The present thesis entitled "PRODUCTIVITY TRENDS IN THE INDIAN PUBLIC SECTOR WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY", is of topical interest. Modest endeavour had been made to critically appraise the Public Sector's overall performance. Enormity of the work can be gauged from the heterogeneous nature and size of Public Enterprises. Growing productivity is the result of interaction between a large number of technological, economic and political phenomenon. The augmenting productivity is rightly equated with economic progress compatible with social justice.

NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE ENQUIRY:

The Indian Public Sector Enterprises is confronted with host of contradictions. The massive thrust in plan outlays helped Public Sector reach the commending height of the economy. Its growth is accelerated. It is also diversified. But its performance belied the cherished expectations. The faith in Public Sector is now shackled. The present study gives vent to a basis analysis of productivity changes in significant factor inputs of Public Enterprises. A case study of Iron & Steel Industry
has also been analytically presented. It covers a long span of 26 years (i.e. 1960-61 to 1985-86) approximately. Modest attempt has been made to pin point the areas where numerous pitfalls lie, followed by suggestions most suited to our public enterprises under existing Socio-economic condition.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The Research Methodology is based on the principles of scientific procedure of thesis-writing to present the problems in its true perspective. The facts illustrated in the thesis are based on objective data and verifiable evidence amply supported with theoretical justification and practical applicability. Analysis of Statistical evaluation has made the Research Scholar reach certain conclusions and recommend the suggestions based thereon.

The statistical analysis is based on secondary data collected from different sources. The Bureau of Public Enterprise's reports and public documents, R.B.I's Annual Reports and Annual Survey's of Individual Industries for various years, have been of great assistance in the course of study. Besides, Journals, Periodicals and Dailies for different years, have also been thoroughly consulted and made good use of.
LAY-OUT OF THE WORK:

The entire study has been divided into seven chapters: the first chapter "Growth of Public Sector Enterprises in India with Special Reference to Iron & Steel Industry" examines and analysis the development of Public Enterprises in India to highlight their role in the development of socialistic society and provide infrastructure for further industrial growth of the economy. To attain this objective, huge investments have been made in the Public Sector. Though, resources have been mobilised in different forms to finance the Public Sector projects, the future development of Public Sector Enterprises is subject to the surpluses to be generated by them from efficient operation.

The Chapter-II is devoted to prepare a framework for the study of productivity in Public Sector Enterprises with a view to examine the extent to which the factor inputs have been deployed efficiently in Public Enterprises. An appropriate methodology has been evolved for the measurement of productivity in Public Enterprises. The total factor productivity approach has been found suitable by the Research Scholar for empirical investigation. The total factor productivity includes capital input, labour input and overall efficiency of the factor inputs respectively over a given period of time.
The Chapter-III "Efficiency Profile of Public Enterprises", deals with the appraisal of operational efficiency of Public Sector Enterprises in conventional terms. The study would be useful to identify factors at work against attainment of higher productivity. A multipronged approach has to be adopted to deal with the malaise of poor and gloomy financial and physical performance.

Chapter-IV is concerned with the performance appraisal of Steel Industry in India. The analysis of the performance of Iron and Steel Industry brings forth the factors responsible for its failure to attain the optimum level of output. The main factors underlying the retarded production consist in idle capacity and low productivity.

Chapter-V is devoted to in-depth analysis of the problem of productivity in Public Sector Enterprises. The analysis shows that the productivity trend in Public Enterprises has been unsteady during the period under review. In other words, physical resources have not been used effectively by them.

Chapter-VI is concerned with the analysis of productivity trend in Iron and Steel Industry during the period under review (i.e. 1960-61 to 1985-86). Final Chapter-VII "Conclusions and Suggestions", I have suggested measures
to improve productivity of Public Sector Enterprises. Amelioration in productivity is Sine-quo-non for the fulfilment of social responsibilities of the Public Sector Enterprises.