

**K C REDDY'S CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF KARNATAKA  
STATE (The Historical Study of the Contributions of K C Reddy)**

**Dr. GURULINGAIAH M K**

**Associate Professor**

**Department of History**

*Government First Grade College, Yelahanka*

*Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560064*

***ABSTRACT***

K C Reddy was the 1<sup>st</sup> CM (Chief Minister) of the Mysore State, present Karnataka State, Reddy was a great social reformer and the politician, with several reforms in educational reforms, Industrial developmental reforms, Agricultural reforms, infrastructural reforms in the state, and tried to implement the schemes for the poor and the depressed classes in the state, The title as "Father of Karnataka" is attributed to K. C. Reddy, who served as the Chief Minister of the erstwhile Mysore State, presently Karnataka from 1928 to 1947. There were several political and the legal challenges for the 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Minister of the Mysore State, due to several princely states was under the control of small kingdoms. K C Reddy played a pivotal role in the development and progress of the state during his tenure. K. C. Reddy's Contributions: 1. Industrial Development: K. C. Reddy played a vital role in promoting industrialization in the state. He encouraged the establishment of industries and provided necessary support to entrepreneurs. His efforts led to the growth of various industries, including textiles, sugar, cement, and iron and steel. 2. Education Reforms: K. C. Reddy made significant contributions to the field of education in Karnataka. He initiated various

educational reforms, including the establishment of the Mysore University in 1916, which later became a renowned institution for higher education. 3. Agricultural Reforms: Recognizing the importance of agriculture in the state's economy, K. C. Reddy implemented several agricultural reforms. He focused on improving irrigation facilities, enhancing crop productivity, and introducing new agricultural practices. These reforms significantly contributed to the growth of the agricultural sector in Karnataka. K. C. Reddy's contributions and visionary leadership have had a lasting impact on Karnataka's development. His emphasis on education, industrialization, and infrastructure laid the foundation for the state's progress. The reforms he implemented paved the way for Karnataka to become one of the most prosperous and industrially advanced states in India. The Research paper explains the social and the political development in Mysore state during the period of K C Reddy, as a politician (Chief Minister) in the state.

**KEY WORDS: K C Reddy, Social Development, Political Carrier.**

### **Review of Literature**

*S.M. Krishna*: the chief minister at the time, upheld the values and courage that K.C. Reddy has come to stand for today. He said that K.C. Reddy was a political model worthy of emulation by the current crop of politicians.

### **INTRODUCTION**

K C Reddy joined the freedom movement at a very young age. After graduating from law school he established the “Praja Paksha” (People’s Party) in 1930. The party worked towards the creation of a stable government in the Princely State of Mysore. It was successful in garnering support of the local people as it worked for the cause of the local farmers. In 1934, the party merged with another organization Praja Mitra Mandali and formed the Praja Samyuktha Paksha (Mysore People’s Federation). Hereafter, the federation helped the Indian National Congress in their fight for freedom. Reddy became the head of the Mysore unit of Congress party twice, between 1937-1938 and 1946-1947. Mysore became a Part-B state of the union because Maharaja of Mysore issued a proclamation on this regard on 25 November 1949.<sup>[5]</sup> K. C. Reddy Ministry was an adhoc arrangement from 25 October 1947 (even though India became Republic on 26 January 1950) till the first election under Adult franchise was held in 1952 and Kengal Hanumanthaiah was elected as Chief Minister of Mysore post elections there by ending the unscheduled tenure of K. C. Reddy Ministry.<sup>[6]</sup>

## FINDINGS



- K. C. Reddy prioritized the development of infrastructure in Karnataka. He implemented various projects such as the construction of dams, bridges, and roads to improve connectivity and facilitate transportation. These initiatives played a crucial role in the overall development of the state.
- Social Welfare: K. C. Reddy also focused on social welfare programs. He worked towards the up-liftment of marginalized communities, promoted women's education, and introduced measures for rural development. His initiatives aimed to create a more inclusive and equitable society in the Mysore State.
- In 1930, immediately following his graduation from law school, he founded the “Praja Paksha” or People’s Party. The principal objective of the party was to establish a stable government in the princely state of Mysore.
- Over time, Praja Paksha gained the support of locals due to their manifesto’s support for the local farmers’ cause. In 1934, it merged with the Praja Mitra Mandali to form the Praja Samyukta Paksha or Mysore People’s Federation.
- From 1935 to 1937, KC Reddy served as president of the Mysore People’s Federation. After 1937, the federation joined the Indian National Congress in the struggle for independence.
- Reddy served as president of the Mysore Congress twice between 1937-38 and 1946-47. He added membership in the Constituent Assembly of India to his list of political accomplishments. As soon as India attained independence in 1947, he led the effort to establish a secure government in Mysore.
- KC Reddy was the state’s first chief minister. His contribution to the current democratic system of governance is indispensable. In 1952, following his tenure as chief minister, he was elected to the Mysore Legislative Assembly.

## CONCLUSION

K.C. Reddy was recognized for his role in replacing the Maharaja's rule with a stable government at his birth centenary. Organized by the State government at the Banquet hall of Vidhana Soudha, the 100<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations was a reminiscence of the contributions that K.C. Reddy made to the government. He was one of the very few politicians who did not cling to power, seeking re-election. He was the rare politician, a potent combination of steely nerve, courage against all odds and a pioneering spirit that never backed down. He entered politics in order to achieve a stable government and despite various forces at work against him, he saw his dream reach fulfilment. His dream is today the government structure that is of the people, for the people and by the people. K. C. Reddy's significant contributions to various sectors make him the "Father of Karnataka." His visionary leadership and progressive policies transformed the state and set it on a path of sustained growth and development

## SCOPE

His decisions are like the bhumi puje for many developments in land reforms in the state, for the development of depressed and the poor class. After independence of India in 1947, he was at the forefront of the Mysore Chalo movement seeking responsible state government in Mysore State and went on to become the first Chief Minister of the state after Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar, the Maharaja of Mysore signed the Instrument of Accession to join the new dominion of India on three subjects, namely, defence, external affairs, communications and hence Mysore did not lose its sovereignty on other subjects.<sup>[3][4]</sup> The Constitution of India was adopted by the Indian Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949 and came into effect on 26 January 1950 with a democratic government system, completing the country's

transition towards becoming an independent republic replacing the Government of India Act (1935) as the governing document of India and thus, turning the nation into a newly formed republic.<sup>[5]</sup>

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