6.1 Implications of the study
This research would make significant contribution towards effective management of fraud risk for any business. The indicators that have been brought forward by this research would show light to companies in fraud prevention as also fraud deterrence.

The present study would be beneficial to the following entities-

1) Management of companies and Auditors-
Fraud detection is consequential, however fraud prevention and early detection of fraud risk is preventive in nature. As such, prevention of frauds is extremely cost effective and forward looking. Identification of indicators showing the vulnerability of a company to fraud risk and highlighting the consequent need of forensic accounting would help companies in improving internal controls and in refurbishing the atmosphere of ethics and good governance. Robust internal controls is one of the strong pillars on which an effective management control system rests.

The study would help companies in identifying areas sensitive to fraud in their context. Going further, the help of forensic experts could be taken for only these identified areas, which need more attention and expert advice for fraud risk mitigation. These identified areas would act as first stage of prevention before any forensic help can be sought.

This in turn, will reduce the cost and time involved in fraud prevention on the part of companies. Help from forensic experts could be called in only for selective monitoring, reducing the cost of running a full-fledged forensic assignment.

b) Investors-
The present research was special in the sense that it has used data which publicly available and easily accessible. The fraud symptoms as churned out by this research are extremely useful for investors in order to identify the risks involved in their current or prospective investment, as the case may be.
c) **Regulatory authorities**

This research would also be valuable for regulatory authorities like Revenue department, SEBI etc. in knowing the extent to which a company is risky as far as fraud risk is concerned.

### 6.2 Scope for further research

1) Researcher took a broader view of the economy and as such used the financial information which was publicly available in order to dig out early indicators of fraud possibilities. However, a study covering the ‘qualitative indicators’ along with the quantitative indicators could be taken up in future for deeper and varied insights into this subject.

2) In depth and intricate analysis can be done if the fraud risk prediction is to be done about a particular company only. In that case, more information about the nature, size and age of the company can be obtained and results can be further improved.

3) The present study was directed towards finding the sector-specific indicators of fraud possibilities and as such, the focus was on ‘indicator ratios’. A further leap into this research can be taken up by picking lesser companies for study and by concentrating more on study of year-wise trends for every company and identifying indicators on that basis. This will gain more value and quality if coupled with physical checking of documents, staff interviews, identifying psychology of employees etc.

4) Research can be furthered in the area of financial institutions like mutual funds, banks etc. They would have different parameters for checking the possibilities of fraud than the ones considered in present research.

### 6.3 Epilogue

Complete abolition of frauds appears to be impossible as long as human element exists in organizations. However efforts of fraud risk mitigation would undoubtedly save the name, repute and money of an organization.

Fraud risk controls, both proactive and reactive, are a must for each organization for the benefit of the shareholders, regulatory authorities and external parties attached to the organizations.
Quantitative indicators showing the vulnerability of companies to fraud risk and thereby highlighting the need of forensic accounting would go a long way in controlling fraud risk as also in reducing the frequency and severity of fraud incidences. However, quantitative indicators of fraud possibilities alone would not be sufficient to control fraud risk in entirety.

A combination of proactive and reactive fraud control measures, effective corporate governance, robust internal controls, well-coordinated and timely investigations and corrective actions is the answer to fraud scenarios.

Frauds where the owner himself is the designer of a fraud are out of the purview of any such attempt to control and mitigate fraud risk. But the present study would surely be useful in all those cases where the frauds are undesirable to an organization and where prevention is valued.