CHAPTER VI

LINKAGE BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

Political leaders are expected to play a vital role in the process of economic development of their areas. Political leadership is essentially required for the economic development and effective implementation of government programmes. Economic development cannot be achieved, merely by capital investment or by the engagement of government bureaucrats nor should it be imposed by the outside agencies. It is an internal inspiration to achieve the economic success. A dynamic leader in a developing region can do this. He must take continuous interest in the development of his area. Hence the rural development/economic development of the developing region depends much on its dynamic leader. Therefore in this study an attempt is made to find out whether the political leadership and economic development go hand in hand or one supersedes the other in the developmental process.

Kulenur rightly points out the role of leaders in the process of rural development/economic development. The contention of Kelenur is that “the rural development has gained and is gaining a prominent place today in the national development. Several
policies and programmes have seen their birth particularly after independence for the development of villages. The policies and programmes alone cannot revive the life of the rural folk and bring in progressive changes in village life. It calls for rural elite and rural leaders who not only initiate policy formulation, but also work for their implementation so as to reach these benefits to the village dwellers. India has given birth to many such rural elites and leaders from time to time."

Gangrade has made it even more clear. He asserts that "leadership is of crucial importance in the mobilization of the people to participate in the process of social, economic, and political change at the grass root level." Similarly, Sirsikar also points out that "a leader is accepted by the community on the basis of his performance. This performance depends on his perception of community problems and his capacity to offer solutions to those problems. The leader is what he does for the community. His innovative capacity is put to test by the urgent needs of the community."

These findings prove that the economic development of any area depends to a great extent on the quality of leadership. Similarly, the rise of political leadership and of the second line leaders at different levels also depends upon the economic development of a particular area. Hence there is a close and intimate relation between these two variables (such as the
Moreover, they are interdependent on each other in several respects. In support of this, A.E. Punit rightly points out the mutual dependence between the rise of dynamic leadership and economic development in a developing country, like India. The contention of A.E. Punit is that every development scheme has two important aspects the material development and the human resources development. They are not mutually exclusive and there are development schemes where both the aspects are equally emphasized. It is also possible that one is more emphasized than the other. Where the material development is the dominant interest, sufficient attention must be accorded to the way in which the material development is achieved. On the other hand, where the human element is the dominant interest, attention must be diverted to the people and to the community within which the scheme operates, leading to the discovering of such capabilities and tendencies in persons and communities. This finding is more relevant in the study. Hence this empirical study has been carried out to examine the linkage between the rise of political leadership and economic development. It examines the impact of political leadership on economic development of the Hulkoti region. At the same time it analyses how economic development gives way to the rise of leaders in the region.
Increase in the Promises and Growth in the Leadership of 
Sri K.H. Patil at Various Stages

Both the process of economic development of the Hulkoti region and the political leadership development of Sri K.H. Patil are co-related and developed simultaneously in a parallel manner. As Sri K.H. Patil's political leadership grows from the grassroot level to the state level, the economic development of the Hulkoti region also rises with the establishment of various types of socio-economic and educational institutions. As a result of the process of economic development of the Hulkoti region under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil, a new class of second line leaders has emerged at different levels. Consequently, it strengthens the support base of Sri K.H. Patil in a cyclic way.

Evolution of the political leadership of Sri K.H. Patil is explained through four stages,

1) From 1943 to 1952: development of political leadership at the grassroot level.

2) From 1953 to 1962: development of political leadership at the taluka level

3) From 1963 to 1972: development of political leadership at the district level.

4) From 1973 to 1992: development of political leadership at the state level.
Promise of Economic Development

The political leaders at the grass root level are accepted by the mass on the basis of their performance and the promise of economic development. Hence this chapter seeks to discover the relation between the promise of economic development and the political leadership development.

It is a view generally held that in a democratic country the promise of economic development constitutes a key to the leadership in rural society. The promises at the different levels provide them with opportunities to higher positions at different levels. This view is confirmed by V.M. Sirsikar who states: "the political life is determined by their commitment to the community problems." Sheshdri also supports this view. While dealing with the patterns of political leadership in India, he points out that "the political leadership, which is determined by giving the economic promises, is the primary stage in democracy. The dynamic leader in a developing region who he improves the economic conditions and motivates the people will become a leader of the region." Lewis also observes that "political leader is much respected by the mass in the society due to the promise of economic development to the people." While dealing with motivations behind political activism, Iqbal Narain and others in their book "Rural Elite and Elections in an Indian State" assert,
"the question related to general assurance that the respondents might have been given. It is quite likely that the candidate may promise to favour a village or a person by getting done some developmental or personal work, as the case may be. Sometimes, the villagers themselves specifically put forward demands of this type and seek the commitment of candidate in this regard."

With reference to these findings, the hypothesis that the promise of economic development leads to the development of the main leadership and expansion of the second line leadership at different levels is put to test in the following pages.

Sri K.H. Patil and the second line leaders come out as successful leaders as they have won the hearts of the people. They influence their followers so much so that they surrender to them their mind and heart. By virtue of the efforts of Sri K.H. Patil and others the various problems prevailing at the given situation are solved. Not only do they promise, but also successfully solve the various problems, as they are familiar with the problems. Consequently, the mass accepts them as their successful leaders in the Hulkoti region in particular and in Gadag taluka in general.

The respondents were first asked how the promise of economic development would lead to the rise of political leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and others at different levels.
Responses to this open-ended question were classified according to detailed code prepared on the basis of the survey material. Proper care was taken so that all the important responses were considered and analyzed. Hence in this study an attempt is made to analyze the level of promises and the level of leaders.

A) Promises at the Village Level

(From 1943 to 1952)

Sri K.H. Patil's family and school as agents of early socialization made him a man of discipline in his works. His public life began through the freedom movement in early 1943. The responses from the respondents show that, apart from the freedom movement, Sri K.H. Patil along with his supporters gave certain assurances to the people regarding the various economic developments for the purpose of avoiding economic hurdles of his native people. He assured the following facilities to the people of his village: demonstration of improved agricultural practices, helping the peasants in getting agricultural implements, assisting the peasants to secure agricultural credit facilities from cooperative societies, establishment of educational institutions, marketing of their crops, medical facilities, construction of roads and bridges, communication facilities and drinking water facilities, etc. During the period from 1943 to 1952 the majority of the promises of the economic development, which were given
by Sri K.H. Patil and others, were implemented except the promises of construction of roads and bridges, communication, electricity and drinking water facilities.

As per the assurances made to the villagers, various activities were performed through ‘village service co-operative society’ (Gram Seva Sahakari Sangh) for the betterment of farming of Hulkoti. When he became the chairman of Hulkoti Village Service Co-operative Society on 25th October, 1951 he provided the modern agricultural equipment’s and other facilities to the villagers. Moreover, not merely did he distribute new variety of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides to the farmers in time but also provided credit facilities at reasonable rate of interest for the agricultural products of farmers.

The assurance in respect of the educational facilities given by Sri K.H. Patil and his friends at the grassroot level was implemented through The Hulkoti Co-Operative Education Society Ltd. Hulkoti. This is one of the earliest co-operative educational societies in India. In 1943 Sri K.H. Patil became the honorary secretary and executed the work efficiently. The society runs free Kannada and English medium primary schools, evening schools, Hindi classes and free libraries in Hulkoti and surrounding villages.
Similarly, the assurance in providing good marketing facilities to the Hulkoti farmers is fulfilled by Sri K.H. Patil and others through The Gadag Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee. When Sri K.H. Patil was elected as a member to the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Ltd. Gadag in 1950 he freed the farmers from the clutches of traders, especially from the commission agents and from the frauds and defaults prevailing in the system of marketing.

Sri K.H. Patil and his ancestors used to mitigate the physical strain of the people by providing free medicine to the rural folk since there was no hospital at Hulkoti.

Sri K.H. Patil and others kept the promise of social and economic development of Hulkoti people through the Friends Federation (Geleyer Balaga).

1) In 1947, he was assigned the work of protection of the village as the chief (kotawala) of village protection force. At the same time he initiated the ‘Friends Federation’ (Geleyer Balaga) at Hulkoti and this was vigilantly watching the houses particularly at night in order to prevent looting of houses and of crops of farmers. Further it kept constant watch with the result was that there were no quarrels, murders and looting at the village. Similarly, this Geleyar Balaga nabbed the people who were engaged in
selling opium and locally prepared liquors and handed them over to the police. In addition to this, the Friends Federation used to cut down taddy trees through which local liquor was prepared.

2) Sri K.H. Patil was actively participating in the marriage, Ayyachara, threading ceremony (upanayana), and other celebrations at any house in Hulkoti and he would also attend the funeral ceremonies of anybody in his native place, irrespective of caste, creed, religion and economic status. He was kind and compassionate to the people who were in distress and advised them not to lose their patience and be courageous. Similarly, he would extend his helping hand to the needy in all circumstances.

3) Moreover, under the pretext of celebrations of fair he used to work along with friends by taking lead.

4) He rendered a valuable service for the improvement of the temples of the village by preparing and executing various plans. He would guide and persuade the members of the Friends Federation for enacting dramas, not merely under the pretext of giving economic assistance to the temples but also for the purpose of encouraging some creative works.

So Sri K.H. Patil fulfilled all the above said rural developmental programmes/activities. Even though the promises
of construction of roads and bridges, and supply of communication, electricity and drinking water facilities were not fulfilled fully still the people of Hulkoti acknowledged him as their leader. They did not forget his strenuous and constructive activities, so they extended their full co-operation, and support to him. Consequently, Sri K.H. Patil was elected unanimously as the first Sarapancha (chairman) of the Hulkoti Grama Panchayat on 19-10-1952. The rural developmental activities at Hulkoti under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and his friends had such a great impact on the adjacent villages of Hulkoti that this led to the further remarkable growth of leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and others.

B) Promises at the Taluka Level

(From 1953 to 1962)

The process of implementation of promises in favour of economic development initiated by Sri K.H. Patil along with his friends was extended to the neighbouring villages of Hulkoti. Hence the influence of Sri K.H. Patil's political leadership reached the Taluka level during the period from 1953 to 1962. During this period Sri K.H. Patil and others assured some promises of economic development to the people of their taluka to overcome the economic problems faced by the people of their taluka. Such important promises as related to agricultural and
industrial development, education, health, housing, banking, marketing, co-operative, transport and communication, electricity, drinking water, etc.,

All these promises, except electricity and drinking water facilities, were implemented by Sri K.H. Patil and his supporting group. During this period they had undertaken various activities in respect of agricultural development through The Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd, Gadag, by providing the godown facility (warehousing) in 1951 at different places, like Hulkoti, Hosalli, Gadag, etc., and at Malasamudra in the year 1961, new variety seeds, fertilizers and pesticides facilities in proper time at the taluka level. They also initiated the establishment of a veterinary Hospital at Hulkoti in 1957 and of various agricultural co-operative credit societies in different villages (please, see chapter IV for details).

The promise of industrial development was implemented by Sri K.H. Patil and others at the Hulkoti region by establishing and initiating various co-operative and private industries during this period:

1) In 1959 Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters initiated The Gadag Co-Operative Oil Seeds Society Ltd. Gadag. The main object of establishing a factory for processing cotton seed was to manufacture the washed cotton seed oil, both
expeller and solvent extracted along with such by products as cotton lint, soap stock and de-oiled cake. Such a unit would primarily help the local cotton growers by giving better returns on their produce with development of local area and economy, besides meeting the growing shortage of vegetable oil in the country and earning foreign exchange through export of de-oiled meal. Owing to the price variation, lack of working capital, the production process of this society had become completely standstill after 1994.

2) Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters also initiated the Hulkoti Groundnut Processing Society Ltd. Hulkoti, on 17-04-1962 for providing employment opportunities to the people and better oil supply to the consumers and the maximum profit to those farmers who were growing groundnut. Due to the shortage of working capital, lack of demand for the product, this society became completely standstill after 1974.

3) The people of the Hulkoti region used to go to far off places to procure the PVC pipes for their use. Sri K.H. Patil, realizing the above difficulty of the farmers, made up his mind to establish the industry to produce the same in order to get rid of the difficulties. It also provided employment opportunities to the youths. Subsequently, Sri K.H. Patil and others initiated The Arvind Enterprises Private Ltd. Hulkoti in 1962.
The promise of educational facilities, which was given by Sri K.H. Patil and others at the taluka level, was implemented through different educational institutions.

1) When Sri K.H. Patil became the president of The Hulkoti Co-Operative Education Society Ltd. Gadag on 1-7-1960 he thought of providing hostel facilities for boys and girls. In 1962 he initiated two hostels for poor students with the aid of government coupled with partial contribution from public. Nearly 160 poor students were provided with lodging facility. In addition to that, various educational activities were implemented under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil in the rural areas.


3) The construction of school building in 1962 is also one of the important contributions of Sri K.H. Patil and others to the educational field.

For the implementation of promise of health protection to the rural mass, Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters initiated the Gadag Taluka Middle-class Housing Society in 1959 by providing modern and hygienic housing facilities to the houseless persons. They also contributed to the establishment of General Hospital at Gadag in 1961.
Sri K.H. Patil and others provided marketing facilities through the Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd, Gadag and the Agricultural Producing Marketing Committee Ltd, Gadag.

1) The year 1955 was a significant one as it paved the way for reorientation of the Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd., Gadag. Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters were the force behind the successful reorientation of the society. They faced many odds from vested interests in political and co-operative fields. Their able leadership and immense zeal led to the successful reorientation of the society. Sri K.H. Patil served the society as a member from 1955 and as the managing director from 1956 to 1971. The achievements of the society during the period from 1955 to 1962 under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil were quite remarkable. In 1958 it was recognized as the best co-operative society in the state and the Government of Mysore (Now Karnataka) awarded a certificate of merit and a shield. After the involvement of Sri K.H. Patil's leadership in the society, it catered to the needs of the agriculturists in all possible ways, permissible under the co-operative Act. Some of the prominent functions had been already analyzed in Chapter IV.
2) Similarly, Sri K.H. Patil and his friends were successful in the elections held to the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Ltd, Gadag and took over the administration of this institution. Sri K.H. Patil became the chairman on 9-11-1959 and administered the public welfare activities, and he was quite successful in facilitating economic development of the farmers. Some of the prominent activities have been analyzed in the previous Chapter, IV.


Sri K.H. Patil and others extended the financial assistance to the people through The Reddy Co-Operative Bank Ltd, Dharwad with its branch office at Gadag and The Karnataka Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Dharwad with its branch office at Gadag.

1) Sri K.H. Patil and others were successful in establishing a branch of the Reddy Co-Operative Credit Bank Ltd. Dharwad at Gadag on 2-12-1956 to provide financial assistance to the farmers for improving their agricultural
production in the Hulkoti region in particular and Gadag taluka in general.

2) Sri K.H. Patil had rendered valuable financial service to the people through the Reddy Co-Operative Bank Ltd, Dharwad as a member from 1955 and as a managing director from 1961.

3) He was elected as a director of the Karnataka Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd, Dharwad in 1960. He and others gave the above said financial facilities to the farmers through the above said two key financial institutions.

4) They also extended financial assistance to the poor weavers through The Urban Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Gadag. They were successful in securing transport and communication facilities to the people of Gadag taluk.

1) During his tenure as the chairman of the Hulkoti Village Panchayat, with the co-operation of the village people and the Deputy Commissioner of Dharwad District, he undertook the work of constructing three bridges in 1956, which led to the main roads to reach the big cities.

2) He and his supporters also undertook the sanitation means such as construction of drainages, putting metal layers over the roads, etc., at different villages.
3) Before 1962 Gadag had no suitable bus-stand. Sri K.H. Patil and his friends submitted a memorandum to the government to shift the old one to a new place. In 1962 the existing bus-stand started functioning in the newly built building.

4) Similarly, they also initiated the 'Nagarika' newspaper at Gadag on 11-6-1954 and the Dharwad District Co-Operative Printing and Publishing Society Ltd. Gadag on 20-1-1959.

5) In addition to these above mentioned activities they undertook various constructive works at the Hulkoti village such as construction of ‘Grama Kendra’ in 1956, Ramamandir in 1956 and wrestling house in 1959.

All these promises and the implementation of the economic development facilitated the leadership development of Sri K.H. Patil and others at the taluka level. Sri K.H. Patil became a secretary of Gadag Taluka Congress Committee in 1953 and a member of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee in 1954, one of the chief promoters and founder members of civic board of Gadag municipal council in 1954 and its president in June 1959. He also became a member of All India Congress Committee on Feb 1955. He and his friends supported the Congress party candidature, Sri K.P. Gadag, in the election to the Mysore Legislative Assembly in 1957 and they succeeded in getting him elected from Gadag constituency. He also contested the election
to the Mysore Legislative Assembly held on 21-2-1962 as an independent candidate but was defeated by marginal votes. As he was denied the Congress party ticket, he had to contest the election as an independent. He was not successful in spite of his good service rendered to the people of Gadag taluk. One of the reasons might be the trump card of caste played by the opponents against him who belonged to small Reddy caste. Another reason might be the popularity of the Congress party in Gadag taluk which was considered as a strong fort of the Congress party in 1950s and 1960s. Though he was defeated in the assembly election, he was not discouraged and carried on developmental activities. As a result of this he was able to wipe out the tears of common people.

C) Promises at the District Level

(From 1963 to 1972)

The political leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and others was enhanced at the district level during the period from 1963 to 1972. During this period they took people into confidence by solving their problems relating to agricultural, industrial, educational, marketing, financial, transport and communication, electricity, health and drinking water facilities and others.

As per the promises given by Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters, they implemented various programmes of agricultural development.
1) During this period, under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil ‘The Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd. Gadag undertook a number of other activities for the benefits of the farmers such as supply of chemical fertilizers, the storage and distribution of pure seeds, effective measure for preventing adulteration in the seeds, the supply of cement and steel and other agricultural requisites, distribution of food grains, construction of rural godowns, etc.

2) Sri K.H. Patil and his followers popularized the improved technology for new way of farming. In 1966 he became the managing director of Veman Escorts Tractor Private Ltd, Hubli, and arranged exhibition and used four tractors to demonstration the various operations using different implements.

3) In 1967 they arranged for an aerial spray over cotton field in rural areas in Gadag taluk to the extent of 2000 acres. Aerial spray was a long cherished desire of the progressive cultivators.

4) They initiated various agro-based industries at the Hulkoti region to develop the agricultural dependent occupations, like animal husbandry, and the Krishna Dairy Co-Operative Society Ltd, Hulkoti in 1966. The main object of the last mentioned society was to impart knowledge about the
advantages of taking up animal rearing and milk dairy. This society rendered praise worthy service until it was closed down in 1980 due to constraints of less milk production.

5) For poultry development Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters initiated the Poultry Development Co-Operative Society Ltd. Hulkoti in 1966. The main purpose of this society was to introduce the profits of chicken rearing profession to the farmers. This society could not expand its activities, because the majority of the farmers were vegetarians and traditionalists and could not take to this modern poultry seriously. Consequently, it closed down its operations in 1975.

During this period Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters undertook various activities for industrial development in the Hulkoti region in particular and in the Dharwad district in general.

1) After involvement of Sri K.H. Patil and his group in the Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd. Gadag, they undertook several constructive works for the economic well being of the farmers of the Hulkoti region. In addition to this, they also intended to provide better prices to the cotton growers. For the fulfillment of the above-mentioned activities, they initiated the ginning unit in 1963 in the
Cotton Sale Society. This unit began its production from 1968-69 with its 32 ginning units.

2) In 1966 they also initiated the establishment of the Hulkoti Co-Operative Oils and Feeds Society Ltd, Hulkoti which supplied nutritious cattle feed for the well being of the animals and provided employment opportunities to the rural people.

3) In 1972, they initiated the establishment of the Gadag Co-Operative Textile Mill Ltd. Hulkoti for providing employment opportunities to the rural people and better prices to the cotton growers and better returns to the shareholders in the Hulkoti region in particular and to the people of Dharwad district in general.

For the implementation of the promise of educational facilities assured by Sri K.H. Patil and others to the mass of the Hulkoti region in particular and Dharwad district in general, Sri K.H. patil and his supporters initiated various educational institutions right from pre primary to higher education.

1) Under the Hulkoti Co-Operative Education Society Ltd. Hulkoti, they initiated a pre-primary school at Gadag in 1963, a high school at Gadag in 1966, a Girls High School at Betageri in 1970, and a Pre-University College at Gadag in 1972.
2) Under the Ramakrishna Ashram Education Society Ltd, Hulkoti, they initiated a pre-primary school at Hulkoti in 1965, a primary school at Hulkoti in 1971, a high school at Hulkoti in 1963.

3) They also initiated the construction of school building at Gadag in 1972, a pre-primary school at Binakadakatti in 1972.

4) At the district level they initiated the Dharwad District Scheduled Caste Education Society Ltd, Hubli in 1963 and Sri K.H. Patil became its president.

5) When Sri K.H. Patil became an Hon, Secretary of Reddy Education and Social League in 1963, he rendered yeoman service to the cause of education through this educational institution at the district level.

During this period Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters implemented various programmes for providing marketing facilities to the people of the Hulkoti region in particular and to those of Dharwad district in general through different marketing institutions.

1) The achievements of The Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd, Gadag were quite remarkable under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and his group. In 1963 a ginning unit was installed and also a petrol bunk was
opened. The storage facilities were provided through a network of godowns in the taluka. The society had maintained a 16 mm projector, which is used as an aid in propagating knowledge of latest development in agriculture. From 1966 an open auction method was followed for the sale of cotton. The officials of the Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Gadag facilitated the grading provision for cotton. Since 1967 the Gadag Co-operative Cotton Sale Society had also been acting as a wholesale agent for iron, cement and corrugated sheets which were also the agricultural requisites and which were controlled by the government. Thus the society celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 19th July 1970 with the then prime minister of India, the late Smt Indira Gandhi, as the chief guest who appreciated the unique service of the society to the farmers.

2) Sri K.H. Patil and his group provided good marketing facilities through the APMC (Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee) Ltd, Gadag, during this period. They also provided basic facilities for marketing developments such as roads, facilities for vehicle, godowns, water, shelter, electricity, sale hall, marketing facilities, etc., In 1965 they initiated 'Rayth Bhavan' for farmers who came from rural areas. In 1966 for the first time in the history of
India they implemented the system of auction of cotton. This system depended on sampling technique for its out-turn at Gadag APMC. This system not only gave good rates to the cotton growers but also a great deal of satisfaction to the buyers. They also introduced the auction system of groundnuts in 1963. As a result of this, many of the marketing institutions in the old Dharwad district adopted the auction and grading system in their business. The source of the inspiration behind the marketing institutions in the old Dharwad district to adopt this system in business was Sri K.H. Patil and his friends. So the farmers of the Dharwad district had also received certain marketing benefits from this system.

3) When Sri K.H. Patil became a chairman of Dharwad District Co-Operative Marketing Federation Ltd. Hubli, he and his friends rendered remarkable service to the marketing societies.

4) In 1965, they also initiated the Gadag Betageri Co-Operative Whole Sale Stores Ltd. Gadag-Betageri in order to free the consumers from the clutches of traders.

5) In 1970 Sri K.H. Patil had discussion with Smt Indira Gandhi on the matter to free the marketing societies from the private purchase system. The fruit of this discussion
was that the then prime minister late Smt Indira Gandhi established the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). These activities clearly show that they implemented the promise of marketing facilities for the people of the Hulkoti region in particular and for those of Dharwad district in general.

Sri K.H. Patil and others fulfilled the promise of banking facilities at the Hulkoti region as well as at the district level through the Reddy Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Dharwad and KCC (Karnataka Central Co-Operative) Bank Ltd. Dharwad.

1) When Sri K.H. Patil became a Managing Director of Reddy Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Dharwad from 1961 to 1972, he had planned to provide financial facilities to the people of Dharwad district. During his period of administration he initiated 5 branches in the Dharwad (old) district such as at Hubli on 27-5-1962, at Navalgund on 15-12-1963, at Naragund on 26-1-1966, at Haveri on 28-2-1966, at Mulagund on 8-2-1966.

2) Similarly, under the stewardship of Sri K.H. Patil the financial condition of the Karnataka Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Dharwad and its branches at different talukas in the Dharwad (old) district improved by leaps and bonds. The farmers got benefits in the form of financial assistance and agricultural implements at subsidized rates.
For the implementation of the promise of transport and communication facilities assured by Sri K.H. Patil and others to the mass of both the Hulkoti region and Dharwad district they undertook various activities during the period.

1) When Sri K.H. Patil became the Minister in the Government of Mysore in 1972, all the rural roads, which reached the main roads of taluka and district headquarters were developed.

2) The roads were widened on either side and many bridges were built.

3) The new bus stands were built at Hulkoti and Betageri in 1972 on the basis of the demands of the people of Hulkoti and Betageri respectively.

4) To transport the agricultural products of the farmers to the Gadag market they initiated The Karnataka Co-Operative Export Society Ltd. Hulkoti in 1969.

5) They were also responsible for constructing 'Inspection Bungalow' at Gadag and Hulkoti in 1972, to lodge the officials who would visit the locality.

6) They improved the roads, which led to railway station from Gadag, Hulkoti and other surrounding areas. They got the railway under bridge built at Bellary gate in 1972.

7) Even during rainy season, the farmers could easily transport their agricultural products to the railway station.
8) Communication made rapid development under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil and his groups in the Hulkoti region as well as in the whole of Dharwad district. As Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters, developed agriculture, industry, trade and commerce, education, health and other fields, the communication of the Hulkoti region as well as that of the district gradually developed.

9) When Sri K.H. Patil was elected a member of the Legislative Assembly in 1967, he encouraged the construction of buildings for Post and Telegraph offices at rural areas. He persuaded the authorities of Post and Telegraph offices for the construction of the Post and Telegraph offices in the Hulkoti region as well as in the district. These authorities constructed the buildings of their department in view of the increased transaction in postal and telegraphic activities.

10) At the district level Sri K.H. Patil and his group wanted to mould the people and their way of thinking for constructive activities for useful purpose. Communication for individuals in their area was very essential. To achieve this purpose he and supporters together started the 'Vishal Karnataka' newspaper at Hubli in 1964. This newspaper rendered extraordinary communication service in the
Dharwad district (old) in particular and in Bombay Karnataka in general.

During this period Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters provided electricity facilities to the people of the Hulkoti region as well as to those of Dharwad district (old) through the Mysore State Electricity Board. Since 1921 Manvi electrical power suppliers had been supplying electricity to Gadag-Betageri, Haveri, Byadagi and Ranebennur in Dharwad district (old). Electricity was not supplied to the people of every place in a proper manner. Many people were deprived of electricity facility, and those who got it did not get it in sufficient voltage. Though Mysore State Electric Board (MEB) came into existence in 1957, its operations were not extended to this region. In 1972 Sri K.H. Patil became the minister. He brought this issue to the notice of the Prime Minister late Smt Indira Gandhi and discussed it with her effectively. Consequently, he succeeded in extending the operation of the Mysore State Electricity Board (MEB) to the above said cities. As a result of this the license of private electricity suppliers (Manvi) was cancelled and Mysore State Electric Board started supplying electricity to Gadag-Betageri and other cities in Dharwad district (old). Thus the better supply of electricity paved the way for the progress and the expansion of industrial and agricultural activities.
For the implementation of promise of health protection to the rural mass, Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters initiated the ‘General Hospital’ at Gadag in 1972. This was done to provide the medical facilities in the best possible way and at free and affordable cost to the deserving poor. When Sri K.H. Patil was elected a member of Legislative Assembly in 1967 from Janata Paksha (local), he planned to provide good drinking water to the Gadag–Betageri city and tried to avoid the scarcity of drinking water. Consequently, he thought of water supply on a large-scale through the Malaprabha rightbank canal to his region. But it was opposed by most of the political leaders on the ground that the water was unhealthy and polluted. In spite of the opposition he implemented the plan and constructed Veeranarayana Lake to Ichal Stream near by Chikkahandigol and got the pipes connected for water supply to the twin cities. This water supply scheme was dropped later, as he realized that the water was unhealthy. Then he thought of bringing drinking water from the Tungabadra river. After he was sworn in as a cabinet minister in 1972, he got dug a number of borewells around the city and supplied water through the already installed pipes.

The impact of promises and their implementation enhanced leadership development of Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters at the district level. In 1965 Sri K.H. Patil became the vice president of the Janata Paksha (local) in Karnataka state, and was elected a member of Mysore Legislative Assembly in 15-12-1967 from the
Janata Paksha (local), and was a member of the Public Accounts Committee of the Mysore Legislature. After the split in the Congress he joined the Congress party, along with other members of Janata Paksha (local) in 1969, was a Convener of Dharwad District Congress (Adhoc) Committee in 1969, and secretary to the election committee of the Congress (R) party at the state level in 1971. In 15-3-1972 he was also elected a member of Legislative Assembly from the Congress party and became cabinet minister for Agricultural and Forest from 20-3-1972 to December 1974. His career as a legislator and his service in the Hulkoti region, Gadag taluk and Dharwad district paved the way for emergence of his leadership at the state level.

D) Promises at the State Level

(From 1972 to 1992)

The responses from the respondents show that Sri K.H. Patil and his friends adopted the same strategy at the state level too during the period from 1972 to 1992. During this period they assured some promises of economic development to the people of the Hulkoti region in particular and to those of the state in general to solve the economic problems faced by them. Among such prominent promises were agriculture, food and forest, industry, banking, marketing, transport and communication, education, electricity, co-operative, health and housing, etc. They not only assured the above mentioned promises but also took measures to implement them successfully.
In regard to the implementation of the promises of agricultural development they undertook various activities from the grassroot level to the state level in the following way.

1) They initiated the Underground Water Utility Co-Operative Society Ltd. Hulkoti during the year 1974. This helped the irrigation facilities to not only the Hulkoti region but also its neighbouring talukas.

2) They got soil-testing laboratory sanctioned by the government at Gadag in 1973.

3) They also initiated Oil Seeds Growers Co-Operative Society Ltd. Hulkoti in 1985.

4) In order to give the technological knowledge to the farmers they initiated Agricultural Science Foundation Ltd. Hulkoti in 1981 and Krishi Vignyan Kendra, Hulkoti (Recognized by ICAR) in 1985 to provide the technological knowledge to the farmers. Through this improved technology, they brought different varieties of improved seeds to assure good yield to the farmers of the Hulkoti region.

5) In 1982 they founded the Crop Development Co-operative Society Ltd. Hulkoti in order to prevent different diseases to the crops. These pesticides were supplied to the farmers at a cheaper rate through The Gadag Co-Operative Cotton Sale Society Ltd. Gadag.
6) In 1986 they started Milk Producers Co-Operative Society Ltd. Hulkoti. This encouraged the agricultural dependent professions like animal husbandry.

7) They established the ‘Krishna Krushi’ the public trust in 1989 to introduce natural farming to the farmers.

8) They also made efforts to get sanction the district level offices like agriculture, horticulture, and sericulture in order to develop these branches in this region.

9) As a Minister for Agriculture and Forest, Sri K.H. Patil rendered valuable services to the field of agriculture which brought a good reputation not only to the department but also a good deal of appreciation by the public. He had a discussion with facts and figures with the University Grant Commission, New Delhi (UGC) in order to establish ‘Agricultural University in Dharwad’. He declared in the Legislative Council that the government decided to establish an Agricultural University in Dharwad and agricultural school in each district, and he prepared the Act regarding this. Mean while, this work came to a halt after he had resigned from the ministership. Sri M.P. Prakash continued this work later when he was in charge of the Agricultural Ministry.
10) Sri K.H. Patil and others prepared a plan for the establishment of tractor producing factory in the state in collaboration of with the Russian Government, and he advised the peasants to unite in the co-operative sector and created public awareness to erect their output processing units.

11) Soil testing laboratory was established in each district for the benefit of the farmers. Moreover the credit of moving laboratory to each sub division goes to Sri K.H. Patil.

12) In the distribution of chemical fertilizers, Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters removed the intermediaries and assigned this work to the co-operative sector.

13) In the year 1972, in the famine compensating programmes, Sri K.H. Patil did very extensive work in the field of soil conservation and in the tillable land of 14.33 lakhs acres with Rs 663 crores. He made an attempt to construct soil buds.

14) He initiated the development of agro-based industries in order to provide better prices to their output.

15) He took initiative for the establishment of godowns in the rural areas throughout the state just by appraising that the godowns in the rural areas were treated as Laxmi temple for peasants.
When Sri K.H. Patil was a Minister for Forest, he initiated legislative measure to check deforestation.

1) The process of conversion of forestland into tillable land had led to the destruction of forest and increase in the environmental imbalance. Sri K.H. Patil got an Act passed to check the use of forestland for other purposes. His action was appreciated by all.

2) The interests of the forest department suffered at the hands of the paper mill owners. Sri K.H. Patil took measures to increase the revenue of the forest department. Consequently, paper mill owners objected to the selling price of bamboos, which were required by the paper mill at Dandeli and to the enhancement of price of olive trees, which were required by the plywood factory and polyfibers at Harihar. The mass media, which were under the influence of paper mill owners, did not hesitate to carry on propaganda against Sri K.H. Patil. Despite these hurdles, he worked hard with enthusiasm, since dauntlessness was his nature. Thus he made the income of the department grow.

3) Forest Corporation, protection plans of forest creatures, Agro Industries Corporation, Forest Industries Corporation, etc., were activised.
4) Sri K.H. Patil's affection towards wild life gave birth to the establishment of the wild life directorate in the forest department. During the same period, he got sanctioned the establishment of a zoo at Binkadakatti.

5) Sri K.H. Patil had worked hard as a food minister and implemented the rationing system in major cities. A document Act was prepared by Sri K.H. Patil to remove the speculation in food supply and block accumulation, etc. He had made a good record of collection of levy.

6) Sri K.H. Patil, who was the Revenue and Labour Minister in 1990, assured to issue pass books to the peasant families and declared the Lambani Tandas as the revenue villages at the same time. He also planned and implemented various provisions, which were meant to safeguard the interest of the labourers.

Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters implemented various plans and programmes for the industrial development by initiating various industries from the village level to the state level.


2) When he was working as a leader at the state level he took innumerable measures for the welfare of the people of Karnataka State and expanded agro-based industries in his region also. With the encouragement of Sri K.H. Patil a number of industries bloomed in different places at the district level. For example, Venkateshwar Co-Operative Textile Mill Ltd, Annigeri, Farmers Co-Operative Spinning Mill Ltd, Hanumanamatti, Someshwar Co-Operative Spinning Mill Ltd. Laxmeshwar, etc.

3) Sri K.H. Patil strove hard for the industrial growth through co-operative societies and for the growth of agro-based industries in the state. He showed the government that spinning mills were agro-based industries.

4) Sri K.H. Patil contributed to the growth of industries through co-operative societies in the state as a Chairman of
the Karnataka State Co-Operative Spinning Mills Ltd.
Bangalore, in 1985, and as the president of The All India
Federation of Co-Operative Spinning Mill Ltd, Bombay, in
1986.

For the implementation of the promise of financial
assistance to the people from the village level to the state level,
Sri K.H. Patil and his group undertook various developmental
activities through the Agricultural Credit Societies, Employees
Co-Operative Credit Societies, Urban Banks, KCC Bank (The
Karnataka Central Co-operative Bank) Ltd, Dharwad, and Reddy
Co-Operative Bank Ltd, Dharwad. After involvement of Sri K.H.
Patil and his group in the administration of the Reddy Co-
Operative Bank Ltd, Dharwad from 1961 to 1992, 17 branches
were started at different parts of Karnataka. Among such
branches, six are in Dharwad district (old), four in Belgaum
district, three in Bijapur district (old), two at Chitradurga
district, and one each at Bellary and Raichur district (The list of
branches is given in the appendix-VI).

Sri K.H. Patil and his co-workers had made the co-operative
movement meaningful throughout the state.

1) Sri K.H. Patil, who was popularly known as the Tiger of
Hulkoti (Hulkoti-Huli) along with his colleagues, created
various co-operative societies and made their own brand in
each and every field of economic development. They left their permanent imprints on the co-operative map of the tiny village like Hulkoti through a co-operative revolution. Sri K.H. Patil is one among those who have made the Gandhian dream of Grama swaraj come true.

2) Sri K.H. Patil was selected unanimously in the year 1980, as a director of National Co-Operative Union of India, and in 1985, as the Chairman of the Karnataka State Co-Operative Spinning Mills Federation Ltd. Bangalore, in 1986, as a Member of Committee on the Structure and Policy of National Co-Operative Societies constituted by the Government of India, Minister of Agriculture and Forest in the same year as the Chairman of All India Federation of Co-Operative Spinning Mills Ltd., Bombay. Sri K.H. Patil was adjudged the Best Co-Operator by IFFCO, New Delhi for the year 1980-81, in September 1986, in appreciation of his service in the co-operative sector.

3) As the Chairman of Karnataka State Co-Operative Act Amendment Committee, Sri K.H. Patil participated in the international conference at Paris in Feb 1988, and was elected chairman of ‘CICOPA’ (International Committee of Producer and Artision of Co-Operative), which is the international co-operative organization, with 100 member
countries. It was a great honour to him for his rural leadership and for his chairmanship of 100-country organization.

4) The co-operative movement was the breath of Sri K.H. Patil. He participated in the international conference at Sydney in Australia also.

As per the assurance given to the people, Sri K.H. Patil and his followers have implemented various progressive measures in order to provide better marketing facilities through marketing co-operative societies throughout the state.

1) Better marketing facilities have been given by constructing various godowns.

2) When Sri K.H. Patil became a member of the Karnataka Chamber of Commerce in 1965, he rendered valuable service in the marketing field of Karnataka state. During this period he encouraged the establishment of various chambers of commerce in different places of Karnataka including his own taluk, Gadag.

3) As a member of the Cotton Advisors Board of India Sri K.H. Patil played a very crucial role in protecting the interest of the cotton growers in the state and executed various progressive plans.
4) When Sri K.H. Patil was a minister, he tried his level best to provide the marketing facilities to the people, throughout the state by giving relevant direction for the growth of cooperative marketing associations.

Sri K.H. Patil and others gave a special attention to the development of transport and communication, which are quite essential for all economic activities. In the matter of transportation, he gave priority not only to the growth of roads but also to the development of the roads which join the railway stations.

Sri K.H. Patil and his co-workers gave much significance to the development of education. They believed that the creation of wealth and growth of education were treated as the supplementary subjects for the overall development of the society. They undertook a good deal of effective measures to promote the growth of education. They were responsible for the establishment of a number of educational institutions in the Hulkoti region through their educational society the Hulkoti Cooperative Education Society (H.C.E.S.) The H.C.E.S. established the following educational institutions at different periods primary school at Gadag on 1981 and another primary school at Betageri in 1991, a high school at Kurtakoti in 1981, at Harthi and Chinchali in 1985, at Huilgol in 1991, at Asundi in 1992, a pre-

Sri K.H. Patil and his companions gave special attention to the supply of power, which is more essential for the economic development of any region. Before Sri K.H. Patil was sworn in as a minister, several private license holders were engaged in supply of power, which caused much inconveniences to common people. Precisely for this reason, Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters pressed the government of India to solve this problem by cancelling the license of private power suppliers and to arrange to provide power from Mysore Electricity Board (MEB) which would be convenient for domestic, irrigation and industrial purposes of the given region.
Sri K.H. Patil and his comrades believed that the economic position of the rural people could be improved with the help of better health services. For the well being of people medical service is an essential factor, which depends upon rural health centres, supply of medicine, supply of pure drinking water and modern hygienic houses, etc.,. Sri K.H. Patil and his supporters implemented several effective measures. For the implementation of their promise of health protection to the rural mass at the Hulkoti region, they initiated the construction of cottage hospital building in 1972, the Rural Medical Service Society at Hulkoti in 1980, The Hulkoti Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd, Hulkoti in 1982. The Hulkoti Co-Operative Education Society’s Employees and Members’ Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd. Gadag was established in 1984 to provide modern and hygienic houses to the people. They also took the initiative to provide purified drinking water from the Tungabhadra river to the Hulkoti region. Similarly, at the state level too they tried to establish various hospitals, housing societies and purified drinking water for health protection.

During this period (1972 to 1992) Sri K.H. Patil held important positions at the state level. He was the president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) three times, (from December 1974 to December 1976, July 1977 to Jan 1978 and from June 1983 to March 1985), Cabinet Minister for Forest,
Food and Civil Supply from Jan 1977 to July 1977. He joined the Reddy Congress in January 1978 and was defeated in the election to the Karnataka Legislative Assembly from Gadag constituency in March 1978. He rejoined the Congress party and was elected in 1985 and in 1989 from the Gadag constituency, and again he became Cabinet Minister for Revenue and Labour in May 1990 and Revenue and Co-Operative Minister for some time in 1991, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister in 1991. During this period he rendered great service to the Hulkoti and Karnataka state. These services are explained in greater details in the previous pages.

Increase in the number of Institutions and Increase in the number of Second Line Leaders

The process of economic development produced a large number of political leaders at different levels to manage the various co-operative, economic and educational institutions. Such a process led to the transformation of leadership structure from traditional to non-traditional and functional. "As economic conditions change in the society the elite group also changes. The elite group is always the economically well-to-do group. In the
traditional society, leadership remains the same. But in the economically developed society new leadership emerges. A large number of new leaders emerge in economically developed areas."9

The process of economic development has encouraged the growth of various economic institutions. These institutions occupy a unique position in rural India. They offer ample opportunity to the people for active participation and have become a training ground for young political leaders. This study reveals emergence of a large number of political leaders in the process of economic development. It is due to the all-round economic development of the area, exposure to mass media, high level of literacy, and politicization. This view is confirmed by B.S. Baviskar who states, "the co-operatives are an important segment of the local political system. These institutions not only cater to the economic needs of the participants but also provide training for a democratic set-up. Thus a certain amount of political socialization of the participants takes place in the very functioning of the co-operatives. The association between co-operatives on the one hand and politicians on the other has increased significantly."10 Diplama, who also supports this view,
asserts that "an economically developed society can afford to make room for popular demands and for open political competition. It can open access to politics and administration for most citizens."\textsuperscript{11}

Myron Weiner states that "the process of modernization itself creates conditions for increased political participation; and if modernization continues to take place in the developing area, we can expect both authoritarian regimes and representative governments to be challenged by new participants who want to share power."\textsuperscript{12} A.H. Somajee observes that "from Lipset and Lerner down to Huntington, the growth of political participation has often been considered to be a function of economic development and/or urbanization."\textsuperscript{13} While dealing with the social and economic factors in political leadership Alfred Desouza observes that "social and economic development has become a fertile area for the evolution of new styles of leadership."\textsuperscript{14}

Obviously, Co-operative movement, economic development and modernization process play a very significant role in shaping political leadership. Hence, the present chapter examines the
linkage between the economic development (which includes spread of co-operative movement, and modernization process) and emergence of political leadership. Economic development gives scope/opportunity for the rise of political leadership. As the economic institutions grow, the political leaders also emerge at various levels to manage such institutions. This is put to test in the following pages.

While describing the linkage between the economic development and the emergence of the political leadership the following question will be discussed. The respondents were asked the question: How did economic development produce a large number of political leaders? The responses by the respondents were collected through the open-ended questionnaire and then analyzed. Hence, in this study an attempt is made to analyze the level of institutions and the level of emergence of political leaders.
Table No. 6.1

The following table shows increase in the level of institutions and increase in the number of leaders at different levels from 1943 to 1993.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No</th>
<th>In the year</th>
<th>Village level</th>
<th>Taluka level</th>
<th>District level</th>
<th>State level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>Leaders</td>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>Leaders</td>
<td>Institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6.06%)</td>
<td>(6.87%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2)</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6.06%)</td>
<td>(8.39%)</td>
<td>(3.63%)</td>
<td>(8.77%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3)</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(12.12%)</td>
<td>(11.45%)</td>
<td>(16.36%)</td>
<td>(14.61%)</td>
<td>(13.63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4)</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(21.21%)</td>
<td>(14.88%)</td>
<td>(18.18%)</td>
<td>(19.88%)</td>
<td>(18.18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5)</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(24.24%)</td>
<td>(22.91%)</td>
<td>(21.81%)</td>
<td>(26.9%)</td>
<td>(27.27%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6)</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(30.3%)</td>
<td>(35.49%)</td>
<td>(40%)</td>
<td>(29.82%)</td>
<td>(40.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in the brackets indicate the percentages)
As shown in the table 6.1, the co-operative institutions and the political leaders at the village level have risen from 2 (6.06%) and 18 (6.87%) to 33 (30.3%) and 262 (35.49%) respectively during the period from 1943 to 1993, at the taluka level have increased from 2 (3.63%) and 30 (8.77%) to 55 (40%) and 342 (29.82%) respectively during the period from 1953 to 1993, and at the district level have risen from 3 (13.63%) and 6 (22.22%) to 22 (40.9%) and 27 (22.22%) respectively during the period from 1963 to 1993. Similarly, at the state level the number has risen from 5 (35.71%) and 6 (26.08%) to 14 (42.85%) and 23 (39.13%) respectively, during the period from 1973 to 1993. Hence the table indicates the clear idea regarding the growth of the institutions and the growth of the political leaders at different levels. In other words, various co-operative institutions at the different levels have emerged as new centres of power. These figures also reveal that as a result of economic development the number of office bearers (SLL) of various institutions has steadily increased in the Hulkoti region in particular and in Gadag taluka in general. It is true that an individual’s office bearership of institutions exposes him to the political arena, and motivates him to actively participate in political activities. In other words, institutional affiliation not only widens the horizon
of the political participation of the office bearers but also increases their efficiency.

The table also illustrates that in 1943 at the village level 2 (6.06%) institutions have given birth to 18 (6.87%) leaders, when the activities of Sri K.H. Patil's political leadership was confined only to the village level. In 1953 at the village level 4 (6.06%) institutions have caused the birth of 40 (8.39%) leaders, and 2 (3.63%) institutions have caused the rise of 30 (8.77%) leaders at the taluka level, when the activities of Sri K.H. Patil's political leadership was restricted to the taluka level. In 1963 at the village level 8 (12.12%) institutions gave birth to 70 (11.45%) leaders, 11 (16.36%) taluka level institutions caused the growth of 80 (14.61%) leaders at the taluka level, and at the district level 3 (13.63%) institutions produced 6 (22.22%) leaders, when the activities of Sri K.H. Patil's political leadership were extended to the district level. In 1973 at the village level 15 (21.21%) institutions produced 109 (14.88%) leaders, at the taluka level 21 (18.18%) institutions gave birth to 148 (19.88%) leaders, at the district level 7 (18.18%) institutions caused the rise of 13 (25.92%) leaders, at the state level 5 (35.71%) institutions caused the growth of 6 (26.08%) leaders. Similarly in 1983 and in 1993 the growth of institutions and the growth of political leaders from the village level to the state level increased significantly, when
The activities of Sri, K.H. Patil’s political leadership were extended to the state level. These data clearly indicate the process of economic development through institutions. Under the leadership of Sri K.H. Patil a new class of institutional leaders emerged at different levels. In other words, the leadership of the institutions is heavily sprinkled with active political leaders at different levels. These institutional leaders have occupied important key positions in the political as well as in the co-operative institutions at different levels.

The leadership of an institution enhances one’s prestige in the eyes of the local people and influences the local bureaucracy. It also makes it possible to distribute patronage in the form of loans, contracts and jobs. The control of an institution confers power in the sense that it enables leaders to take important decisions affecting the interest of a large number of people. It is no wonder that some of the institutional leaders find higher positions in the political party and in the political institutions. These institutions have emerged as new centres of power. The control of these centres provides an opportunity for advancement of ambitious individuals. In a sense, leadership of an institution provides a new avenue to political mobility.
Economic Development for Political Support

The role of the second line leaders has been treated in the present study as a crucial variable in breaking the traditional isolation of the villages and making them economically developed and significant. The second line leaders are expected not only to boost up the standard of living rural people, but also to serve as a link among local, state and national level political leaders in terms of political communication and mobilization from both bottom upwards and vice-versa. The institutional channels through which these links are forged are institutional structures and other administrative agencies.

The political leaders are also to channelize these linkages as they require mass support, for winning elections. Therefore, they pledge themselves to articulate local needs and demands. While doing so, they manipulate needs and demands in a manner as to fit them into their broad ideological framework. Thus they are not merely expected to provide a sense of participation to the local rural people in political process at various levels and to imbue them with broad national perspectives but also to evoke response to local demands from higher political echelons. Thus they are expected to integrate the rural local levels with the mainstream.

In the previous chapter, we studied the factors responsible for strengthening the political support to Sri K.H. Patil and also
examined the economic as well as political activities performed by the second line leaders for strengthening the political support base of Sri K.H. Patil. In this chapter, an attempt is made to analyze how these leaders had to maintain economic development in order to sustain and widen their political support base which is to be studied here.

While describing the political support base of Sri K.H. Patil the following question will be discussed: How do the leaders engage constantly in economic development in order to sustain and widen their political support base? The responses by the respondents were collected through the open-ended questionnaire and then analyzed. Hence in this study an attempt is made to analyze the linkage between the economic development and the development of political leadership.

The study discovered that second line leaders were very loyal to Sri K.H. Patil because he was their benefactor in the political and co-operative fields. They explained the importance of the developmental programmes of Sri K.H. Patil to the mass. So in the entire field of economic development, the importance of economic institutions was enormous and so also the role of leadership. In the Hulkoti region, Sri K.H. Patil fulfilled this need for leadership. Under the direction of Sri K.H. Patil, the second line leaders got ability to grasp village problems, and
efficiency to mobilize popular opinion to make a concerted effort to solve them. Although, he belonged to Reddy community, which is very small in number, Sri K.H. Patil was respected by all sections of the people of Gadag taluka. He was essentially a political leader but to the people of the locality he was a friend, philosopher and guide. There was no institution with which he was not connected nor was there a service centre which he did not establish in the Hulkoti region. At the time of elections to the co-operative institutions and other local self governing institutions, Sri K.H. Patil, in fact, determined and distributed the posts in consultation with local influential persons. As everything was pre-arranged there were no contests in the elections and everything was decided unanimously. As a result, the political horizon was widened. In the Hulkoti region, the economic institutions, shareholders and their families and relatives, employees of various economic co-operative institutions and their families and relatives, admirers and their families and relatives played a very significant role in widening and sustaining the political support base of Sri K.H. Patil.

Majority of the voters of Gadag constituency of legislative assembly have been covered by the co-operative organizations, directly or indirectly. In 1992 there were 3000 shareholders and 5000 employees of Sri K.H. Patil’s co-operative institutions in
the Hulkoti region. Among them the majority of the voters were the share holders and their family members and relatives, the employees and their family members and their relatives, the admirers and their family members and relatives. They all extended their support to Sri K.H. Patil in the election of various co-operative institutions/self-governing institutions/legislative assembly. Hence Sri K.H. Patil and his nephew Sri D. R. Patil were successfully elected to the legislative assembly and other institutions. The supporters of Sri K.H. Patil were elected with majority to the various co-operative institutions and other self-governing institutions in the Hulkoti region in particular and Gadag taluka in general. Even after the death of Sri K.H. Patil, in 1992 they have continued to support his son, Sri H.K. Patil, and his nephew Sri D.R. Patil.
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