



IDEAL CHIEF MINISTER VASANTRAO NAIK ALL AROUND EMPOWERED MAHARASHTRA

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KEYWORDS :

Introduction:-

A true son of the soil, Sri. Vasant Rao Naik was born in the small village of Gahuli, Yavatmal to a father Phoolsing and mother Hunaki Naik on 1st July, 1913. Gahuli, his birthplace, was a poor village lacking in the basic facilities and even primary education. However, the young, bright and ambitious man willingly moved to various nearby places in his quest to acquire education. His heart and soul were focused and dedicated towards the development of individual spirit and the benefit to society. It was with this indomitable spirit that he established, "Janta Shikshan Prasarak Mandal" in Pusad. The Janta Shikshan Prasarak Mandal focuses on educating the natives from Primary Levels to the Higher Education in all most all the branches of knowledge.

Vasant Rao, also known by his friends as V.P., entered the arena of politics in early 1951. His humble beginnings coupled with his strong perseverance saw a long and steady political progression in his career. He rose from a simple MLA to the Chief Minister of the State. His unique innings of almost a decade and half as a Chief Minister gave him an opportunity to lay down a strong foundation of today's Modern Maharashtra. The credit of one of the most developed state in India goes to Late V.P. Late Sri Naik was an agriculturist to the core. Since, he himself was from an agricultural background, he was aware of the plight of the farmer. He wanted to change their gloomy picture and so focused strongly on the farming sector. In fact he was the first promoter of the Co-operative sector as an agent of rural growth in Maharashtra. He is known as the originator of the idea of, "*kasel tyachi jamin*" which means that the land will belong to one who cultivates it.

Late Sri. V. P. Naik was instrumental in the creation of the necessary socio-political atmosphere and physical infrastructure for the growth of the agricultural sector. He never forgot his upbringing and so kept keen interest in developing agricultural sector. His heart was aflame with the desire to develop the agricultural sector. He always had a focus on rural Maharashtra especially for the welfare of the farmers in the state.

The year 1968 saw the tragic end of this great man as he breathed his last at Singapore. This paper prominently depended upon secondary sources. Vasant Rao Naik's contribution have a milestone in development economy of Maharashtra.

Objectives:-

- 1) To establish strengthen the relations with other state, national, international agricultural training institutes.
- 2) To train the officers in planning and implementation of developmental programmes, schemes of agriculture and line departments.
- 3) To provide services in agriculture management, project planning and implementation.

Contribution in various fields:-

The fair character of Vasant Rao Naik was essence of equally having practical wisdom. He led solid foundation of the all round development of the state. He kept interest in common man on the

high platform. "Thus Vasant Rao Naik had imprinted his vision on every aspect of life of modern Maharashtra which has been discussed in the foregoing pages. His contribution to various fields can be explained on the basis of following grounds. In each field his vision and action has been explained the

All round development:- (1) Agriculture, (2) Industries (3) Cooperation and (4) Education

Agricultural development:

Vasant Rao Naik was architect of Modern Maharashtra. He aimed to develop agro industrial Maharashtra. About agricultural development he opined irrigation was required for flourishing agriculture and cooperative movement. Hence he tried to develop major and minor projects of irrigation for the betterment dry land farming.

He further provided economic support to farmers by developing primary credit cooperative societies as well as district central cooperative bank. His ideas were to strengthened farmers by meeting out his credit needs and he tried to emancipate the farmers from jaws of indigenous bankers and money lenders. He aimed to bring changes in the traditional farming based on new science and technology. He was in favour of green revolution to meet the needs of food grains as well as needs of poor. He had correlated agriculture and irrigation. Vasant Rao Naik have most favorable to agri and farmers. Maharashtra farmer inspired to growth of production. When we became fulfill in food from farm does not go to foreign. This money used to self defense. Every battle has done in Agriculture. Vasant Rao Naik has done try to fulfill in food. At Pune he delivered speech in 1965 as "*Within two years Maharashtra shall be not does fulfill in food give me hang death*" this word occur in whole program for our beliefs. This words does truth for hard work of attempts. "*The work in Agri is purity and its God is Farmer, they give dignity them appropriately increase National dignity.*" That thought given to Nation. Vasant Rao Naik had lot of respect to Farmers. Farmer is a one of the pillar of nation. Now they are facing very problematic situations, this today most farmer are hanging, these think not ignorable. He wanted to suggest new cropping pattern for strengthening of rural resources. Vasant Rao Naik have developed future roads for the development of Maharashtra state. He provided vision of agricultural revolution to Maharashtra who later on completed the dream of agricultural development of Vasant Rao Naik agricultural development ideas were very concrete and well developed Vasant Rao Naik had ably evolved his agrarian thoughts by close observations and bitter experiences. His views on Panchayat Raj and cooperative were resourceful for strengthening agriculture in rural Maharashtra. It is true that founding of ZP in Maharashtra was his contribution. He was very clear that these ZPs would be schools political leadership. The foundation of cooperative sugar factories was laid down by Vasant Rao Naik. The rural leadership which has flourished from this agro industrial change is on the forefront of the state. Thus he heralded a new age of modernization in the state. Agriculture in Maharashtra required irrigation facilities as well as credit support. Especially the drought prone areas in Marathwada and Vidarbha required thorough

support in these two areas. Hence Vasant Rao Naik implemented all these ideal schemes to support agriculture, and SSI units. Vasant Rao Naik had very well built party and Government by getting support from small and medium farmers which were clearly limited by him through the network of cooperative movement in the state. Strengthening agriculture was supporting irrigation system. Small and medium irrigation projects were built in the state to support small farmers. Agriculture universities were established to conduct research in the region. The agriculture Universities at Akola and Parbhani were established for the same purpose. The cooperative movement was strengthened by establishing through primary cooperative credit societies at the grass root levels. All these cooperative societies became strong units due to positive policies undertaken by Government. The peasants were supported to establish cooperative units at various tahsil levels in the backward regions. Credit facilities were extended on large scale. The farmers were involved in the green revolution in the state. New innovations and extension schemes were properly implemented. Thus, all these efforts made by Vasant Rao Naik were responsible for the healthy development of agriculture in the Maharashtra state.

Industrial and Cooperative Development:-

Vasant Rao Naik was architect of modern Maharashtra. Like agricultural development he also equally gave importance to the industrial development. On 1st May 1960 when Maharashtra was established number of industries were very less. Vasant Rao Naik designed industrial estates in the backward regions of Vidarbha and Marathwada. Industries were earlier concentrated in Bombay-Pune-Nasik belt. Rural level cooperative societies were established in a systematic manner. All these efforts were responsible for strengthening of cooperative movement in the state. The grass root efforts made by Vasant Rao Naik were responsible for linking rural works with state level network which not only strengthened the cooperative movement, but also the Congress Party as a whole. The speeches delivered by Vasant Rao Naik and extracts published in different books and journals amply testify the same. In the entire country cooperative movement in the state has been leading and redoubt of the same goes to the visionary leadership of Vasant Rao Naik.

Conclusion:-

Thus in this research paper contribution of Vasant Rao Naik to the making of modern Maharashtra was discussed. It is true that Vasant Rao Naik was really architect of modern Maharashtra. He had very well directed the newly emerging state from its beginning. He felt that agriculture is the backbone of Maharashtra's development. He strengthened it by promoting strong base of cooperative movement. Vasant Rao Naik's approach to industrial development was based on his rich experience. He tried to establish the industrial belt from Bombay Pune to Sangli Satara and Nasik Aurangabad as well as Nagpur. A network of cooperative movement was well built and efforts were made to strengthen the cooperative movement. Vasant Rao Naik's unique experiment lies in developing Panchayat Raj and ZPs in the state, which led to the rise of new leadership.

Recommendations:-

- Maharashtra state should give economic support to farmers by developing primary credit cooperative societies as well as district central cooperative bank.
- Maharashtra state should lift irrigation projects on large scale.
- Maharashtra state should create new revolution to strengthen the cooperative movement.
- Maharashtra state should enhance agricultural sector equally importance to the industrial development.
- Maharashtra state should consider Farmer is one of the pillar of nation.

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