

CHAPTER – 3

3.1 RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

The present to study seeks to answer the following research questions:

- (a) What has been the nature of regionalism in the post-independent India?
- (b) What are the general and specific problems in situating the phenomenon of regionalism in the proper perspective in Indian Polity?
- (c) To what extent, economic factors were responsible for generating regional demands?
- (d) What are the implications of regionalism in the contemporary Indian Politics?
- (e) What is the nature of the state – responses towards regionalism or regional demands in India?
- (f) What is the root causes of the GNLf movement?
- (g) What are the socio-political implications of the movement in the State of West Bengal and also in the Indian context?
- (h) What is the base of Subhash Ghising's leadership?
- (i) What are the problems and prospects of the movement?
- (j) What are the sentiments of the people regarding the movement?
- (k) What is the prospect of the movement?

3.2 METHODOLOGY

The methodology applied for this study is primarily historical – analytical. For the purpose of understanding the problem and to situate it in the proper perspective a brief historical overview is necessary. It should be mentioned that no such phenomenon in the life of a nation appears on all a sudden. Its manifestation may be observed at a Particular Point of time but its roots can be found in the long historical process. In fact, in such a study, much depends on the actual understanding of the historical – contextual setting in which the issue is to be analysed. Besides this, the problem has been analysed in the general backdrop of the dynamics of the Political Process. In an ever changing Political Scenario, issues of this nature are bound to take new shapes, forms, meaning and even direction. This has happened in case of India. For the proper understanding of the problem, attempts can be made at periodisation in Post-independent India. At the same time, it is stated that such periodisation is always tentative and cannot be taken as something of permanent nature. These are merely convenient tools for the purpose of such studies covering a very current theme with multi-faceted dimensions. The problem of regionalism has been analysed on the basis of available information and data gathered from different sources. Since this is a very modest attempt at comprehending the problem, the conditions and the suggestions that are made, are bound to be very limited in its scope. However, it is expected that further studies covering a broader canvas can be made with much more deep and penetrating insight.