The present age is the age of technology and the process of information communication is influenced by this technological gimmick. With the advent of the Web, various information resources have launched themselves on the online. Today any information resource without a Web version is considered at the verge of extinction. The revolution created by Web has led in the development of new concepts like online journals, online books, Electronic Theses and Dissertations, Wikis, etc that are the representatives of the Web resources. The growth of these Web resources is an explosive one as everyone is aware about their benefits. It is in this context, that the present study assesses the Web resources in terms of their growth and development from different perspectives.

For giving the study a systematic and articulate look, it is divided in to seven chapters, Bibliography and two appendices (I and II). The study is a collection of first two introductory chapters. The First Chapter deals with the introduction about the research problem undertaken. It includes objectives, scope and the terms used in the research topic. Furthermore, it also portrays the methodology used for the completion of the research.

The Second Chapter summarizes the history and development of Social Sciences. The chapter also lays emphasis on the World Wide Web and its related technologies. The historical development and features of World Wide Web are systematically endowed with. Various search tools and techniques related to Web are lucidly elucidated. Further, detailed information about search engines, meta-search engines, directories and subject gateways being the providers of various Web resources also form a part of the chapter. It also highlights the various types of Web resources, their
utility and features. Their historical development is also an important segment of this chapter laying more emphasis on online books and online journals. Growth of other resources like Electronic Theses and Dissertations, newsletters, newspapers, scholarly papers; etc are also included in this portion of the study. This first part of the study communally establishes an intellectual and theoretical context for the rest of the study.

Chapter Third lists the review of the related literature. This chapter helps in deducing the hypotheses as the literature pertaining to the study helps in tracing the latest trends in the Web resources. It is one of the chapters in the theses that deal with the process of deducing, rather than focusing on one particular concept, model, theory or methodology. The articles reviewed have been arranged chronologically in order to trace the growth and development of Web resources meticulously. These are arranged in the said order so that the landmarks can be perceived.

Chapter Four highlights the various sources selected for the completion of the study. Their important features and historical development are also identified.

Chapter Five, the important chapter of the study is the pedestal stone for the whole study. It is from this chapter that arranged information in the form of tables, graphs and textual analysis germinates. It is the spring from which the analysis and interpretation giggles out. The data after a careful and repeated observation is presented in the form of tables. To support the tables, diagrammatic representations and conclusions give this chapter a catchier look.

Chapter Six provides results of the analysed data of chapter five, in a textual format. It discusses the generated results more extensively.
Chapter Seven includes the views on designing a *Model Subject Gateway*. It highlights the various features which can be incorporated in developing a Subject Gateway which can prove more beneficial to the users who access the Web resources. Further, it also highlights the limitations of existing subject gateways with a view of developing a user friendly *Model Subject Gateway*.

The thesis also contains bibliography and two appendices. (I and II) The appendices give details about the resources studied. Appendix I encompasses the details about the online journals while as Appendix II covers the details about the online books.