

Telangana Govt. delivers on only a fifth of promised jobs

An important announcement by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao at the first anniversary of Telangana State formation on June 2 last year was that the State Government will create 25,000 jobs in various departments from the following month.

He was perhaps not wrong when he said the 'job mela' will begin in July because the State public service commission came into existence in that month. However, the position on the eve of second anniversary of Statehood belies Mr. Rao's expectations.

The commission has declared results for only 3,425 jobs as on date and orders for another 1,475 placements are in pipeline till June-end, aggregating to about 5,000 persons getting employed in the two year TRS rule.

The record is not to speak about Mr. Rao's announcement on the same occasion that the government will straightaway issue orders to regularise the services of contract staff and complete the process between July and December last year. This has remained a distant dream for the staff.

More than the public posture of Mr. Rao, what has caught the attention of people in the two-year rule was his ability to marginalise the Opposition parties which are left with no voice after consecutive defeats in by-elections and polls to municipal bodies. The defection of 26 MLAs and one MP from the Opposition to TRS testified to his absolute power.

The last one year had seen less of strains in Telangana – Andhra Pradesh relations, thanks to the cash for vote scandal that unfolded a couple of days before the first anniversary celebrations. The arrest of TDP MLA A. Revanth Reddy who was caught in the video footage trying to bribe a TRS MLC in the elections to the Legislative Council had a deterrent effect on TDP government in Andhra Pradesh. The scandal subsequently almost fizzled out and both Chief Ministers, Mr. Rao and Mr. N. Chandrababu Naidu, made peace going to each other's functions. The severe drought and hundreds of farmers committing suicide due to crop failure was the bane of Telangana but the State also had a good success rate on other fronts, particularly providing uninterrupted power and giving licences to new industries.

Mr. Rao's ambitious programmes like the double bed room houses, three acres of land to SCs and KG to PG education were yet to pick up speed.