CHAPTER 5
The Reorganisation of States Act 1956, based on the ethnolinguistic delineation of State boundaries has offered a basis for the macro-order spatial planning units and thereby each State can set up a separate State Planning Board confining its functions to their respective present state borders. The differences in size either in respect of area or population need not be a serious problem if sufficient autonomy and financial resources are forthcoming.

Within the State borders, delineation of 'planning regions' for purposes of balanced regional development is one of the most ticklish problems. The problem is more complex when the purposes of planning vary with the objectives and the strategies designed differ from region to region in response to their resource endowments and physiographic conditions. There are the conventional physiographic regions, the climatic zones, the natural regions, the resource regions, the river valleys and the command areas of the major irrigation projects, the industrial regions, the soil zones and the agricultural regions, etc. Development planning needs a proper delineation of 'regions' which are composite, but still, distinct enough to include all, or most of these conventional regions.

However, the physiographic regions generally encompass many of the themes which serve the purposes of development planning. These regions can be adopted for a physical base whose physical attributes would help in the formulation of physical plans and the various other aspects of development such as the resource potentialities, levels of development, and the strategies for development can be formulated later, on this basis.
The regional planning model such as the macro-region, meso regions and the micro regions do pose difficulties when several regions of different orders need to be aggregated for different purposes of planning such as the national, the regional and the local levels. Aggregation of planning regions of micro order do not necessarily go to make the meso regions, similarly aggregation of meso regions do not yield a macro-order planning region. 'Long term emergence of a 'systems' approach to land-use planning in which not only, the planning process itself is being reexpresses in a more r Igono us, logical framework in which the region-wise distribution of land uses, activities and the net works that link than are seen as a continuously inter-acting spatial system'\textsuperscript{88}. This 'systems approach' to planning seems to be more appropriate in the present predicament. Given the objectives, constraints, resources, instruments and the relevant conditions of society, it should be possible to arrive at a number of well-marked out alternatives... The administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) also pointed out this defect in our planning. 'This approach of posing alternatives with their implications has not yet been adequately attempted by our planners'.\textsuperscript{89}

One of the basic principles of planning is to have sets of specific technically feasible plans so that comparative studies could be made before implementing the more suitable ones. But the National Planning Commission feels that there is no sufficient time for such an elaborate planning exercise and more often the present sectoral plans are delayed beyond their scheduled dates. Thus it is very important that a very


\textsuperscript{89} ARC Report (1967): Machinery for planning report of the study team.
concerted effort is necessary if planning is to be more meaningful and effective. Three Tier Planning Process: The Government of Karnataka have accepted and put into practice decentralised planning. The 2-tier planning has been introduced and the 3-tier planning will be introduced after the completion of the elections to the Mandal Panchayats and the Zilla Parisadgads (District Boards). As at present, the District Development Councils (DDCs) are functioning in an advisory capacity and the district plans are formulated by the departmental officers. These plan proposals have come under severe criticism in the DDC meetings and many have been even turned down as most unsatisfactory and hence unacceptable. Hence, it is reiterated here that the present plan formulation on ad hoc basis has to be given up and a more meaningful long-term perspective, medium term and short term need-based regional plans should be undertaken. In the light of these experiences, it is proposed to have a number of alternative physical plans to suit the requirements of the different regions.

Although some of the problems like drinking water, sanitation, education, communication, housing, transport are pressing for immediate redressal, lack of financial resources makes it imperative to formulate a time-bound programme; unfortunately the need of some regions are more urgent than the others and these competitive urgency has added a different dimension to the problem. Plan allocations shall have be suitably adjusted to meet the more urgent problem/regions and the 'levels of development' of the 175 taluks could be the basis for future planning in Karnataka. The factor scores and the correlation matrix will help the Trentification of the region and the sector in which the degree of backwardness is higher and the problems are more pressing. In this respect,
The Hyderabad-Karnataka region is the most backward region of the State and a higher priority shall have to be given to this region in future planning. Each lagging sector can be identified and suitable priority arranged for this purpose. Similar exercises can be made for each of the other physiographic regions of Karnataka and the same are highlighted in the following planning regions. Allocation of schemes and devolution of resources under the 3 tier planning in Karnataka is given below.

**ALLOCATION OF SCHEMES AND DEVOLUTION OF RESOURCES UNDER 3 TIER PLANNING**

I. **STATE SECTOR**

1. Generation and distribution of Power
2. Major and Medium Irrigation Projects
3. University Education
4. Professional and Technical Education, Research and Training
5. State and National Highways
6. Ayacut Development of LAs
7. Ports
8. Inland Waterways etc.
II. DISTRICT SECTOR

1. Agricultural Production
2. Soil Conservation
3. Forests
4. Fishing
5. Animal husbandry
6. Marketing
7. Minor Irrigation
8. Small and rural Industries
10. Primary and Secondary Education
11. District and Village Roads.
    etc.

III. BLOCK SECTOR

1. Social Services
2. Processing Credit
3. Health
4. Primary and Adult Education
5. Housing
6. Sanitation
7. Local Transport
8. Storage
9. Rural Electrification
10. Welfare Programmes
    etc.
The National Plans and the Regional Plans:

As at present, there is no link between the national plan and the state perspective plans. This is possible only with the 'regionalisation' of the national plan. The importance of economic regionalisation and regional planning in large countries like India and the USSR was stressed in the joint paper presented as a Report to the UN Conference, Geneva on the problems of science and technology for the benefit of less developed areas. Regionalisation for planning as a first requisite in national planning lays down that operationally the spatial dimension of the important sectors of the national economy have to be first identified and a feasible regional development policy defining goals of regional specialisation broadly identifying the economic activities and rate of productions in these regions have to be formulated. Based on the principles of regional planning and economic regionalisation as a technique, planning regions of Karnataka have been identified under the following major categories: Major Physical Regions, Agricultural Regions, Industrial Regions, Urban Regions. The essential prerequisites of effective implementation of these regional plans depend on creation of adequate data base, administrative and technical man power and know-how, identifying the priority sectors and regions under a well defined national policy for phasing these spatial planning at decentralised levels.

PLANNING REGIONS OF KARNATAKA

Broadly, there are the three major physiographic divisions viz. 1. the coastal plain, 2. the Malenad, 3. the Interplateau more popularly known as i. the southern Maidan and the ii. the northern Maidan. These divisions form the basis of the delineation of planning regions. Each of these regions can be planned in an integrated manner - inter-sectoral as well as inter-regional per se.

1. The Coastal Plain: The narrow coastal plain is a monoculture region with rice as the dominant crop and is followed by coconut. Besides agriculture, fisheries is the important occupation and any integrated development programme should be addressed to these primary sectors and then properly integrated with the cottage and small scale industries on the one hand and the large scale manufacturing and processing industries on the other. Low productivity of the soils and poor catches of fish are the immediate problems. Some large scale manufacturing industries like the chemicals and fertilisers, petro-chemical industry are found in this region but their activities need to be integrated with the local economy. The northern sector of the coastal plain is an upland where the problems are similar. Development of ports and harbours, establishment of a few labour intensive industries and construction of a railway connecting Hubli with Karwar would help sprout the coastal economy.

2. The Malenad region is a conspicuous backward region. It has rich mineral, forest and plantation agricultural resources. Here, the lack of linkages among the various sectors of the economy and poor infrastructure facilities have affected development. Hence these have to be rectified. A very important aspect of regional development of the Malenad is the conservation of resources and the protection of the ecosystem which has already been damaged by excessive felling of trees. The entire Malenad stretch is extending over 600 kms from Nipani in the north to
Chamarajanagara in the south-Southeast. Hence there is need for having three Malenad development zones - northern, central and southern so that an integrated area planning can be worked out.

3. The Maidan: Here, the northern rain-deficit basalt plateau has serious problems of water resources. There is need for providing basic necessities like drinking water on top priority basis. The rural areas have skill in handloom weaving and this can be developed. The newly irrigated tracts can take up a new cropping pattern and emphasis should be laid on dry farming techniques where irrigation possibilities are remote. The prevailing cement industries based on locally available limestone are posing serious environmental problems which need attention.

The southern Maidan is also an agricultural region although some industrial development has already taken place. Here again, the rainfall is deficit and water resources are scarce. Hence there is need for conservation of water resources and development of dry farming profitably. Irrigation facilities are available in the newly developed command areas where rice and sugarcane are dominant crops. Here again there is need for a proper inter-sectoral and inter-regional integrated area planning keeping in view the resource base and skill available. Any further development of industries in this region depends on the availability of power, of which, the state is in deficit at present.

A number of growth poles have already been identified by the State Government in all the above 3 major physiographic divisions. These growth poles shall have to be linked with their respective hinterlands and a coordinated rural-urban area development has to be planned in all the three regions. The available network road and rail facilities, power and the locally available raw materials should form the basis of an integrated agro-industrial development and this has not yet emerged.
Thus, a brief outline of the regional specialisation aspect in integrated area development planning has been outlined above. More detailed plans for each of the planning region could be taken up. This will be a time-consuming programme which needs large financial investments—both for field work and cartographic exercises.
PHYSICAL REGIONS OF KARNATAKA (See Map Fig. No. 41)

I. MACRO REGIONS: 1. The Karnataka Coast comprising Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada Districts.

2. The Sahyadri or the Malnad—comprising parts of the Districts of Belgaum, Dharwad, Shimoga, Hassan, Chickmagalur, Kodagu, Mysore along the Western Ghats.


4. The Cauvery Basin: More popularly known as the Old Mysore Plateau comprising the districts of Mysore, Bangalore, Mandya, Kolar, Tumkur, Chitradurga and parts of Shimoga, Hassan and Chickmagalur.


2. The Karkala-Sulia Uplands.

3. The Kumta-Bhatkal Plains.

4. The Ankola-Karwar Uplands.

5. The Siddapur-Sirsi Belt.

6. The Shimoga-Chickmagalur Belt.

7. The Kodagu-Chamarajanagara Belt.

8. Hyderabad Karnataka Region.

9. The Bombay Karnataka Region.

10. The Old Mysore Plateau or the Cauvery Basin.

(a) The Cauvery Basin
(b) The Pennar Basin
(c) Tumkur-Chitradurga Tank Country.
FIG. No. 41

KARNATAKA
PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGIONS

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1. The Coastal Plain
2. The Malenadu
3. The Southern Maidan
4. The Northern Maidan
III. MICRO REGIONS: 1st Order - District as a Unit for all District Plans (19).

2nd Order - The taluk, as a Unit for all Block Plans (195).

3rd Order - Village Panchayati as a Unit for all grass root Planning (25000 approximately).

4th Order - i) The Village as a Unit wherever the size is economically viable, otherwise groups of Village are treated as a Unit for RMNP.

ii) Bangalore Metropolitan Area Metropolies (3)

iii) Twin cities of Karnataka -
   (a) TCMAS (20)
   (b) TMS (200)

I. Planning Regions:

The Micro level planning regions can be sub-divided into three major categories as follows; with the following functions:

I Order - The Village as a unit for all purposes of need-based and time-bound planning such as provision of drinking water wells, electrification schemes, schools, health and sanitation, if necessary resettlement programmes.

II Order - The Village Panchayats to take up village and rural roads, weekly markets, major works connected with civic amenities and maintenance, supervision and organisation of all rural activities.

III. Order - Taluk Bords - Overall maintenance and supervision of Village and Rural works. Planning and development of Taluk - Coordinating sectoral regional planning for balanced development.
II THE AGRICULTURAL REGIONS

The Agricultural Regions based on the crop production association bring out clearly, three primary or macro crop regions. They are as follows: (Map: Fig.No.42)

A. The Jowar Zone - Comprising the districts of Bidar, Gulbarga, Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwad, Chitradurga, Tumkur, Bellary and Raichur. By far this is the largest of the three.

B. The Ragi Zone - Comprising the Districts of Kolar, Bangalore, Tumkur, Mysore and Mandya, Parts of Hassan and Chickmagalur which lie outside the Malenad tract also have Ragi.

C. The Rice Zone - Comprising of the district of Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada, parts of Hassan, Chikmagalur, Shimoga and parts of Dharwad and Belgaum districts.

D. Mixed Zone - A mixed crop zone of rice, ragi, jowar and pulses in the districts of Shimoga, Hassan and parts of Chitradurga districts.

Within these four macro agricultural regions, there are the meso or the secondary crop production associations viz,

A. The Jowar Zone: (a) Gulbarga Jowar zone with crop association of oilseeds, millets and pulses;
(b) Bidar-Bijapur-Raichur-Bellary-Chitradurga zone with crop association of jowar + cotton, (oilseeds, small millets and pulses) + cotton.
(c) Belgaum and Dharwad have jowar + (oilseeds, small millets, pulses) + cotton + rice.

B. Ragi Zone: (A) Kolar-Bangalore-Tumkur-Mandya-Mysore Ragi zone has an association of Ragi + (oilseeds, pulses/small millets);
(b) However, Bangalore emerges as a Ragi mono-crop region.
(c) Mysore has Ragi + (oilseeds, pulses and small millets) + Jowar and importance of rice is diminishing in Kolar and Tumkur in this zone.
C. Rice Zones: (a) Under the Rice zone Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada districts emerge as monoculture region.
(b) Rice + (coffee and condiments and spices) in Hassan;
(c) Rice + (coffee in Kodagu and coconut in most of the other taluks of Kodagu, Mysore, Mandya and Tumkur districts.

D. Mixed Zones: A combination of rice, ragi, jowar and pulses also emerge in the crop association of the districts of Shimoga, Hassan and parts of Chitradurga.

3. INDUSTRIAL REGIONS:

Broadly, Karnataka can be divided into 5 major industrial regions viz, 1. the coastal belt, 2. the southern Maidan, 3. the Malenad Belt, 4. the central Maidan, and 5. the northern Maidan (Map: Fig. No. 44). The industrial regions of Karnataka are characterised by isolated or sporadically scattered industrial centres.

1. The Coastal Belt: comprising of the districts of Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada with the two nuclei at Karwar and Mangalore, the latter is more dominant than the former.

2. The Malenad Tract: comprising Shimoga-Bhadravathi and Belgaum, Hassan, Kodagu and Chikmagalur. The first two centres among these have shown much prominence.

3. The Southern Maidan: Dominated by Bangalore, where more than 60% of the factories are located; Mysore is the second nodal point of industries. Rather there exists a sign of the newly emerging Mysore-Bangalore industrial axis.

4. The Central Maidan: comprises Hubli-Dharwar, Harihar-Davangere, Hospet-Bellary industrial regions separated by vast numbers of smaller rural industrial centres like the handloom weaving centres of Rakkavi-Banahatti, Ilkal-Hungund Gadag-Betageri.
FIG. No. 44 INDUSTRIAL REGIONS
5. The Northern Maldan: Bijapur, Gulbarga Bidar and Raichur are included in this region. Here again, isolated sporadic occurrences of small industrial units characterise the region.

There are also a few scattered industrial units manufacturing sugar, paper, cement, cotton textiles, silk textiles and mechanical industrial units, etc. These are widely scattered and do not contribute to the emergence of well-coordinated and integrated industrial development and hence, fail to form viable industrial regions. Dandeli, Bagalkot, Ammasandra, Kampli and Bidar are examples under this category.

Bangalore and Mysore have acted as centres of diffusion in Karnataka and the intermediate area, particularly around Mandya and Maddur and Channapatna are attracting large numbers of units. A scooter factory, an acetate factory, a silk weaving mill, a few sugar mills, a paper mill are some of the units that are located here.

Considering the impressive development of the Bangalore-Mysore region in the past, this region ought to have developed into an industrial belt of a high magnitude. (Map No.36) Served by both rail and road facilities, ample water and power supply, there was nothing to hinder the development of this region except the licensing policy and the tax structure of the government which prevented the large capitalists from investing here. It is felt that a large capital investment and technical knowhow are the major hurdles in the industrial development of the Mysore-Bangalore Axis. Elsewhere, localisation of industries does not show such a high degree of concentration along an axis. Along the National Highway 4, connecting Bangalore-Belgaum, there are a few isolated pockets of industrial units at Tumkur, Davangere-Harihar and Hubli-Dharwad. Localisation of industries in Karnataka as a whole can be identified in a few well-defined triangular regions.
The industrially potential area of the State is marked by a 'Big Triangle'. This is the steel-aluminium-steel triangle and is an ideal base for putting Karnataka—rather, the heartland of the State on the industrial map of India. (Map: Fig. No. 45) Belgaum, Shimoga-Bhadravati, and the Hospet-Bellary nuclei are the three vertices of this Big Triangle. The entire area of this triangle is dotted with a steel mill, a paper mill, two heavy machinery and engineering manufacturing units, several cotton and silk textile mills, sugar factories, cotton press and ginning units, oil 'ghanies', and several hundreds of small scale manufacturing, processing units. This is also the potential area for development of large industries and many more small scale manufacturing and processing units, and once the proposed steel mill is started at Totangallu, 30 Km. from Hospet. A long list of the viable industrial projects of this region can be given here: sugar mills and bagasse-based paper mills, steel and aluminiumstructural, automobile engineering units, textile mills and vanaspati units could be profitable enterprises in this region.

The concept of 'big triangle' is based on the concept of the triangulation survey by which all the areas lie nearer to one or the other side of the three sides of the triangle. No place would be located far away from one or the other of the three sides and thereby help accessibility efficiently at the least possible cost. The three vertices from the poles like the Perrouxian 'growth pole' which could act as centre of innovation and diffusion, if the growth pole hypothesis is accepted as a strategy for industrial development. The three vertices and the three sides of the triangle also act as the axes and the industrial modes, if the network analysis is accepted. On the other hand, it is better to combine the two
theories and produce the network of triangles so as to include all the outlying areas within the triangle either by expanding the existing triangle, or constructing a series of triangles connecting the neighbouring centres ultimately covering the entire State. This will help a balanced regional development in Karnataka in a phased manner.

Besides the big triangle, there are four smaller triangles in the four corners of the State. (a) The first small triangle is in the southern corner, with Kolar, Mándya and Tumkur as the three vertices. All these three are well developed industrial centres. (b) The Mysore Triangle comprises Hassan, Bangalore and Mysore as the three vertices. Here again, all these three are ideal nuclei for industrial development. The two other triangles are located - one in the north and the other in the northwest. (c) The northern small triangle has Gulbarga, Bijapur and Raichur as the vertices. Bagalkot can be included in the next stage when the triangle is expanded. (d) Karwar, Kumta-Honnavar and Sirsi from the northwestern small triangle.

The industrial map shows the distribution of large size manufacturing industries. Of the 175 taluks of the State, the industrialised taluks number 52 with the coastal region having 5, the northern low plateau 12 and the southern high plateau having 14 and only one taluk of the Malenad has some industries. The 29 taluks of the northern low plateau, the 19 taluks of the Malenad are non-industrial. Together, these account for 35.43% of the total taluks of Karnataka. The districts of Bellary, Bijapur, Raichur and Shimoga, Hassan and Kodagu are the industrially backward districts and some of these do not have any significant industries at all; however, a small number of scale industries may show signs of industrial development.
(b) Industrially Backward Regions:

The Government of Karnataka have recognized 52 taluks as industrially backward although as per the present assessment 62 taluks are in this category. These taluks are earmarked for rapid industrial development with concessions. (Map: Fig. No. 46) There are a number of other taluks numbering 113 which are absolutely backward and there are no industries worth the name as in Kumta or Sirsi. Identification of taluks on political considerations as the 'non-industrial taluk will only help further denial of the little opportunity that may exist for the backward taluks and thus keep them further backward for ever and will deepen the crisis.

Thus, the industrial map of Karnataka will clearly bring out the industrial structure and the trends of development (Map: Fig. 36). The necessary strategy for further development should be one of concerted effort to develop these 'Triangles' so that the desired balanced regional development is achieved with very little spatial friction. This strategy will go a long way in strengthening the inter-industry relationships and the advantage of the industrial agglomeration can be exploited. The diversification strategy can also be explored within the triangle connecting the three vertices of diverse natural resource endowments.

The Map of Big Triangle clearly brings out the heartland concept of industrial location. (Map: Fig. No. 45) The entire state will have a solid foundation for the industrialisation of the neglected parts of the countryside. Similar exercises in the other four small triangles will cover almost the whole state in matters of industrialisation. This will bring in better money-flow to the depressed agricultural regions. This will also check the movement of raw materials and would also help bring in
technology to the rural areas; thus the forward and backward linkages can be established to the best advantages of the backward regions.

Rapid industrialisation in an integrated manner is necessary in rural areas if overall development is to be achieved. There are doubts regarding the capacity of the large industrial establishments in absorbing large unemployed force, but this doubt is expelled by the argument that large industries open up new venues for a large number of small scale industries and individual entrepreneurs thrive in ancillary manufacturing units. A flowering economy demands a thriving large scale industrial sector supported by a broad base of small scale and household industries. All these absorb 5 to 10% of the unemployed skilled and unskilled labour.

The detailed analysis of the Big Triangle and the four smaller triangles spells out the potentialities of the regions for further development.

4. URBAN REGIONS: There are 275 towns of which 19 are class I cities with a population of over 0.1 Million. Bangalore Metropolitan Area is the only metropolitan with 3.00 Million population and all others have less than 1.0 million persons. A planned development of these towns and cities is still in its early stage since it is mostly in the hands of Town Planers. Regional planers have not been assigned this job of integrated urban-road regions based on Town and country plains Act 1961. The basis of the administration of these towns is still on the basis of the British Acts (Radcliffe Acts) of Local self Government on the one hand and the Town and country planning Act 1961 on the other. Hence there is no clearcut authority for a comprehensive overall planned development of tax rules in Karnataka.
There is a well designed and administratively well organised Local Self Government (LSG) machinery that came as a legacy of the British Rule in India. With a little reorganisation and reorientation to the functioning of these LSGs can be utilised for plan implementation so that the dreams of decentralised democratic planning can be achieved. "The Planning Commission has laid great emphasis on the association of the LSG bodies with the vast development work."

The only drawback of this system is that these LSGs have so far not been able to attract capable leadership to diversify their activities and supplement their revenue and other resources. They have also failed to discharge their duties and have become heavily reliant on the State Exchequer. They have also become highly politicised and their progress has been halted. An all-party or non-party LSG alone would restore their true position and render them serviceable. What the Central Government has done to the State Government has also done the same to these LSGs i.e., the Corporations, municipalities and the town panchayats with the result that no development has been possible.

It is also important to note that in the past, the Community Development (CD) experiment lacked the availability of a team of experts in the required number at the desired places, resources in the required quantum and the necessary coordination among the various government departments. A loose and incoherent organisation with experts drawn from different departments pulled apart the chariot of CD programme leading to disintegration and miserable failure. These things should be avoided. The desirable necessity is to set up an independent authority of Regional Development Corporation based on the Model Town and Country Planning Act 1960 of the Government of India. This is vested with the required financial and administrative powers so that the experts can be grouped together under one corporate management. It is desirable to amalgamate all the hundred and
odd corporations and development boards that are functioning at present in the State and bring them under this single corporation so that wastage of scarce resources can be avoided. Thus, better coordination would be achieved and the plans can be executed more efficiently, down to the village level more economically and expeditiously. Such an action is imperative at present, particularly when hundreds of villages are waiting to get their basic needs like drinking water, rural living houses, buildings to house the schools and hospitals; and markets, and construction of rural roads to reach them.

Thus, decentralisation of the planning activities can be achieved by incorporating the 20 Point Programme which aims at fulfilling these needs at the grass root level.

Conclusion:

Strengthening the district planning machinery is of utmost importance in the 3 Tier planning. In fact the 3 Tier planning i.e., the State level, the district level and the Block level planning has already been accepted and implemented in phases in Karnataka. The Dantavala Committee recommended that the district level planning machinery should be strengthened with qualified officers drawn from the faculties of geography, agricultural science, economics, engineering and veterinary sciences etc. The State Government has recommended that a Chief Planning Officer at the district level of the cadre of a Joint Director; and Two or three deputy directors should be appointed to handle the tasks relating to different spheres of development and the personnel shall be drawn from various faculties accordingly.
The present blocks have been demarcated partly on administrative grounds which goes tangentially to the local policy under the three Tier planning. Here, it is important to note that the District Planning Boards should act as a liaison between the State Planning Board at the apex and the Block Planning Board at the bottom. (See the flow model Chart 6)

Block has been recognised as the lowest basic planning unit in the 3 Tier system. There is a necessity to rearrange and re-demarcate the boundaries of the present blocks depending on the planning needs of the blocks. These Block Planning Boards should have the backing of the technical and financial support from the centre.

Thus, the entire planning machinery needs expert planners at the state level, the district level and the block level and also at the different departmental levels so that a proper liaison is ensured and coordination at horizontal level is achieved. At present, the planning department is entrusted with the task of preparation of the physical plans of the blocks. Physical planning for economic development is an accepted policy in the Sixth Five Year Plan. Rural, urban and regional plans are to be taken up in a coordinated manner under this strategy. At present, only the aspect of preparation of physical plans has been emphasised and the implementation aspect has still remained ignored.

**Regional Planning:**

A regional Planning Unit has been set up at the State level and development plans for some identified growth centres in the command areas of the Malaprabha and the Ghataprabha valley projects and the Upper Krishna Valley Project have been taken up. The Upper Krishna Valley regional planning unit was set up in 1977 and the Cauvery Valley regional planning unit
was set up in 1979. These units are to prepare the base maps and collect data. The newly created Western Ghats Regional Planning Unit will study the problems of scientific exploitation of resources, environmental protection and work out regeneration schemes. Settlement planning and coordination of planning in the Western Ghats districts will be taken up by this unit.

Town Planning:

The State Town Planning Authority has offices in all the districts and have taken up town planning of selected towns in a phased manner. The towns of Bagalkot, Bellary, Dandeli, Kolar, Udupi, Malpe will have planning units under the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961. Bidar, Mulbagga, Hassan and Raichur district planning units have also been started.

Integrated urban development programmes for the cities of Hubli-Dharwad, Mysore, Mangalore and Belgaum have been taken up with an outlay of Rs.20.0 million during 1980-85. It has been suggested here to take up the work of preparation of physical plans for the villages and the identified growth centres particularly to provide water, electricity, health, education, transport and communication facilities by the respective Block planning units under the guidance of the district level regional planning units. The City-Region concept should be implemented if the objectives of the Town and Country Planning Act 1961 are to be achieved and at present only the town planning aspect has gained higher priority ignoring the country planning aspect. There is a village planning wing attached to the Director of Town Planning at the state level and this would monitor, evaluate and coordinate the development works of the rural agencies.
Area studies will help to evolve strategies for the development of the diverse topographic, climatic, edaphic, vegetation and mineral belts of the State. Presently, the Government departments have been asked to make scholarly studies immediately and evolve measures for resource development, maintenance and conservation. This is the first mistake as the universities and the specialists were never actively engaged in developmental programmes and the work went on as a departmental affair. The administration went on in a colonial government fashion while the State professed 'Welfare State' objectives keeping the last single individual as the target beneficiary.

Planning was mooted with a view to uplift the poor and develop the backward regions. The laudable objectives have been reiterated in the speeches of Gandhi, Nehru, Jaya Prakash and Indira Gandhi; even the present Prime Minister has reiterated these objectives in his 20 Point Programme. The bureaucrats were unable to enlist the co-operation of the specialists and with the work load of normal routine administration, the developmental programmes got secondary or even tertiary importance and got neglected. The first grave mistake was that the planning work was entrusted to the revenue officials whose main aim was to maintain law and order and collect revenue as per the British traditional administration. Even at present, there is no well coordinated separate department or organisation for the whole time business of development, for which, a huge sum of Rs. 200,000 million has already been spent during 1951-81. The District Development Assistant looks after all the cumbersome affairs relating to a variety of specialised fields of activities, ranging from land development to administration of scholarship funds. There are instances, where the district
development councils have refused to endorse the plan drafts prepared by the government departments since, these plans did not contain the programme relevant to the needs of people. The District Development Assistant has neither the authority nor control over other plan formulating officers and the funds are directed from the different directorates under the vertical hierarchy of government administration.

In the light of these developments an organisational structure of Regional Corporate Management for Karnataka has been suggested. The establishment of such a State Development Corporation would help the formulation and implementation of the development plans in a coordinated and integrated manner more efficiently and expeditiously.