

## **PREFACE**

India is a complex plural country consisting of a number of identities. One of the most important phenomena is the emergence of regional movements in India. The framework of the present study though dealing with the conceptual understanding of regionalism in India, it primarily does not aim at redefining regionalism in any form, where as it deals with the stated objective of attainment of a separate state in terms of the origin, development and outcome of such demands. The proposed study was initiated at the time, when the Centre was contemplating on the process of creating a separate state of Telengana to be carved out from the erstwhile state of Andhra Pradesh. The work has taken two such regional movements under study namely the Gorkhaland and the Telengana movement demanding separate statehood taking into account the relationship between different factors working within a political process. Telengana and Gorkhaland movement can have different prospects or outcome. Both operate within a historical context shaped by British colonial rule before independence and by the structure of parliamentary democracies after independence.

The demands for separate states have seen stimulating from across the country. These regions having different regional identity pedestal on region, language, culture, caste and class now pose a serious challenge to the Indian federalism. The demands of mini tribal states came up continuously which resulted in the formation of many small states and also in granting more autonomy to the areas with the establishment of many area development councils however this did not ease the situation. The constitutional method justifying the demand for a state of Gorkhaland is on the whole a different consideration in perception to the aspects of the Telangana demand. The perspective between the two are quite different and apart but at the end the justification is the same, both the people of these areas have a legal right to demand a state of their own as provided by law, the Constitution of India.