INTRODUCTION

Basic Questions and Hypotheses

Organisation of Study
Periodic changes, secular or planned, occur from time to time in the administrative organisation of space. These changes get manifest in either consolidation of smaller units into bigger ones or fragmentation of the bigger into smaller. The former process is more characteristic of developed countries and the latter of developing countries (Krishan, 1988).

The administrative organisation of space is deeply rooted in the whole philosophy of any government or society. It reflects their preference amongst various basic values: efficiency, justice, democracy, community and development. In developing countries, small administrative units are reckoned as functionally efficient, spatially just, and democratically effective. Community life is facilitated if administrative areas are socially homogeneous; development is promoted if these correspond with resource regions.

The administrative map of India has undergone stupendous changes since Independence in 1947. The first change came in 1948 when the erstwhile ten provinces and 562 princely states, inherited from the British, were consolidated into 28 units classified into A, B, C, and D group of states in order of relative degree of autonomy rendered to them.

The year 1956 saw the second major change when the Indian states were reorganised on linguistic lines (Government of India, 1955). There was a radical recasting
Haryana
Regional Setting

- National Highway
- State Highway
- Broad Gauge Railway Line
- Metre Gauge Railway Line
- Blue and Streams
- Village having 5000 and above population
- Urban area
- Haryana Boundary
- District Boundary

Map 1
Any spatial reorganisation naturally alters the administrative context of an area. This, in its own turn, influences the development process. The impact works through the changed contours of administrative style, resource mobilisation, and investment priorities. Territorial rearrangements are never without their implications, positive or negative.

The emergence of Haryana meant a new spatial orientation for the territory it covered earlier as a part of Punjab. What was once a subsystem operating in a wider framework became a system in itself. It gained far greater autonomy to carve out an independent course for its development strategy. The fulfilment of the regional aspiration provided the necessary stimulus to a faster rate of its development.

Haryana started its career as one of the small states of India. It emerged as a predominantly Hindu state in the same manner as the new Punjab became Sikh majority. Within Haryana itself, the Jats formed a majority. Their importance in the affairs of the state became paramount.

Territorially, the time distance and physical distance got reduced leading to more of interaction. This led to greater spatial interdependence. Isolation of the villages was broken through an extension of the link roads. Rural-urban Interface became dynamic.
It follows that Haryana, on its formation, obviously became politically autonomous, culturally homogeneous, administratively more intense, and spatially more integrated.

The reorganisation was not without its negative fallouts. The existing system got truncated and the old ties got disrupted. To begin with, it was the economy which bore the brunt. Integrity of the irrigation system was broken. The riparian character of the state vis-a-vis the Indus river system was lost. Haryana, being an agrarian economy and already deficient in water resources and poor in ground water quality, had to take it heavily. To this day, distribution of river waters between Haryana and Punjab has been a source of conflict. Some territorial disputes between the two states also remain unresolved.

The representative strength of both the states in the Indian parliament got reduced at their individual level. Now they carry less weight than before in the decision making at the national level.

Traditional urban hierarchy did not remain undisturbed. Rural-urban linkages across the interstate boundary got redefined. Since Chandigarh remained the capital of both Haryana and Punjab, there was no change in respect of orientation towards the capital.
Some state level functions in Haryana were gradually shifted to places other than Chandigarh. These include Madhuban (Police Training Centre), Hisar (Mini Secretariat), Bhiwani (State Education Board), and Panchkula (Haryana State Electricity Board). The administrative activity got spatially dispersed.

After its formation, Haryana followed a deliberate policy to take benefit of its proximity to Delhi. New industrial and residential estates were established in its neighbourhood. A strong influence of this national capital of India on the economy and society of the state was a natural outcome.

### Basic Questions and hypotheses

The above narration automatically generates some searching questions:

i) How did the reorganisation of old Punjab and carving of Haryana out of it influence the development process in the new state? Did it cause acceleration or deceleration or stabilisation of the economic growth or social change? Which aspects of economy, society and polity were influenced to a greater degree? Which areas benefitted or suffered more?

ii) What have been the trends in regional disparities? Was there convergence or divergence of the development process in spatial terms? Did the various dimensions of development - economic, social and political, behaved alike or differently?
iii) Can we put forward a theory on the impact of administrative reorganisation on the development process?

The present study purports to go into these questions in geographic spirit. Its basic job is not merely to identify, describe, and explain the spatial patterns of development process in the new state but also to discern the crucial impact of reorganisation in this regard.

The research exercise sets forth the following hypotheses for testing:

i) The formation of Haryana as a separate state has been a factor of overriding importance in giving a spurt to its development process. This territory could not develop fast earlier because it was in the nature of a periphery. The major share of the development investment in agriculture, industry and services was allocated to the relatively developed Punjab territory at the cost of the backward Haryana territory.

ii) Any rapid development in the state, after its formation, should lead to reduction in regional disparities. The new political dispensation is expected to be more sensitive to the problems of backward areas.

iii) If an underdeveloped area (the periphery) is separated from a developed region (the core) to form an independent political entity, this will be to its advantage. It is spared of the backwash effects. Such a situation gives it a chance to fix its development priorities and manage its resources with greater autonomy.
Organisation of Study

The study covers the period 1966-86. It is a reasonable span of time for the impact of reorganisation to crystallise itself. At the human life scale also, the twenty-year period is roughly equal to a generation.

The study is structured into three components: conceptualisation, analysis and synthesis. The conceptual part builds a theoretical framework for development studies through a critical review of literature on the theme in social sciences. This is followed by a statement of methodology in the light of stated objectives and hypotheses. A brief account of the physical and cultural setting of Haryana, so as to serve as the necessary backdrop for understanding of its development process, is also provided.

The analytical portion constitutes the main body of the study. Various chapters successively deal with trends in spatial patterns of economic, social, political and eco-development in Haryana. Trends both before and after its emergence as a separate state are examined.

The synthesis is meant to furnish an aggregate picture. It is presented in the form of summary of conclusions. Findings in respect of hypotheses are explicitly stated. Some research questions which emanate from the discussion in the dissertation are also enunciated.