With the implementation of liberalisation and globalisation policies, the Indian capital market had experienced a paradigm shift in its overall practices and initiatives. These endeavours were aimed at bringing in new dimension in the performance of the equity market analogous to the global standard. There were significant reforms both in the primary and secondary market. Presently, as per the SEBI guideline a corporate entity wants to raise capital from the primary market must go either through initial public offering (IPO), follow-on-public offer (FPO), rights issue, private placement or through euro issue. During the last decade many companies have joined the IPO bandwagon. Numbers of corporate entities, both private and public, have already taken up the IPO route and many more are wishing to embrace the same to portray increased visibility and reputation of the company for better valuation. Despite the global financial crisis triggered by US sub-prime crisis and subsequent downward global spiral especially in European economies, the Indian capital market has emerged as one of the prominent demand driver for more participation of foreign institutional investors (FIIs) and domestic financial institutions (DFIs). The attractiveness of India is largely attributed to factors like high potential of the domestic market driven by an emerging middle class, cost competitiveness of corporate entities to stay ahead and an enormous poll of talent.

The present study is a humble attempt to review the performance of IPO companies in India during the post-reform era. In the process, it also examines the growth and development of equity market in general and IPO market in particular along with various other issues relating to conceptual, regulatory and international scenario of the IPO market.

Despite our best of endeavour many of the issues remain outside the ambit of this study paper, which needs further research in due course. Though utmost care has been taken to complete this paper, errors if any, are regretted.