PREFACE

The important service sector of India are, electricity, banking telecommunication, railway and other transport and insurance. Insurance industry plays a dynamic role in providing one of the most vital services needed for the rapid growth of the nation. In India, the insurance sector was nationalized with an objective to reach the every corners of this country with insurance network, mobilize huge resources and lend peoples shoulders in the nation building. Insurance sector is considered one of the core service sectors of Indian economy. In developing country like India the need for well-established insurance industry is of paramount importance.

Human life is a full of risk. The effective solution of reducing the burden of these risks/losses is insurance. Insurance occupies an important position in the financial sector of an economy. In a period of less than half a century the insurance sector in a country has come in a full circle from being an open competitive market to compete nationalization and then back to a liberalized market. The entry of private player’s in the Indian insurance market has change the nature of competition. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has been established to protect the interests of holders of insurance policy and to regulate, promote and insure growth of the insurance industry. The present research work is an attempt to study the financial performance appraisal of selected private life insurance companies of India.

At present there are twenty two private sector life insurance companies and one public sector insurance company in India. Private life insurance sector has been entered after formation of IRDA.

The data for the study has been collected from the published annual reports and accounts of the selected companies for the years from 2003-04 to 2012-
13. To supplement the data various publication regarding insurance industry published by India Insurance Institution, insurance times, insurance world and individual companies web sites have been referred.

The present research study has been divided into nine chapters namely-

A bibliography has been provided for those who would like to undertake a more detailed study of the subject.

The research work will be useful to take policy decisions, to formulate appropriate financial strategies and to obtain a true insight into the financial performance. At the same time, it would also be useful to the researchers, academicians and students of this area.