



BREAKING BARRIERS



The story of a
Dalit Chief Secretary

Kaki Madhava Rao IAS (Retd)

EMESCO

INDEX

S.No.	Chapters	Pg.No.
1	Village Days	11 - 39
2	Musings on Mussoorie	40 - 51
3	Early Years in the IAS	52 - 74
4	Naxalite Collector	75 - 104
5	Social Welfare Sector	105 - 134
6	Who is the CM?	135 - 140
7	On the Brink of Resignation	141 - 156
8	The Super CM	157 - 174
9	Crusade on Corruption by NTR	175 - 190
10	Managing the Finances of the State	191 - 207
11	Dalit Chief Secretary	208 - 252
12	State Election Commissioner	253 - 276
13	Life Beyond the IAS	277 - 287
14	Profile of Post-Retirement Life	288 - 320

Chapter 1

Village Days

This is the story of the persons, authorities and events that made me who and what I am.

I was born around 1940. I say ‘around’ because neither my parents nor my grandparents recorded anywhere the actual date on which I was born. All that my mother remembered was that I was born at mid-day in midsummer. It could have been sometime in April or May. Date, month, and year are not things that a totally illiterate young Dalit woman in a village can be expected to remember. My father was as illiterate as my mother. They started learning the alphabets of our mother tongue after I entered the Indian Administrative Service in 1962.

No soothsayer, the village equivalent of an angel or a sage, appeared in my mother's dream to tell her that the little child in her womb will be a son, who would one day become the Chief Secretary of a big State like Andhra Pradesh. Like all village women, my mother experienced a rebirth after labouring to give birth to me without any medical assistance.

Certainly, the two most important persons who made me what I am are my mother Smt.Kaki Manikyamma and my father Shri Kaki Shobanadri. My parents were as poor as all those who make a living by working for wages in the fields in rural areas.