4. Scope and Objectives of The Present Study:

Present study has been carried out using the technique of case by case analysis and then generalizing the results.

Initially the selected cases of M&A deals in Indian petroleum industry have been analyzed and evaluated against certain set parameters of operational and financial performance. Based on the results of the analysis of the individual cases certain key findings and observations are made. At last, an attempt has been made to generalize these findings across all the selected cases and some conclusions are drawn.

4.1. Scope of the Study:

Scope of the present study has been limited to the analysis of the performance of the selected Indian Petroleum companies immediately before and after the concerned M&A deals. The analysis has been carried out from the operational performance and the financial performance view point only and will be based on the published accounts of the companies which are in the public domain. No attempt has been made to look into issues like employee rationalization, business culture integration after M&A deals etc.

4.2. Coverage:

The M&A deals executed in Indian petroleum industry during last few years have been considered for the purpose of this study. Care has been taken to include both upstream and downstream segments of the industry. Further cases of M&A deals have been chosen in such a way that they represent all types of ownership and management control patterns such as public sector units, private sector companies, joint ventures etc. The cases have been selected taking into consideration the importance of the companies involved in the deal, their size and scale of operations, financial size and value of the deal, issues of management control after the deal etc.

4.3. Sample Size:

The basket of cases of M&A deals for analysis has been arrived at after careful consideration of all the factors mentioned above. The sample size consists of 4 cases of M&A deals executed in Indian petroleum industry in the last few years as listed below:

(i) Acquisition of Indo Burma Petroleum Ltd. (IBP) by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) through competitive bidding process (Acquisition of one PSU by another PSU)

(ii) Acquisition of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals (MRPL) by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in by a negotiated deal. (Acquisition of a sick joint venture company by a PSU)

(iii) Acquisition of Indian Petro Chemicals Ltd. (IPCL) by RIL through competitive bidding process (Acquisition of a PSU by a private sector company)

(iv) Acquisition of Kochi Refineries Ltd. (KRL) by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) on a nomination basis by Govt. of India (Acquisition of a PSU by another PSU)

4.4 Objectives of the study:

1. The main objective of the present study is to assess the basis and motives behind the selected M&A deals in the Indian petroleum industry.
2. This study further aims to examine whether there is any significant change of synergies in operational and financial management can be achieved.
3. This study also tries to examine whether there is any significant change in the share-holders return & wealth after the deal and the degree to which the change if any is attributable to the concerned M&A deal.
4. At last an attempt has been made to generalize these findings across all the selected cases and some conclusions are drawn. The paired t-test is also applied to test the significance of the formulated statistical hypotheses to offer findings and implications of this research study.