

Socio Political Contribution of Dr Mallikarjun.M.Kharge in Karnataka



Harshavardhan B ,Dr. I S Vidaysagar ,

Research Scholar , Associate Professor
Dept. of Political Science Gulbarga University, Gulbarga
Ambedkar DegreeCollege Gulbarga

Introduction:

One of the major factors that determine the ultimate success or failure of a movement is the nature and dynamics of its leadership. The strategic moves made by the leaders decide the direction, scope and nature of the movements. History is testimony to the fact that most of the socio-political movements in India and elsewhere saw a strong leadership at the helps of their affairs. Their leadership provided a vision, direction and mounds operandi to these movements.

Some leaders are born and others are made. But with regard to Dr Kharge, we can say that “he is born leader”. Though born in an untouchable family, Dr Kharge realized and experienced the evils and ills of poverty. When he was the student in the college he started exhibiting leadership qualities. He used to participate in the activities of college elections to the students union. He used to canvass in favor of his friends of the college unions elections. He used to address the student-voters. In a ways Dr Kharge learnt the art of becoming a leader in his college days. Such training helped him to become a good leader in due course of time to serve the people. He influenced a great philosophers like Buddha, Basava, and Ambedkar.

Socio-Political contribution of Dr Mallikarjun.M.Kharge:

During the student life only he started his political life. To become a political leader he has to inspire by his political guru Dharmarao Afzalpurkar. He believes in the principle of Dr Ambedkar he doesn't believe in hero worship and he doesn't accept that people should follow their leader blindly. His leadership has proved that it exists with reference to the social

organization and its problems and it is influenced by the social climate and the system of values prevailing in the community. So the college environment was a boon to Dr Kharge to become a leader of the masses in due course of time. Always evoking his faith in the service of the people. He became quite familiar with the art of playing the game of politics. So as to help the people and also he was inspired by the spirit of devotion and dedication to the cause of serving the entire community. Because of his good and cordial relations maintained with all the people of all caste, he was able to come out as a great leader of the masses. All facilities to gather made Dr. Kharge to contest election to the Karnataka legislative assembly and he was elected to the same in 1972. The year which saw for the first time Dr Kharge's emergence of a representative of the people of whole Karnataka. Because of his ability and capacity to deal with the issues and problems of the people, shree Devraj Uras the then chief minister for the first time made Dr Kharge as minister for primary and secondary education in 1976.

Active participation of Dr Kharge in the politics and Government of Karnataka was nothing but inauguration of the mission, to serve the people of Karnataka. Dr Kharge's responsibilities went on increasing day by day and he believed in the service of the people but not simply exercising political power for power itself. He always believed in the implementation of any programme launched that too in time, According to late Prof. B.B. Patil Okaly, a member of Karnataka Public Service Commission " Dr Kharge, as a man of action, talking less, and believing more in service, means what he says and does what he says".

Realizing the importance of education, to awaken the people especially, the down trodden, regarding their rights and duties, Dr Kharge, started opening many Primary Schools in every nook and corner of the state helping all the people including SC and ST people. His action in achieving the goals of

Achievements in social field:

- Opening schools
- Providing midday meal to the poor children
- Appointment of teachers
- To start any educational institution by SC and ST people from the very beginning with the grandly of the government.
- Reducing limit of deposit from 10 lakh to 10 thousand.
- The conditions of land acres are reduced.
- To fulfill the quota of 18% in case appointment of SC and ST candidates teachers.
- Appointments of teachers in the backlog.
- Providing a chance to SC and ST category candidates first to be appointed as teachers and then to depute them to undergo a training.
- To make the post of Physical teacher as compulsory etc., are said to be the concrete benefits reaching all the people including SC and ST categories. Such dynamic leadership, through the political platform, was provided by Dr Kharge. "While helping a particular section Dr Kharge, succeeded in helping the entire society". No teacher appointed during the regime of Dr kharge, does not forget Dr Kharge's role, played towards the welfare of the both the teaching community and the students.

Such leadership of Dr kharge in the field of education was really milestone, in the development of the poor and weaker sections of the society. The children of the down trodden were able to receive the basic education and so many candidates belonging to SC and ST category were able to become the teachers.

Such work of Dr kharge is aid to be really very great. As a true lover of education, Dr kharge did not allow the field of education to meddle with politics. He simply bent upon to see that “the benefit of education should reach each and every one of the society”. He earned the title as “THE GREAT PHILANTHROPIST OF EDUCATION” right from beginning; he has taken keen interest in establishing so many educational institutions. He was responsible for establishing “PEOPLE’S EDUCATION SOCIETY” in the year 1976. His aim was imprint the minds of the people. The purpose of the opening educational institutions was not just to get government grants, but to provide qualitative education to all. Dr kharge’s secular and broad outlook is very clear, from his proper action of appointing the teachers only on the basis of merit if not by caste alone. In his educational institutions, we find teachers appointed, belonging to all castes of the society.

Such outlook of secularism, really was responsible for elevating Dr Kharge’s status or position, on the whole map of Karnataka. He was responsible for heightening the moral of the teachers, by stressing on the principle of merit as the criterion to appoint the teachers. To establish, to run and manage educational institutions, with all faculties is not that easy. But Dr Kharge proved his ability and capacity as the most successful and effective, to open, run and manage educational institutions. What he wished he realized the same. He was the last person to consider the “Cast was energy things”. His all schools and Colleges are open to all the children and students irrespective of Cast, Color, Sex etc., His work as a lover of education has been appreciated by many professors and the great scholars. He always wanted that Education should be able realize the ideals of Buddha, Basava and Ambedkar. “The educational institutions opened or started years ago, have become today the big, banyan trees”, converting Dr Kharge, from individual to institution. With due recognized to the ability and capacity of Dr Kharge, who served as a minister for education, with number of achievements to his credit in the field of education, Sri Devaraj Urs, again and eager assigned the portfolio of panchayat Raj and Rural Development to Dr Kharge. Dr Kharge with rural background could realize the difficulties of the rural masses in the right perspective. He firmly believed in strengthening democracy at the grassroots-level.

Realizing the importance of the basic minimum to the people, Dr Kharge, played a very crucial role in providing the basic facilities like, electricity, housing drinking water to the people. He was very keen about all the benefits and facilities of the Government to reach all the people including the poor and the weaker sections of the society. His outstanding contribution like

- Reserving 18% of the total budget of the village panchayat to SC and ST people by amending the provisions of “PANCHYAT ACT”.
- To launch and implement “Rural Housing Scheme” to provide houses to the homeless.
- To provide houses to those who had lost their houses as a natural calamities, under rehabilitation scheme of the government.
- To dig bore wells to provide drinking water facility to the rural people including SC and ST section under “Water supply scheme” of the government etc.,

Made him to lie or live in the hearts of people of Karnataka forever. His leadership was as means to realize the welfare of the people of Hyderabad Karnataka area and Karnataka blossomed from his heart. "That is why Dr Kharge's service is considered as one of the greatest services rendered to the rural masses. His every inch of political power was used as a means towards the achievement of welfare of the rural population. The concept of rural development underwent a radical change at the hands of Dr Kharge. His aim or mission was to realize the dream of building a strong self-reliant and cohesive rural India. Hence, Dr Kharge moved towards the right direction to improve the conditions of rural masses. Again, when he served as Revenue minister under Sri R. Gundurao, the whole department of Revenue was revolutionized.

His role in Regularizing GAIKAN land, providing for acquiring ownership of land by the poor and SC and ST. People.

- In providing pension to TOTI Talwars including SC and ST people.
- In bringing about amendments to land Reforms Act and land Revenue Act.
- Providing compensation to the farmers who had lost their houses and crops, due to natural calamities.
- In issuing agricultural pass books to the farmers.
- In converting many Tandas and majras into revenue village
- In converting Class 2 post of Tahsildar into Class 1 post.
- In facilitating Shanubogas and Kulkarnis, to get an honorarium of Rs. 500 per month etc.

His role really remarkable in the history of revenue department. Dr Kharge, took care of every aspect of the farmers and the general public, regarding the government policies, to be implemented for his welfare. Such a dynamic leadership of Dr Kharge, helped many poor farmers, to receive the concrete benefits from the government. He made ever section of the society, to be benefited from the Governmental facilities and opportunities. That is why, one has to proudly say that "Dr Kharge did not leave any stone unturned" during his regime, as a minister for revenue. When, we look at the statistical figures regarding the achievements made in the department of revenue, it becomes clear that within a very short span of period, Dr Kharge really created the wonders. Therefore, due to his bold step and action, many sections of the population have been able to make both ends meet and live from hand to month. So, the entire population of Karnataka owes much to Dr Kharge, for having played such a dynamic role in getting their things done, in time. He did his legitimate job of delivering the goods to his customers or the people.

The role of Dr Kharge in revolutionizing the whole structural, organizational and functional aspects of the cooperative sector cannot be exaggerated. Sri Veerappa Moily, the then Chief Minister of Karnataka picked up Dr Kharge as the right person, to revitalize the department of Co-operation. Because, the department was the most insignificant irrelevant and unimportant, before Dr Kharge, took the charge of the department. Due to Dr Kharge, took the charge of the department. Due to Dr Kharge's dynamic leadership.

- A huge amount was sanctioned as a credit facility to the farmers.
- The farmers were convinced that the repayment of the loans as compulsory was justified for their own welfare.

- Both non-SC and ST sections and of the people were able to get loan benefits for their agricultural purposes.
- So, many women were able to enroll themselves as members of the Cooperative Society. The basic idea behind making women as members of the Co-Operative societies was to make them economically self-reliant and self-sufficient.
- So many SC and ST people were able to enroll themselves as members of the cooperative societies, as many incentives and concessions were provided to such people to become the members of Cooperative societies.
- Some amendments were made to the karnataka Cooperative society Act of 1959, So that it could keep its pace with changing time and circumstances

The whole set and system of the co-operative sector, to a larger extent was thoroughly revised and reorganized only during the regime of Dr Kharge and only due to his dynamic leadership.

After having served successfully as a minister for Co-operation, to the executions of the people of entire karnataka, Dr Kharge was entrusted with the job of creating miracles, in the Industrial sector of karnataka Economy. Dr Kharge was ready to accept any challenge and face it very boldly and effectively. He cared for the service of the people but not for any post or portfolio. He firmly believed in getting the things done timely, in the interests of the people. He, as the believer in the central Government' s policies globalization, liberalization and privatization, tried his best to bring karnataka nearer to goal of achieving rapid industrial development

His timely action, to arrange industrial exhibition at Gulbarga to create awareness regarding the industrial production and development, among the people. Such arrangement of exhibitions inspired and encouraged many private industrialists, to come forward to establish industrial centers, to increase industrial production, thereby to increase national income living standard of the people and to generate employment opportunities.

That is why, private companies like BIFI, BPL etc. came forward to start industries like cement, power, chemical petroleum etc.,

Despite such role, Dr Kharge was responsible for the Government to issue orders, so as to implement and realize the welfare measures.

He always desired that karnataka should be self sufficient and self-reliant economically. During his regime, Dr Kharge was responsible for establishing many industries, so as to decide the fate of karnataka economy

He also served as a Home Minister in S M Krishna Ministry 1998 and Served as Irrigation and KSRTC Minister in Dharma Singh ministry in 2004. And also served a Union Minister for Labor and Employment and Railway Minister and Social Empowerment Minister in Manmohan Singh Ministry in his tenure many development scheme and programmes implemented in karnataka, He is really a action oriented leader in karnataka.

Conclusion:

Dr Kharge is not simply an individual but an institution himself. He is not simply a believer in the pious principles of education, but a pragmatic leader, to consider education as a means to bring about radical change in one in one's life. He is not simply believer in the slogans,

promises but a practical person to implement anything that was for the welfare of the people. He believes service of the lowly as the service of lord. He is not simply a political leader to seek party elections and seek power but a great statesman, who always looks for the welfare of the next generation.

Such is the dynamic leadership of Dr Kharge who always been moving towards the height of statesmanship.

References:

- An interview with Dr Mallikarjun M Kharge on 31-01-1995
- An interview with late Sri V.P. Deulagaonka, vice president N.V Society, Gulbarga on 23-12-1994
- An interview with Sri S.B. Hungund, physical Director Govt. College, Gulbarga on 17-12-1994
- An interview with late Sri Sidaramappa Ireddy, Ex-Mayour City Munscipal Corporation, Gulbarga on 24-12-1994
- An interview with Sri Tana Teacher
- Abraham Franci, "Dynamic of leadership in village in India", Indian International Publication Allahabad, 1974.
- Ballabha S, "Leadership in Democratic Society", L.P.Vidyarthi(Ed) Leadership In India- Asia Publishing House, Bombay, 1967.
- Brencher Michel, "Political leadership in India", An analysis of Elite Attitudes- Fredich A. Prager New York. 1969.
- Eddinnger Lewis J, "Comparative Analysis of Political Leadership", Comparative Politics, January 1975.
- Halal W.E., "Towards Theory of Leadership", Human Relation -1974.
- Laster G.Seligman, "The Study of Political Leadership", American Political Science Review.
- Park R.L. and I.Tinker. "Leadership and Political Institution in India", Oxford University Press, Madras 1955.
- Industrial Growth Prospects of Government of Karnataka 1994-95
- Report of Muncipal Finance enquiry committee constituted on 25.4.1973 by the Government of Karnataka
- Sahakar kannada Weekly 25 Sanchike
- Assembly Debates for the year, from 1972 to 2004.