CHAPTER THREE

ELITES AND DEVELOPMENT - A CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS
Developing countries in general, such as India have been experiencing the impact of modern technology. In the accelerated tempo of urbanisation, concentration of non-primary activities relatively in a few cities has accentuated Regional Disparity in development within and between the States. Problems of development, so much so, of that, spatial organisation of the economy today looks to be serious than the one, that had prevailed under the colonial rule. In some cases in locating large industries have led to comparable disparity between regions, which have taken the advantages. Area approach plan to planning is the result of these cognisable disparities. From Third Five Year Plan onwards, this strategy of area development plan was to overcome persisting Regional Disparity in India. However, this has not always been an answer to the problems of imbalanced growth/development. This is so because, many a times disparity and underdevelopment are caused not only because of state’s ill-planning, but also because of the geographical and historical reasons. The backwardness of an area apart from these could also result due to lack of proper
socio-political structures that could mobilise the human resources in the region. As an important factor in economic development, human resources in terms of its scientific explanation covers the relationship that may exist between the human beings living in the area and the geographical location of the place in focus, coupled with its historical context. The present chapter, therefore, is an attempt made in this direction to explicitly bring out this relationship and to link it to the question of the elites in the region, who for all practical purposes are supposed to be influential in the society and are capable of lobbying for bargain in the political decision-making. Keeping this in view and focussing the study in North Karnataka to an examination of their role in mobilising human resources is taken up, hence, in its relation to development.

The argument, in this chapter, is primarily perceived in the light of 'Dependency Theory' as it organised in the Latin American countries. Attempts have been made to reorient this theory keeping the indigenous content. One reason for such a choice to further this study is the historical experience of this region as discussed in the previous chapters. However, what needs to cleared is the fact that, the basic argument put forth in this study does not really concentrate on the question of
dependency, but is used as a means to understand the problem of North Karnataka in the context of centre-periphery syndrome, while the dependency theory is borrowed as a model devoid of its Latin American usage. Hence, the limitations. Before this, the study discusses these core issues. Study starts with an understanding of the concept of elite and moves towards the theory of development.

Concept of Elite:

The Concise Oxford Dictionary explains the term 'Elite' as choice, pick and select few. Harper's English Dictionary explains this term giving it a left leaning meaning and identifying it as the cream of working class. Etymologically speaking, the term 'Elite' has been derived from Latin term 'Eligere', which means to 'Choose'. This term came into use in French language during 14th century A.D., carrying with it the meaning of choice. In its preliminary usage, the term 'Elite' here meant 'Choice of persons for the military'. Froissart in the 15th century picked up this hidden meaning of 'Elite' to reframe it as 'Best of the best'. Thereby giving a new twist to the term. The meaning remained so till the 18th century. An English poet Lord Byron, by then used the term 'Elite' to mean those, who are superior in terms of their status and power. This usage gave term 'Elite' a comprehensive
connotation mixing it with the socio-political colour. Rippert Wilkinson, while drawing inferences from the etymological growth of the term, gave the term ‘Elite’, another shift whereby the term ‘elite’ moved away from its previous identity having reference to individuals. It is now identified as a distinct group, holding high status in its community and that, which is knit by a strong feeling of togetherness of similar ethos and style.\(^9\) Taking advantage of these widening connotations of the term, it was W.H.Kelly (1848), who brought the term ‘Elite’ yet another new dimension but with a specific reference, when he referred this term to mean the Russian Nobility.\(^{10}\) However, what needs to be noticed is the fact that until the 19th century, this term did not have a scientific meaning, which was explainable and it was Vilfred Pareto, an Italian sociologist, who gave this term ‘Elite’ a different meaning, which was explainable in his book on *Mind and Society*. By this time, the term ‘Elite’ had already carried a certain notion of superiority, prestige and status indicating a sense of exclusiveness and differentiating itself in identity from the general public gaining certain attributes, such as pre-eminent position in the society in which they lived. However, this was not having any particular reference to political/social institutions. Hence, its scientific nature was in question. Similarly, the contributions of Kolabinska, and Rothwell, with their emphasis
on superiority of elites, made 'Elite' a model. At the same time, scholars like Laswell had also used the term 'Elite' meaning 'Worthy of emulation' kind, thereby justifying its model attributes.

A close observation of the various connotation of the term 'Elite', therefore, gives us a totally and renewed new definition of the term 'Elite' meaning, those people, who by birth are superior command respect, have skill, wealth, education are considered as the creamy layer within the society possessing power and influence to sway the state in the direction they think. This comprehensive definition of the elites is what it means and is seen as today, this in fact is much similar and comparable to the type identified by Mosca as the ruling class. He defines the 'Elite' as an organised minority. He sees them as ruling class who are always less numerous and who performs all political functions, monopolizes power and enjoys the advantages that power brings. Mosca's ruling class, in the modern State are the owners and at times managers of production. Some of the later studies regarding elites in fact have followed this model of elites as exposed by Mosca who by his expression in real sense of the term meant the political elites. Political elites, which implies a smaller group within the inner circle of the political class, includes
members of the government and of high administration, political leaders, economic directors and leaders of the masses. This kind of an admixture of various groups very much resembles the governing elites as exposed by Pareto. According to Pareto elites are those who can form opinions and also help others by their opinions.\textsuperscript{11} This being the truth about the elites, they are looked upon for advice and direction in any society, which is all set to progress. Elites as referred to here in this context of this study in India are, therefore, not much different from the elites referred to above, although one may identify elites in India with a considerable difference in its socio-cultural setting. For example, Brahmin as a caste has earned the status of an elite in the traditional hierarchy, of Indian socio-cultural and religious ethos as legitimatised through Manusmruti.\textsuperscript{12} According to Manusmruti it is by birth, this status of superiority seem to exist. However, despite of many decades of socio-cultural mobilistion of the communities, there seems to be no change in this set pattern. Apart from this, in India there are also ‘Elites’ such as ‘Maharajas, Nawabs, Zamindars, etc., who by virtue of their possession of the power of the state and their domination over the land in the villages of India have earned and assumed the status of an aristocrat. In fact, these elites are perpetuating themselves even today, in various forms in the changing process of
democratisation and administrative structures in the state and society. These are also the 'class' of India. The legacy of English education also had left a smaller group of English educated individuals to dominate the social life in India as a third kind of elite, apart from the caste and class. The fourth type elites in Indian context, that can be identified include most of the salaried class, who are not wealthy in terms of ownership of land, but are educated bourgeois kind. However, in any study involving the elites in India, those, who are on the top of the social hierarchy, those who wield their power within a given society, those who are wealthy enough, are considered to be the most important elites. As it happens elsewhere, in India too, these groups have enormous control over the State. These being the characteristics of elites in Indian context, elites in North Karnataka are not much different.

North Karnataka consists of a population of about 1.12 crores. The major community here is the Veerashaivas (Lingayats). It is this group that largely controls the socio-cultural, politico, and economical ways of life in this region. This group, which is referred to as the protestant Brahmins in certain studies are very easily identifiable because of their number, there socio-economic status, their common cultural and ritualistic
pattern as a caste group that has often staked claims of superiority over Brahmins in the society, despite, the fact that existence was actually located during the period of Bhakti movement in 12th century, when Lord Basavanna formed a new religious group, referred to as Lingayats meaning the worshipers of 'Istalinga' (Lord Shiva).

Thus in North Karnataka as one can observe, there is a visible impact of socio-political influence of this group, which in fact has affected the formation and emergence of a new state in Karnataka in the post-reorganisation period. Perpetuating this network of activities elites being in larger majority in the region, are found as ruling elites, political elites, administrative elites and so on including in the economic circle of state's politico-social and economic activities, playing a vital role in the formation of policies for the benefit of the state.

Concept of Development:

Being the prime movers of a society, elites in a developing country as that of ours, by virtue of their position in the society and polity, play vital role in their various capacity as planners and decision-makers and contribute their might to the process of development. Development being a composite activity of
economy in a society involving political and cultural institutions, is often described as a holistic process of changes, which is both qualitative and quantitative. Drewnowski defines development in economics as the per capita income that helps one to assess growth. Boundeville describes development as a holistic process of change, which is both qualitative and quantitative. Drewnowski defines development growth plus favourable change in production techniques as in consumer behaviour. Barkin defines development as a dual process of enrichment and structural change recognizing the human component in it. It is one thing to argue that development is a process of change, as forced upon from extraneous sources, while it is important to note that failure of development may be the result of failure to exploit the opportunities provided by the process of change keeping this in view Rostow observes that nations having frontier technology, high industrialisation, resourceful in raw materials and services are identified as developed nations. While, according to him, availability of infrastructure, industrialisation, modernisation, technological advancement are the standards of measurements to identify development. Therefore, if a complex definition of development is to be offered, then it would include among other things improving the well being of the people, raising the standard of living, their levels of literacy, improving health
conditions and also opening out to them new avenues of equal opportunity for a richer and more varied life. Hence, the aim of development seems to be to increase the economic potential while their political and civil rights irrespective of the gender, ethnic and religious, identities are protected and maintained in tact. It may not be justiciable to discuss development in terms of economic aspects of development alone, apart from retaining its economic content, while the social development, however, includes the rate of social mobility, social freedom as desirable components of development. It may, however, be stated that it is not possible to draw stringent line of demarcation between economic, political and social components of development while one cannot ignore accepting social development as being quite close to economic development. It is, therefore, noticeable that in a politically developed country, both social and economic developments normally go hand in hand to support the political development. In fact, they are accepted to be complementary and contributory to any attempt at holistic development of a society. According to T.K.N.Unnithan, social development may be seen as a process of ushering in a new order of existence. Thus social development means bringing about a change in the quality of life wherein the social relationships indicate the levels of the order of existence. Thus development today means bringing about
improvements in a society for the better, not merely in terms of material change devoid of human component but encompassing better standard of life of its citizens covering a wide variety of services such as health, education, housing, cultural amenities, change in the status of women empowering, regulation of labour, improved status for workers and reduction in social evils, etc., keeping these comprehensive explanations if taken on to explain political development and then it will have to be defined as the capacity of a political system to deal with its own fundamental problems, more effectively while responding to the changing political demands of the people as closely defined by Gabriel Almond. According Gabriel Almond, "Political development in terms of performance capabilities envelopes 'acquisition of new capabilities' such as the sense of a specialised role structure and differentiated orientation which together give a political system, the possibility of responding efficiently more or less autonomously to a variety of problems". Thus the concept of development is a debate which covers economic, social and political issues that are to read and understand together rather than working on them independently. In its ultimate analysis of development keeping in view the current study of Regional Disparity with focussed attention paid to the core of Northern Karnataka, it covers, the efforts of a state to improve the well
being of the people in given environment. Engaging itself in an extensive and intensive programming designing projects, etc., to bring about socio-economic and human resource development that can match the capital centric progress seen in the other parts of the state, within the same territory and working to improve the texture of politics and models of development to realise with people's involvement the various imbalances are noticed.

Citizen Participation for Development:

Citizen participation has come to mean the direct involvement of citizens in the process of administrative decision-making, policy formulation and implementation. People's participation involves deliberate and systematic mobilisation of citizens around issues and problems of their common concern. In real sense, participation can only be explained when the citizens on their own take part in the process of development initiated in the region being fully conscious of their responsibilities towards its realisation. Citizens association with the development efforts has several advantages; primarily it kindles the interest of local people in imparting new thrust to programmes for which they are the beneficiaries. It is a means of ventilating their feelings and thoughts. It offers them an opportunity to demonstrate their demands for constructive works. People's initiative and
participation, therefore, becomes the key element in the process of development.

Citizen's participation in development efforts of a nation takes generally two forms, namely, the institutional form and personal form. This form of participation is once again seen at two levels viz., formal and informal. Formal participation is governed by rules and regulations while the informal participation which is a most common type of participation covers youth and women organisations engaged in general development works including religious, social, cultural associations or clubs (Jaycees, Rotary, Lions, etc.). Professional associations of teachers, doctors, engineers, etc., having no binding of rules and regulations but are voluntary and need based in nature, which takes on developmental tasks in selected areas. In case of formal participation once again both representatives and individuals are covered with the former playing a role through the boards, committees, councils, or commissions, whose membership they attain by virtue of being representatives of the community and gets a platform to speak. In fact, this provides them a greater opportunities to involve themselves in development activities right from an early stage. Unfortunately, much of the research done in this area and participation seem to provide us a gloomy
picture of the levels and intensity of representative participation, while there seems to be a wide gap between theory and practice in this regard. The notion of involvement of the people in the development process through informal means has by and large remained a myth especially in the developing countries where states have outgrown all other non-governmental organisations and became omnipotent and omnipresent thereby pushing the citizens to virtually intermittent partners position activating them during only election period. Citizens also are generally passive and thus do not express themselves freely contributing thereby to the causes of underdevelopment.

**Concept of Underdevelopment:**

Underdevelopment tended to be simply understood negatively in relation to development, has been given anew lease of life with many writers attempting to define 'Underdevelopment' in terms of neo-colonial dependency model. Underdevelopment of the former colonies is sought to be explained in terms of their dependence on the developed nations. Gunner Myrdal is, perhaps, the first scholar to explain underdevelopment as a process of cumulative circular causation among such factors as levels of living, income and productivity. According to Gunnar, low levels of living, productivity and low
incomes act in vicious cycle to result in underdevelopment. Further, he points that the political and administrative environments tend to intensify existing unequal relationships and points out that obstacles to rapid economic growth are rooted in the inefficiency, social rigidity, and attitude of elites to fight establish institutions and attitudes that can contribute to the economic and social power of the weak societies. He further argues that with a view to reversing underdevelopment, changes in the social and institutional structures must be brought about to undertake such an activity that can positively contribute to growth and sustenance. However, these measures of Myrdel does not seem to have had any effect on the subsequent governments in the state which normally concentrate on reorganising the total geographical area of a nation into zones, divisions, regions, districts, talukas/blocks, etc., only to maintain status quo or to gain political mileage. In the context of this thesis as one can notice the process of reorganisation as discussed in the earlier chapters has only resulted in the notional creation of two regions within a state namely, southern and northern Karnataka, giving enough scope for comparison to feel the pulse of step-motherly attitude by the state. This being the crux of the problem, 'Region' as a concept has come under scrutiny here.
The term 'region' is closely associated with the concept of 'area' or 'space'. An ideal region is defined as having the following characteristics.

a] Geographically it should be contiguous though it could be subdivided into natural boundaries like plain, hilly track, etc.

b] The people of the region should have social and cultural cohesion.

c] It should be under one administrative agency.

d] It should have fairly homogeneous economic structure.

Traditionally, there are three ways to define a region. One deals with the homogeneous characteristic, usually a combination of spatial and economic aspects of a region and the third works out for a coherent relationship between the existing administrative and political set up and policy divisions. Thus, a region is expected to created based on homogeneity, nodal and programming criteria. On the other hand, Region in a backward economy generally implies a State or a political boundary, which from the viewpoint of economic planning, should for all practical purposes is comparably weak in its economic strength, whatever be the area in terms of its nomenclature. As against this the term
Regional Disparity means lopsided development, unequal distribution of income. An unchecked and uncontrolled process of growth leading to what may be identified as Regional Disparity. Regional Disparity leads to underutilisation or even to non-utilisation of economic resources both natural and human. Once the disparities are established, they get accentuated because a well-known region, which is already developed automatically, attracts more activities on account of the obvious advantages, and natural attraction. These activities, however, will receive by virtue of their location in developed areas more impetus leading to unequal growth. Once the unequal rates of growth develop, they will tend to perpetuate themselves due to economies of concentration, therefore, perpetuates imbalances. During the process of growth due to concentration effect the growing region also spreads some of its dynamism to other areas and leads to centrifugal effects. Thus, the developed regions grow faster at the cost of less developed areas and this is an eternal fact unless arrested, the case in focus, however, has a number of these hurdles, which are the result of its historic compulsions and continued ignorance on the part of the state and the society in the region. Primarily, the drawback of this region begins with the looseness of cohesion of this region with that of erstwhile princely state of Mysore, despite the fact that there are
geographically contiguous. However, this region came under one administrative agency much later during the reorganisation period that too after a movement of reunification was started by the people of Northern Karnataka who in fact by their own desires and compulsions opted to unite with erstwhile princely state of Mysore. By this time, as one can read from the chapter on the history of Karnataka, the southern part of Karnataka has witnessed a fair amount of progress in its all-round development with an enlightened civic society, much to the disadvantage of the northern Karnataka which was still in a fluid state even in terms of social unity. Therefore, the other hurdle for North Karnataka was the question of homogenous economy, which was not possible.

Further, no governments subsequent to that of Sri Kenga Hunumanthaih, was keen on contributing special packages with view to balance this disparity although most for over 15 years, the reigns of government was under the mercy of the leaders from North Karnataka, since reorganisation. Most of them also belong to the major community in this region, which in fact gave them adequate legitimacy both in terms of 'No' and consent. All this lead to what is termed as the lopsided development leading to Regional Disparity for which no political party can alone be held
responsible, while the elites, representatives and passive participation alone can be held as factors responsible.

The policy programmes in the early stages of planning in the country were mainly concentrated on development efforts in sectors and regions, which gave maximum returns to investments and helped in solving the pressing problems of food, refugees rehabilitation, etc. The question of Regional Development did not receive much emphasis at this stage even in federal polity. Hence, the problem of social justice and imbalanced Regional Development. Thus in this study for the purposes of a clear understanding of the problem of Regional Disparity in North Karnataka the following are identified as factors responsible for Regional Disparity which is put to test in the following chapters.

a) Historical Factors:

The existing regional disparities in the underdeveloped countries are largely due to historical factors. Ill-conceived public investment programmes effected under colonial rule and the continued negligence of those in power because this region formed the periphery of their governing capitals have no doubt caused this.
b] **Failure to Exploit the Natural Resources:**

As a result of continued negligence some regions although bestowed with rich natural resources like water, fertile soil, forest, minerals, etc., have not been exploited to the advantages of the state during earlier and later periods too.

c] **The Third Factor Which May be Attributed to be is Man-made:**

The socio-political and economic planning in a state are causing Regional Disparity despite the fact that the region is rich in natural resources but has low level of consciousness among its people for reasons of variables like lower rate of literacy, lesser initiative in entrepreneurship, etc., coupled with lack of motivational force. Thus, due to lack of human efforts itself some of the region remained backward and such backwardness unless remedied consciously pushed disparity to get accentuated. Apart from this there are other determinants of backwardness as identified by the specialised agencies such as Planning Commission. Planning Commission as early as in 1968, itself had proposed a number of criteria for determining the relative backwardness among the states and within the states, regions and districts. In fact, in its effort at finding a solution to this
problem it had decided to concentrate efforts on developing one or more of the most backward districts in each State. Pande Committee, which was constituted for this purpose had thus identified the following parameters to recognise the backwardness of the regions within a State, which includes:

1) Established districts outside a radius of 50 miles from the large cities or large industrial projects.
2) Poverty of the people as indicted by low per capita income starting from the lowest, below 25 per cent of the State average.
3) High density of population in relation to utilisation of production, resources and employment opportunities as indicated by (a) low percentage of population engaged in secondary and tertiary activities, and (b) low percentage of factory employment.
4) Inadequate availability of electric power.
5) Inadequate transport and communication facilities.
6) Inadequate availability of workers.

At this juncture it is pertinent to observe the fact that the average per capita income for North Karnataka is continuously on the sliding downward from the State's average over the last 35 years. The average per capita income of North Karnataka today is
14 per cent lower than State average per capita income as in 1994-95. The development index of North Karnataka, also is lesser by more than 10 per cent when compared with that than 10 per cent of southern Karnataka keeping in view the latest index available for the purpose. This has further gone down to 25 per cent during 1990-91. The average value of HDI for North Karnataka is lower by 29 per cent as compared to state average and is lower by 35 per cent when compared with the average Human Development Index (HDI) of south Karnataka. Statistical information given in Appendix indicates the variations between the two regions of Karnataka viz., North Karnataka and South Karnataka.

Further, until recently the districts of North Karnataka were much larger than the districts in southern Karnataka and were farther away from the stipulated radius of 50 miles from any larger city or industrial projects. Having a large number of villages in each district with district headquarters placed at least 90-100 kms away from these villages, poverty and exploitation were obvious in these areas. High density in the population in rural areas and urban talukas and districts in the regions, due to factors like a) need for alternate capital, less of potential alternatives for relations and external --------- , etc., and other
cultivable habits and traditional conservative ways of life, restricting the labour force and education, to move out of their roots in search of employment including in factories and large scale industries. Inaccessibility of electric power despite various schemes under rural development in interior villages of North Karnataka, average transport and communication in density villages thus curtailing their mobility have all in multiple propositions contributed to the backwardness of this region, while most of these are in agreement with parameters established by Pande Committee to recognise backwardness of the region within the state. Hence, the study.

Further, it is important to understand that regional disparities emerge and persist, as economic development refuses to take off uniformly in all regions, as there are no efficient mechanism to ensure that benefits of economic development are distributed equally amongst the regions. An unchecked and uncontrolled process of growth in a region as a preference by investors leads to Regional Disparity, which in turn lead to numerous economic, social and cultural problems. Shortage of trained men, lack of facilities, equipment and financial resources, absence of dedicated leadership, etc., are all contributory to causing Regional Disparity.
Therefore, in order to initiate development, it must be ensured that the existing resources are to be used in the optimum way. The process of development initiated in a calculated manner will, therefore, help in overcoming this problem. There are, of course, number of theories that can be reached to look for solutions to this problem they include.

1. The Classical Theory of Development:

As per classical theory of economic growth, the race between technological progress and population growth leads to the development of capitalistic economy. Thus, this theory explains a transformation from a progressive state to stationary state. Adam Smith was the first economist, who emphasised the crucial role played by the quantity of capital in the process of industrialisation. He believed in the "laissez-faire" capitalism and advocated the policy of free trade. This theory is partly applicable to the problems of underdeveloped countries and their falling economic standards. Prof. V.K.R.V. Rao also holds a similar opinion for treating the underdeveloped regions.

2. The Neo-classical Theory:

The neo-classical theory, which replaced the classical theory during 19th century, made outstanding contributions to the theory
of economic development. Through their theory of capital accumulation, technological progress was the pivotal factor even in neo-classical theory. Those who propounded it were concerned more with short run problems than the long run problems. They seem to disagree with the fact that economic development is gradual and a continuous process as argued by the advocates of Darwinism and of Alfred Marshall. The neo-classical theorists although have made significant contribution to the understanding of economic development by emphasising the quantitative change in technical improvements, capital stock, natural resources and population, they seem depend on these variables rather to much between the classical and neo-classical economists, whose philosophy was geared towards strengthening of the market forces in a "laissez-faire" type of economy, propagating the free working of market forces no doubt may virtually offer opportunities for equal development and may also eventually bring about regional balances. In contrast to this doctrine, most of the theories belonging to the imbalance school that were developed within the context of particular cases the post-listed the following theories to outwit the classical and neo-classical theories. They include:

1. Growth poles or polarisation model,
2. Circular and cumulative causation model,
3. Backwash and spread effects model: polarisation and trickle down effects, centripetal and centrifugal forces, and
4. Inverted U-shaped curve or concentration cycle hypothesis model.

Perroux (1955) who propagated the concept of 'growth of poles' in the development process held the view that the forces that come into play in a market economy generally tends to increase inequalities between regions. The 'growth of poles' concept includes within its scope, the notion of technical polarisation, and location agglomeration. Perroux's contention was that "Growth does not appear everywhere at the same time while it manifests itself in 'points or poles' of growth. In a geographically concentrated and growing industrial complex economic activities are intensified because of proximity and human contacts. This in turn contributes to the creation of various types of producers, entrepreneurs, who eventually share common interests adding to Regional Disparity.\(^2\) The internal consistency between the cost and revenue variables and surrounding micro-economic variables helps the decision-maker to select the location, thus the 'polarisation' effect of 'Perroux' which was also used by Hirschman (1958) to explain the...
emergence of 'growing points' or 'growth poles' in the course of
development process wherein he argues inter-regional inequality
of growth is an inevitable concomitant and condition of growth
itself are proof ample to show that the liberated market forces are
also chosen and would not be interested in doing on the role of
philanthropist, but would like to utilise the well structured
infrastructure to promote their interest. Thus, even a cursory
glance at the rate of investment in a city like Bangalore
(representative of southern Karnataka region) in comparison to
cities like Hubli (representative of northern Karnataka region)
proves the point of these theorists. (For details see the data
presented in Appendix). While their argument also supports our
posed hypotheses within the frame of which this work was
planned. As a result, backward regions fail to attract new
activities restricted by their limited advantages. 'Backwash effect
is stronger than the spread effect' in the developed regions
resulting in stagnation of the process of development in areas
which are experiencing disparity. The developed regions continue
to grow at a faster rate.

Myrdal (1958) used the concept of cumulative causation to
explain why growth gets concentrated in the regions where it is
limited. Myrdal supported the view of Perroux that economic
growth typically begins in some regions rather than all regions. He observes that due to 'Backwash' effects, the fast growing regions attract resources from the less developed regions, which remain backward. Qualified technicians and managers generally prefer to live in well-developed region. The development process in an economy is marked by two concomitants but opposite spatial tendencies, concentration and dispersion. Concentration leads to clustering of economic activities in a few growth centres. When the process of concentration multiplies the dispersion process weakens.

The problem of uneven development of regions has its roots in the colonial policies of British, which favoured the development of some regions pampered as provinces close to sea. The problems did not receive adequate attention from the planners even in the post-independence period, thus causing damages to the societies within.

The Keynesian theory of economic progress requires increase in magnitude of investment. Keynes suggested that the future rate of economic progress would depend on - (1) power to control population, (2) determined effort to avoid wars, (3) willingness to entrust to science in order to direct future course of action and (4) rate of accumulation as fixed by the margin
between our production and consumption. These conditions outline the fundamental conditions of economic development. Although, it is difficult to analyse all that Keynesian theory since historically time has moved away from a war situation to a peace situation, determinants like will to control population, willingness to entrust science to direct the future course of development and rate of accumulation are no doubt food for thought for the economic planners in the state.

Further Schumpeter's theory of economic development as a model of economic development is a combination of Walserian general equilibrium theory and Marxian dynamic approach to capitalism. In the Schumpeterian model of economic development, entrepreneurs perform dynamic functions in the process of economic development. Entrepreneurs must initiate the innovations. It is the leadership rather than ownership that matters. Schumpeter is of the opinion that the entrepreneurs must perform vital and dynamic economic functions. But what ails the case of North Karnataka in this context is both entrepreneurial and leadership aspects that are central to his theory as studied earlier. North Karnataka suffers because of this as evidenced.
The Marxian theory of economic development of surplus value provides the framework on which Marx bases his analysis of capital accumulation. Marx's main ideas, such as, the importance of technological improvement, roles of entrepreneurs in innovations have come true. But much of it is dependent on state in a society like that of India. Similarly, the diffusion approach, which has been advocated mainly by Everett M. Rogers and R.S. Edari. These theories stress the need for economic growth through industrialisation. Further, the psychological approach to development as expounded by David McClelland and Everett Hagen in their works is worth considering since development as discussed earlier preempts social change for better. But as being consistently argued in all these cases one cannot forget the role of state even in the era of globalisation, the talk of liberalisation and privatisation does not seem to demolish state in an underdeveloped society with an over-enlarged state.

An underdeveloped or developing country cannot attain prosperity unless the State intervenes or takes initiative in these matters. The main thing such as power, communication, transportation, irrigation, education, etc., are still in the hands of state and are to be given priority for developing an area. To attain economic growth a State must use its limited resources in a
proper way to reach the desirable goals. The State must formulate the necessary plans to achieve economic development and plans must be intelligently conceived, co-ordinated efficiently and honestly implemented. In the series of studies by 'UNRISD' development is identified with the level of living and level of welfare. Thus, the levels of potentials, stages of economic growth, per capita income or availability of goods and services hints only at maximisation of material well being of the people, but not at creating these basic facilities which are still held as the responsibility of the state.

In Regional Development studies, regions are identified from the angle of developmental planning perspective including identification of resource potential, the degree of its utilisation, etc., as factors contributing to change among other things. Regional variations in the level of development have received attention of scholars in the field of social science right from its appearances. Various concepts and theories have been put forward to examine the different dimensions of this problem in order to understand the needs and requirements of the structure and process of solving these problems of regional disparities. An inter-regional approach seems to explain the difference between the regions, while the economic structure of the region is
basically seen as responsible for the disparity in all the levels of development between the regions. Similarly, the intra-regional approach helps to explain the uneven distribution of economic activity within the region. Regional Development thus appeals for a more equitable income distribution through improvement in the standard of living in the backward regions, or the optimum utilisation of natural resources in each backward region, or may mean the more or less equitable growth rates and economic self-sufficiency, among the various sectors. It stands for the fullest utilisation of resources in the backward and depressed pockets so that the people may share the fruits of overall economic development evenly in order to raise their standards of living. Balanced Regional Development is, thus, an inclusive concept of covering all the conditions and factors affecting the socio-economic upliftment of a region.

Regional Development acts as a check against concentration of wealth and power in the few growth spots and helps to achieve a social objective. It is helpful for a smooth development of the entire economy. Although this is the 'good hope' prayer of those who experience Regional Disparity, it is important that one must know that this issue may at times throw important challenges before the state, leading to political destabilisation and
separation, so it must be noted that achieving Regional Disparity is a necessary pre-requisite to attain political stability. The inequality among the regions give rise to damaging federal and national interest and hence solutions should be found to medicate this problem. It is our fervent hope that elites as discussed in the beginning of this chapter are placed better to understand, appreciate and learn about the danger of this problem and finally to play vital role to find a solution to this problem which has enough heat to burn for years to come.

An attempt is made in this chapter following this to identify the intensity of the problem and the role, the elites can play in finding panacea to this problem so that the problem does not elude all precessions of a soft and sober state like Karnataka in the years to come.
Footnotes


5. Ibid.


7. Because military was the backbone of a sovereign nation and hence, the best breed had to be in the military.

8. Meillurs-de-meillurs.


11. Ibid.
12. Manusmruti


14. Ibid.


17. Ibid.

18. Ibid.

19. Ibid., p. 12.

