Preface

India’s infrastructure is in short supply and a major constraint on future growth with high rates of economic growth and low public sector investment. The government is turning increasingly to the private sector to finance and run infrastructure projects in order to alleviate fiscal constraints and improve infrastructure productivity. In some infrastructure sectors, performance has improved significantly as the regulatory environment is advantageous to private sector involvement. However, although infrastructure policy is moving in the right direction in some sectors, there are still a number of ways in which the regulatory environment could be improved further. The present work outlines a range of policy initiatives that would increase private sector participation and improve infrastructure service delivery to international standards. It begins by discussing the trends of financing and development of three main components of infrastructure sector, viz., Power Sector, Transport Sector and Communication Sector. It is followed by the discussion of the role of private-public partnerships in the provision of infrastructure services before moving on to review the regulatory environment in a number of infrastructure sectors.

The thesis has been divided into six chapters:

Chapter 1 describes about the importance of financing in infrastructure sector of the country. Moreover, the chapter also outlines the objective, hypothesis, scope, methodology, and limitations of the study.
Chapter 2 of the thesis relates to the brief review of literature on Infrastructure and its relation with the economic development of the country. The chapter also discusses financing structure of infrastructure projects and different sources of infrastructure finance with some reforms lately introduced in the sector.

Chapter 3 entitled “Financing of Energy Sector” presents a brief view of the financing trends in energy sector, the major financing issues that the sector is currently facing with suggested remedies.

Chapter 4 entitled “Financing of Transport Sector” outlines the introduction, development of the sector since 1991, trends of financing of transport sector including all modes of viz., rail, road, air and water transport.

Chapter 5 starts with the brief introduction of the communication sector including post and telecommunication and moves forward outlining the development of the sector, financing trends of the sector and problems and prospects related to the financing of the sector.

Chapter 6 pertains to the conclusive part of the thesis.