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"The Rebirth Of Congress In Andhra Pradesh: A Ray Of Hope For Democracy”

Dr. Mrityunjaya L K

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USPA NEWS - The emergence of a competitive Congress in Andhra Pradesh is not just about reviving a political party; it's about offering the people a choice.

In a dramatic turn of events, the National Congress Party (INC) is making a triumphant return to Andhra Pradesh politics, and it couldn't have come at a more critical juncture for the state and the nation as a whole.

For a decade, Andhra Pradesh endured the absence of a prominent opposition force, a void that threatened the very essence of democracy. The Congress party, regrettably, failed to address its withering presence in the state during this period, marking a colossal blunder on its part.

Every political entity makes mistakes, but what truly matters is their resilience in bouncing back. Democracy thrives when robust opposition exists, and the revival of Congress in Andhra Pradesh is a step in the right direction.

The party's prolonged absence undoubtedly resulted in constitutional losses for the people of Andhra Pradesh. An apology from the Congress to the people would be an appropriate gesture, acknowledging their past lapses.

A thriving democracy requires not just a strong ruling party but also a vigilant opposition. This principle holds true both at the state and national levels. The absence of a united opposition in the past decade only served to strengthen the ruling party, leading to a lack of checks and balances.

The recent resurgence of Congress in Andhra Pradesh, embodied by Sharmila, is a welcome development. Her ascension as a successor to the Congress legacy in the state appears to be the right course of action. It's a testament to the fact that political lineage often carries the torch forward, just as it did for Jagan, YSR's son.

Nonetheless, it's essential to recognize that the rise of Jagan and his party in the last five years has added depth to Andhra Pradesh's political landscape. This change has come at the expense of the Telugu Desam Party's loss of trust and the Congress's decline, as well as the Jana Sena's inability to penetrate deep into the electorate.

However, the entry of Sharmila into Andhra politics should not necessarily result in domestic feuds. It is only fitting that a party with a rich history like Congress has a substantial presence in the state, especially considering that even the BJP, with no legislative representation in the state, has a strong presence.

The emergence of a competitive Congress in Andhra Pradesh is not just about reviving a political party; it's about offering the people a choice. In the past, the lack of a credible alternative for Christian and Muslim minority communities has been a significant concern. The BJP's and YSRCP's positions have left many feeling marginalized.

Now, with the Congress playing a vital role in the broader opposition alliance, there is hope for these communities. They yearn for an alternative to the BJP, and the Congress, if it learns from its past mistakes, stands a chance of coming to power in the state in 2029, If not in 2024.

The days ahead will unveil the true colors of the parties and the spirit of the people. It's a pivotal moment for Andhra Pradesh, and the resurgence of Congress brings with it a ray of hope for democracy, offering the people a choice they've longed for and a chance to see a diverse and inclusive political landscape.

"The views expressed in this article are solely of Dr. L K Mrutyunjaya."

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