giving result in any manner.

These are the experiences faced by the village panchayats of Augapalli, Japala, and nomula which have sent the list of "Employment Assurance" works by conducting the village conferences. There are some sarpanchs who are not at all showing any interest towards conducting village conference. There were also some political leaders who were throwing comments that are indirectly discouraging the employment assurance scheme. We can observe that the works went on without the intervention of sarpanch in some villages. The public in chennareddy guda and limgampally did not respond to village conference. Mr.Yadayya, a member of limgampalli village panchayat said that this attitude was seen in the village people "we don't believe Government. They Just come, say something and go away. For that why should we loose our works."

The situation in these villages is showing the gap between the rulers and the public. It is showing the worst situation of ignoring the values of human resources and their intentions. The rulers, who can notice that value, can only move forward. Along with the public. They can pave paths for the developments by utilizing their services. The rulers who are not having this angle of thinking are not able to notice the necessity of implementing the Employment Assurance Scheme with sincere effort. They are neglecting the development portion of the scheme. Negligence has been observed in mandal officers who should have the responsibility of making the public and there by panchayats as partners in the Programme. Just they are thinking that by any means if a small amount of work is completed, it would be sufficient. Selfishness was seen in them regarding giving importance to the works. This is the situation in entire manchala mandal and also in all the districts where the Employment Scheme is being implementing. They put aside development measures of natural water resources and assigned lands which can brighten up the productivity and livelihood measures. In reality these two issues are raised in the surveyt conducted by Integrated Natural Resources Management(I.N.R.M). In future the Government should concentrate on these issues. Development plans should be yield from village people. Works should be taken up according to the public opinion.

SURPANCH DID NOT KNOW TILL THE CIRCULAR HAS ARRIVED..

The fourth work that has to be started in Nomula Village under the Employment Assurance Scheme is to clear the blockage in Kandivanigunta pond. It was intended to clear the blockage in this pond under the "Indiramma Pond Scheme." According to Mutyamayya, in village conference it was not decided to start the work of clearing the blockage in this pond. At last surpanch B.Megha also didn't know regarding this work till the circular has arrived. This means the authorities have conducted the work of clearing the blockage in this pond without taking the decision of Village conference and panchayat. According to the information given by Mr.Ravinder, the field assistant of Nomula Village, land documents were distributed to the poor in Kandivanikunta land. They are cultivating that land. What will be the intention in deciding to start the work of clearing the blockage in such a 'pond'?

**(The author is doing research on the role of Panchayats in implementing
N.R.E.G.A)**