

# Surajya Movement

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Swarajya (independence) to be enjoyed in its true sense should be accompanied by surajya (good governance). Lok Satta along with Foundation for Democratic Reforms has taken a major step forward to realize this dream of *Surajya* by launching *Surajya* Movement in Andhra Pradesh.

The Surajya-movement teams will visit major centers across the State and organize conferences mainly focusing on forming empowered local governments, strong anti-corruption and accountability mechanism, electoral and political reforms, citizens' right to public services. These conferences would involve gram panchayats, NGOs, civil societies and local social organizations.



Launched on August 9, the Quit India day, the movement started off the first Round Table conference presided over by Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan with a group of MLCs, MLAs of various political parties, eminent citizens including those from judiciary, legal and constitutional fields at FAPCII, Hyderabad. The conference successfully brought out the opinions of different parties and eminent leaders and scholars, there was wide consensus about the need to change the status quo by bringing in electoral and political reforms and

## Activity Report

by building strong anti-corruption mechanism, also strengthening the local governments was high on almost everybody's agenda. Lok Satta, Dr. JP and FDR were lauded by everyone for such an initiative.

Also on the same day a public meeting was held where along with Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, film producer SS Rajamouli, Working President of AP LSP DVVS Varma, political analysts like T Ravi, Satyavani of Bharatiyam, editor-in-chief of The Hans India K Ramachandra Murthy, former MP Solipeta Ramachandra Reddy, MLC Nageshwar, TL Narsimha Rao of Lok Satta and a lot others gathered. Addressing a jam packed auditorium Dr. JP said that the Lok Satta Party was going to take up a lot of such movements to achieve good governance and a corruption-free system. The movement would go on till December 9 which is the World Anti-Corruption Day.



Can a different way of electing our leaders alter the course of politics? Is democracy in the truest of sense just a matter of time? Dr.JP addresses these concerns in his article in the OUTLOOK Magazine, dated 23rd July,2012

<http://news.loksatta.org/2012/07/call-to-order.html>

### Kukatpally : buzzing with activity



Lok Satta Party has been taking pains to organize job fairs in the city at Kukatpally.

Conducted amidst a downturn in the economy, these job fairs were envisioned by our leader Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan to aid people in looking for jobs.

Ever since the first Job Fair conducted on August 2, 2010, our job fairs have been receiving overwhelming support from companies and students alike. So far, close to over 2350 were successful in finding jobs through our job fairs. Students were assisted through workshops aimed at imparting requisite skills to make them employable and industry-ready.

“Companies incur large amounts of money in organizing job fairs. Students, too pay a lot of money to consultancies to find jobs. With our job fairs, companies and students avoid spending money, making our job fairs doubly attractive”, said a jubilant Loksatta representative.

Indeed, the initiative of our party is laudable. Traditional political parties with more resources and a lot of power do little to help youth.

Such initiatives are helpful to scale up the state, and, in process, the country.

**What is the state of politics today in the contemporary times and how effectively is it addressing the issues like Quality Education, Power-crisis and Unemployment?**

**Dr JP in an interaction with students of A.S.R.Institute of Engineering and Technology. (Prathipadu, Tadepalligudem), answers these questions.**

**Click here to view the video:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoWYIPc7D0w&feature=plcp>

Karnataka

### FORAY INTO POLITICS:



Shanthala Damle has been announced as an MLA candidate of the Loksatta Party from the Basavanagudi constituency.

Dr. JayaPrakash Narayan's inspirational talks and Loksatta party's activities had attracted Shanthala towards politics. She returned to India in Nov 2010, after living in the US for 12 years, with the intention of doing her part towards bringing ethical politics in India. During the last two years, she had participated not only in Anna Hazare's anti-corruption movement, but also towards providing alternative choices. She significantly contributed towards getting a competent and ethical person elected to a corporation (*Nisha Singh, Gurgaon*) and also worked on

Dr. Ashwin Mahesh's campaign for MLC from Bangalore Graduates Constituency.

She dreams of an India that is a world-leader. She is committed towards governance reforms and aspires for India being governed by honest and competent public servants.

To know more about her, visit her website [www.shanthaladamle.com](http://www.shanthaladamle.com)

She could use all the support and encouragement she gets. You could help her even if you don't live in the constituency. For ways to get involved, please visit: <http://shanthaladamle.com/get-involved>

### Maharashtra

Surendra Srivastava, Lok Satta Party's candidate who contested in MLC elections from Mumbai Graduate Constituency assured that the Lok Satta Party will continue its efforts for the betterment of the society and focus on the serious issues like proportional representation in elected bodies, corruption, empowerment of people, liquor menace, education, healthcare, farmers and electricity despite failing to get a strong foothold in the recently conducted Graduate Constituency Elections in Maharashtra.



The party in the recent months has made remarkable progress in terms of enhancing its network and hopes to reach out to more.

Lok Satta Party- Mumbai has taken the challenge of fighting money/muscle power and Vote bank/dynastic politics, head on. It is essential to make politics once again a noble endeavour to serve people and use it as a tool for balancing the conflicts of interest in the society.

The party will conduct democratic organizational elections at every level to improve political participation of every citizen. Mr. Srivastava has appealed to every citizen to take this as a challenge and opportunity and grow as a leader to shape the country.

Lok Satta Party in Mumbai has filed an Election petition with ECI on July 23. The petition includes three main issues- deficiencies in voter registration, particularly in urban areas; hitches in the process of distribution of voter slips and erection of pandals by parties and candidates on polling day to avoid any connect between the political parties and the voters on the day of elections. Lok Satta Party believes that changes in these electoral processes would go a long way in enhancing the integrity of the electoral process.

### Tamil Nadu



Lok Satta Party team started a campaign in March this year demanding Live Telecast of Assembly Proceedings to the public. Since the main vernacular TV channels are owned by highly polarized political groups, what the citizens see is partisan news packaged as a political campaign. During March – May, the team conducted a signature campaign highlighting the issue. In June, the team filed a Public Interest Litigation in Madras High Court. Lok Satta Party-Tamil Nadu highlighted the fact that people were interested in watching an unbiased and

impartial coverage of assembly proceedings. Finding merit in the argument the High Court has admitted the petition and issued a notice to the Tamil Nadu Assembly Secretary to file a counter affidavit and now the case comes to hearing around first week of August.

Meanwhile, the team in an effort to enhance Financial Self Sustainability has reached out to sympathizers and volunteers having Bank Accounts for Periodic Standing Instructions and ECS Forms for transfer of Donations. The team named this project as 'Big Brother'. It was successful in registering Rs. 22,500 so far as standing instructions so far.



Lok Satta Party Tamil Nadu team started a Tamil Monthly magazine for publishing party activities. It is named 'Whistle'. The team had conducted a 2 Day Training Program on Party Objectives and Ideology on 30-Jun and 1-Jul 2012 for working committee members from 4 Districts.

The team is currently working on Regulation of Auto-fares in Chennai City.

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