Preface

With the establishment of WTO at the global echelon of trade and investment, the hitherto sketchy patterns of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization (LPG) have been escorted to concrete pathway. The WTO prides itself in being a democratic institution fostering one member - one vote and assists the opening of developing economies as per their development level. The emergence of the WTO as a well globally acknowledged god-sent institution is earmarked to act as mentor for trading mechanism in the developing economies.

Among the entire business forte that can sanguinely help India to become global leader in trade and investment. The potential of services sector to substantiate India's effort on global economic landscape is second to none. Numbers of International studies have corroborated the potential of Indian service sector in terms of rising revenues, escalation in exports and huge employment generations. Thus, access to a growing external market for services and partial liberalization of domestic economy has significantly enhanced the role of Indian service sector. The World Bank study (2004) also attests that liberalized service sectors, such as, Information Technology and Telecommunication service have attracted significant FDI, fostered growth and brought more employment opportunities.

India’s signing of General Agreement on Trade in service (GATS) under WTO ambit has enhanced the internationalization
of Indian service. Taking into account a span of a decade (1990's), the World Bank Study (2004) reveals that India's services exports grew at a Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 17.3 per cent with rank one. The GATS agreement guarantees against discrimination and addresses regulatory barriers in foreign markets. India gets opportunity to grab these facilities. The signing of GATS agreement by India is instrumental in making India achieve the target of 1 per cent share in global trade by 2007. With attributes like Disputes Settlement Body (DSB) and Facilitating Training Course (FTC), the WTO holds opportunities for India to carve its niche in service sector by leveraging its potential under WTO umbrella in the ongoing decade of the 21st century.

Keeping this into perspective, the purported study occupies paramount significance. The utility of this study gets ever significant as it sifts through fleshing out those services and related modes that promise to leverage Indian economy, provided that GATS commitment is made. The findings and the conclusions of the study shall be food for thought for the Indian planners, researchers and the Government alike.

**Preview of Chapters**

The present thesis work is branched into nine chapters along with Annexures and Bibliography. The first chapter is an approach to study with comprehensive review of literatures and design of research methodology. The chapter has enclosed statement of problems, research gap, scope and objectives of the study. The chapter also presents the hypotheses and significance
of the study. The second chapter contains a detailed discussion as regards formation and functions of GATT and WTO. This chapter also elucidates the emerging issues between the developed and the developing countries with special reference to India. Chapter third is designed to critically examine the concepts and framework of trade in services. The chapter four brings out the patterns and trends in services at global perspectives. This chapter covers the trends of exports; FDI and cross border Ms & As in services. Chapter fifth is an evaluation of GATS commitments and negotiations beyond the Uruguay Round. Chapter sixth is divided into two sections, i.e., Section A and Section B. Section A is a performance appraisal of India’s exports services. Section B is measure of performance of India’s domestic services. Chapter seventh is also alienated into two parts- Part A and Part B. Part A examines the performance of services in which, India is a signatory under WTO commitments. Statistical description of India’s services sectors and analysis and interpretation of hypotheses have been presented in Part B of this chapter. Chapter eight pertains to issues, problems and prospects of India’s service sector under the WTO regime. Chapter nine is devoted to the findings and on negotiating strategy of the study along with the direction for future researches.