
“ROLE OF LOCAL LEADERS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HALA SUGAR COOPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORY, NIPPANI, KARNATAKA AND JAWAHAR COOPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORY, HUPARI, MAHARASHTRA”

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INTRODUCTION:

Local leadership is one of the important factors for the establishment of any factory. For the establishment of Halasugar factory, the role played by the local leaders like Late Shriyuts Baburao Balwant Patil, Budihalkar, Malagouda Hari Patil, Somashekar Rudrappa Kothiwale, Appasaheb Shivappa Kurbetti, Jagadish S. Dhole, Indrajit Appasaheb Nimbalkar and also the District Commissioner Anirudha Desai in initiating and encouraging the farmers for establishing the co- operative sugar factory in their own area cannot be neglected. These leaders succeeded to get license as they belonged to Congress (1) Party. And the Second Board of Directors are also

mainly responsible Party. Anstablishment of Halasugar factory. The Second Board of Directors took charge of factory on 23rd October, 1983 Janata Dal under the Chairmanship of Belgaum District to Commissioner Shri B.A. Coutinho, IAS, the leader like Yalagouda L. Patil, Baburao Khandu Magadum, Shankar Mahadeva, Sasane Bhimrao Yashwant, Shirole, Suresh K. Khandre, Pandit Satyappa Killedara and Shivaling M. Shintre tried a lot to establish the Halasugar factory. Actually the Second Board of Directors constructed factory's main building and installed the machines and started crushing in the trial season and produced sugar. But the first Board of Directors completed all procedures and requirements to start factory. The name and fame of the building of the factory goes to both the first and Second Board of Directors. This point out that forgetting party differences local leaders can come together to achieve their goal i.e. establishing the sugar factory.

For the establishment of Jawahar factory, the local leaders have played a very important role. Local leader like KallappaAnnaAwade, Ex-M.P. Prakash Awade, MLA and Abasaheb Kulkarni (Kebudkar), Annaso Gopal Gotkhinde, DhondiramKesava Patil, Annasaheb Paris Ingrole, Kallappa Vasudeva Gawade, AnantraoBala Desai, Ramchandra DattatrayaMiraje, and others are mainly responsible for the establishment of the Jawahar Sugar Factory. They initiated and encouraged the farmers for establishing the co-operative sugar factory at Hupari-Yalagud area. The most crucial factor in making Halasugar and Jawahar factories a success is of course, their Leadership which is to some extent is a matter of history, tradition and culture. It is difficult to say why good and able leaders emerge in one area rather than another compare to Karnataka Co-operative leaders, the co- operative leaders of Maharashtra State are prompt and able to run the administration of co-operative sugar factories.

The Halasugar Board of Directors belong to two different political parties. However, in early stages, Board of Directors who belonged to Congress Party were able to get licence and Second Board of Directors who belonged to Janata Dal were able to get loan and other facilities from the Central and State Government to establish the Halasugar factory whereas the Jawahar factory's Board of Directors belong to one political party i.e. Congress (I), KallappaAnnaAwade, the present Chairman is elected as a Member of Parliament from Ichalkaranji Constituency from Congress (I) and Prakash Awade is also elected as a Member of Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from Ichalkaranji Constituency through Congress (I) Party. Hence, the Jawahar Board of Directors were able to get licence, loan and other facilities from the Government to establish Jawahar Sugar Factory.

The First Board Of Directors of 'Halasugar':

In the initial stage, the State Government appointed a Board of Directors headed by BaburaoBalwant Patil, Budihalkar. After three years with the change in party leadership at the State Government level the transfer of administrative power of the factory from original Board of Directors to District Commissioner and 8 other Janata Dal local leaders took place on 23 October, 1983. This has happened because the period of original Board of Directors who are nominated by the Government was expired. But again due to the change in the State Government leadership in 1989 helped to reinstate the original Board of Directors. In April 1992, for the first time, elections were held for the factory but before that the founder Chairman B.B. Patil expired on 02-01-1990.

The 'Halasugar's first Board of Directors are socially, economically and politically strong. They enjoyed high social status in their area and belonged to upper castes like Lingayat, Jain Maratha etc. They also had good relations with State and Central Ministry and with the cane-growers. This led to the smooth functioning of the Halasugar factory at the initial stage.

The organisation of Halasugar factory is essentially based on cane-growers and their share holding has been linked to their acreage under sugarcane within the area of operation of the factory.

The First Board Of Directors Of 'Jawahar':

The first Board of Directors including Chairman and Vice- Chairman of Jawahar factory were nominated by Sugar Director and the Registrar of Co-operative Society Maharashtra State, Pune on 23rd November 1990 (order No. SS/1090/Jawahar/Nomination PS 3). KallappaBaburaoAwade became the founder Chairman and Promoter of Jawahar factory. From its establishment under the leadership of KallappaAwade the Jawahar factory started functioning. Under the leadership of KallappaAwade for two terms, the Board of Directors were elected unanimously, first time, on 4th October, 1995 and second time in the year at present under the leadership of KallappaAwade. This shows that Board of Directors are working under the leadership of KallappaAwadesmoothly without any scandals. It is also widely shared view that all shareholders have full faith and confidence in the present Board of Directors.

The first Board of Directors belonged to Congress Party (1), This helped to get licence and other facilities from the State and Central Government. At that time both at State and Central level the Congress (1) party was the ruling party. KallappaAwade having good relationship with the then Chief Minister and Central Defence Minister Sharad Pawar. This helped a lot to establish the Jawahar factory.

The first Board of Directors of Jawahar factory are socially, economically and politically strong and they enjoyed high social status in their area and they belong to upper caste like Jain, Brahmin, Lingayat, Maratha etc. They also had good relations with Maharashtra State Government and Central Ministers and cane growers of their area. This helped to establish Jawahar factory without a hitch.

Chief Promoter of Halasugar Factory:

Late BaburaoBalwantrao Patil Budihalkar was the Chief Promoter and Founder Chairman of the Halasugar factory. He had collected major portion of share capital from the members within a short period for which Director of Sugar, Bangalore, has complimented him. During this period, and due to his efforts the letter of intent has been given by the Government of India. The site selection has also been made during his period. During Shri Baburao Patil's period loan from IDBI was sanctioned, order given to install machines and the share amount of Karnataka Government also sanctioned. At the time of establishment of the factory he faced so many problems. Main problem was created by the tobacco merchants of Nipani. If the sugar factory is established, then farmers grow sugarcane instead of tobacco and workers also tend towards factory work rather than tobacco processing and production work. So, tobacco merchants tried to stop the establishment of sugar factory. The tobacco merchants like DevachandaShaha, K.P. Punjam, Messers, 30 number Bidi Company and other big tobacco merchants. They also belonged to Brahmin, Jain, Muslim, Maratha and Lingayat caste. The main intention of Tobacco merchants was that if sugar factory opened, the farmers will produce sugarcane instead of tobacco. So there will be shortage of tobacco and they will have

to pay more money for tobacco. Another reason is that workers will choose the work in sugar factory. Therefore, tobacco merchants created obstacles indirectly at the time of establishment of 'Halasugar'. But Founder Chairman succeeded to establish 'Halasugar' as he included two tobacco merchants. Somashekharkothiwale and AppasahebKurbetti in the Board of Directors.

In the year 1982 another one problem faced by the chief promoter of Halasugar factory that is congress (I) M.L.A.'s of Belgaum district, opposed the establishment of sugar factory at Nipani because of language problem and the same question raised in Vidhana Sabha and met chief minister of Karnataka Shri R. Gundurao requesting him to withdraw the permission given to Halasugar factory. But Shri Baburao Patil succeeded to establish Halasugar factory and solved the problem with the help of then central Health minister Shri B. Shankarananda. And then co-operative minister Shri H. C. Shreekantayya says that the language problem is not obstacle for the establishment of Co- operative sugar factory at Nipani.

Baburao, Balwantrao Patil Budihalkar, the founder Chairman of Halasugar Factory also worked in the following co-operative institutions at District and National levels which also gave him more popularity as a leader.

1. Member, Governing Council, National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi.
2. National Federation of Urban Banks and Credit Societies, New Delhi as Vice-President.
3. Hindustan Letex Limited, Trivendrum, Director (Government of India Undertaking).
4. President, Spot Check Committee, South Central Railway. Secunderabad.
5. Founder President, Maharashtra State Urban Co-operative Bank Federation, Mumbai.
5. President, Shri Veershaiva Co-operative Bank Ltd., Kolhapur.

This clearly indicates that B.B. Patil, Budihalkar has much experience in these institutions which helped in establishing Halasugaractory at Nipani,

Chief Promoter of Jawahar Sugar Factory:

Kallappanna Baburao Awade, Ex-MP is the Chief Promoter and Founder Chairman of Jawahar Sugar Factory. Presently he is working as the Chairman of Jawahar factory. He had collected major portion of share capital from the Members within a very short period for which the Maharashtra Government has complimented him. Due to his efforts the factory come into existence at Hupari. The factory was registered as per the Maharashtra State Co-operative Societies Act (No. KPR/HLE/PRG9-(A)/30(S)/90 dated 29-01-1990 and according to Multi-state Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 No. MSCS/CR-51/94 dated Central Government letter and according to 30-12-1900: 1 (13)/MES/90-LA II 289-1990 (1016) and Industrial Licence No. L/8/30/54 dated 28-09-1990 (1016 TCD). Kallappa B. Awade is working in other institutions at the District, State and National levels which indicate that he is a more popular leader in this area. The names of institutions to which Awade is connected are as under. of endorsement

Educational Institutions:

1. For ten years, he was a Member of the Governing Body of Narayanrao Babasaheb Education Society a leading educational institution at Ichalkaranji.
2. Vice-President, Swami Vivekanand Education Society, Kolhapur.
3. Member, Senate of Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
4. Founder Chairman, Dattajirao Kadam Technical Education Society, Ichalkaranji.
5. President, Governing Council, Latthe Education Society, Sangli.
6. President, Bahubali Vidyapeeth, Bahubali.

In Co-Operative an Other Organisation:

1. Member, Rashtra Seva Dal (Congress)
2. Member, Ichalkaranji Municipal Council and was its President from 1962 to 1967.
3. Director, Ichalkaranji Urban Co-operative Bank in 1958-59.

4. Promoted and established Ichalkaranji Janata Sahakari Bank in 1962. He was the Chairman of the said bank till 1976 i.e. for a period of 14 years continuously.
5. Chairman, Vikas Seva Society since 1973 to 1979.
6. Promoted and established the Ichalkaranji Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
7. SANKALPAK (Founder) and established Co-operative Spinning Mill exclusively for women under the name Indira Gandhi Mahila Sahakari Soot Girani (Spinning Mill) Ltd.
8. Chairman, Maharashtra State Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation Ltd., Mumbai 1982 to 1985.
9. Director, premier Co-operative Printers Ltd., Pune 1976 to 1982.
10. Director, Shri Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shirol 1978 to 1995.
11. Member, Sub-Committee for Powerlooms to review the textile policy 1985 (appointed by Shri Abid Hussain Planning Commission).
12. Founder Director of Times Bank, Mumbai.
13. Founder of Nava Maharashtra Sahakari Soot Girani (Spinning Mill Ltd.), Sajani.
14. Founder of Laxmi Gramin Hatmag Vikas Sahakari Society Ltd., Jangamwadi.
15. He was elected on eleventh and twelfth Lok Sabha and carried out his responsibility as Member of Parliament till their dissolution.
16. He was elected in 1980 to Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from the Ichalkaranji Constituency of Kolhapur District. He had been inducted in the Ministry of Maharashtra in February 1983 as Minister of State for Industries and in July 1984 entrusted him the additional responsibility of the Minister of State for Urban Development.
17. President of Ichalkaranji Block Congress Committee. subsequently he became Treasurer from January, 1992 to 7th January, 1996.
18. General Secretary of Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and at present he is the Member of All India Congress Committee.

As a Member of the delegation sponsored by the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited, Mumbai he has had opportunities in 1974 and 1982 to visit textile centres abroad and to study technological developments for their possible application in textile industry in India. As a delegate of Sugar Co-operatives he has travelled to Mauritius, Brazil, Japan for acquiring first hand information on modern techniques and technology pertaining to sugar industry.

In recognition of meritorious work in different social and economic fields especially in the co-operative movement, Government of Maharashtra requested him to serve on the Sub-Committee appointed by the textile industry in Maharashtra and to identify causes of sickness of textile units and to suggest remedies for the same.

The prestigious FIE FOUNDATION AWARD has been conferred on Kallappa B. Awade for his outstanding performance in the fields of co-operative movements, education and socio-economic development in the region on 25-02-1996.

The founder Chairman of Jawahar Shetkari Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Hupari District, Kolhapur, K.B. Awade has so much experience in so many institutions which helped him to establish the Jawahar Sugar Factory and to run the factory smoothly and efficiently. In comparison to founder Chairman of Halasugar factory the founder Chairman of Jawahar Factory had worked in more institutions and also worked as Minister (Maharashtra State) and Member of House of People (Lok Sabha).

Co-operative leaders are concerned with the outcome of public policies but are unable to influence their formulation. Therefore the problem of member's apathy which is generally noticed in the co-operative societies is an educational and political problem rather than an economic problem. Economic performance has become a crucial test of political legitimacy. There is every need therefore, in the interest of developing proper co-operative leadership to train and educate the leaders in co-operative philosophy, principles and ideology. Only through education and training (experience) they can understand their role in the co-

operative movement, or else, it results in the concentration of power and authority in the hands of a few political executives.

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