The thesis deals with the relationship between stamp duty and economic growth of the Gujarat State. Gujarat is one of the more developed States of the Indian Union. Over the last two decades or so, Gujarat State has been able to increase its own tax revenue faster than the transfers by way of shared taxes and grant from the centre. Gujarat has become more self-reliant through its own efforts.

The research deals with the basic analysis of taxation with special reference to the Stamp Duty. It reviews the existing taxation structure in the State and gives suggestions for its rationalization and modification as well as giving new avenues for collecting Stamps Duty with a view to evolving a scientific and progressive system of Stamp Duty which would at the same time prove to be income elastic and fulfill the need for raising additional resources for the development of the State. It also suggests ways and means of improving Stamp Duty administration in the State, with a view to simplify the procedures under the Bombay Stamp Act, 1958 so as to ensure maximum satisfaction and least inconvenience to the person executing the documents.

The methodology adopted in this research is analytical and critical. It is based on the study of various legislations relating to immovable properties and economic transactions. The study basically revolves around the improvement in Bombay Stamp Act, 1958 by which the State revenue can be increased, cost of collection can be reduced and overall target of simplification of the Act can be made.

Date: 10/9/2014

(Maruti Kotwal)