I. Introduction

DURING THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE period, the state activities towards public sector industries were limited to the railways, port trust, the post and telegraphs departments, the ordinance and aircraft factories and a few state managed undertakings like salt factories etc. In view of this, the Government of India announced its first Industrial Policy Revolution on 6th April, 1948 and it was followed by subsequent industrial policies from time to time to incorporate important changes and development that took place in the economy.

The growth of public enterprises in India has been very significant, these enterprises have considerably changed the industrial structure of the country. The public enterprises have come out as an important level of economic growth of the country and put the country into fighting position with the global economic changes. The growth of public enterprises can be judged in terms of the number of enterprises, volume of investment, employment, value of production/services, turnover and profitability. The public enterprises whether setup by the central government or by the state government are playing equally important role in promoting the rapid economic development by filling gaps in the industrial sector. After independence the public sector played the vital role in the economic development by providing industrial base for the country.

Public sector undertakings have continued to be an important part of industrial development of the country. The public sector undertaking was assigned a very important role in the process of industrialization of the

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