Secondary Consonants with Vowels

Telugu language uses only one letter for each syllable. For example the word “Rama” has two syllables, “Ra” and “ma”. So two letters are required to write “Rama” in Telugu “ర” and “మ”.

Consonant’s secondary forms are used when combining two or more Consonants. Following rules are used while combined the Consonants.

1. The Consonant sound which comes first while pronouncing, is written first.
2. The Consonant sound which follows the primary consonant sound is written in the secondary consonant form.
3. Vowel sound is always written with primary Consonant in it’s secondary form.

Occasionally there may be three consonant sounds in a letter. In that case only primary consonant is written in it’s primary form and other consonants are written in secondary form.

Ku rci = (అ+ఎ) (ఎ+ర+ం) = (అ+ర) (ఎ+ర+ం) = కురచు
bO rDu = (ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) = (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) = బూరూ
na shTam = (ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) = (ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) = నాష్టాం
rA shTra mu = (ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ)
=(ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ+ఎ+ఎ) (ఎ+ఎ) = రాష్ట్రాము

To read the letters, first identify primary Consonant (consonant in primary form), secondary Consonant (consonant in secondary form) and Vowel sounds (vowel in secondary form) and say all together in the same order.