

Industrial Policy, 2010

Government of Nepal

Ministry of Industry

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1. Background

The Industrial Policy, 1992 was framed with the objective of accelerating industrial sector. However, there has been no significant progress in our state of industrial development even after the passage of a long time of framing of the policy. Industrial development is rapidly going on all over the world including neighboring countries one after another, however, this sector could not have progressed in its expected pace in Nepal. It is in this backdrop that the new Industrial Policy, 2010 has been formulated with the objective of bringing positive changes in overall economic and social sectors of the country by means of rapid industrial development doing away with the weaknesses of the past. It is expected that through this Policy, activities of industrial development will be increased; employment opportunities will be massively created and the level of income of people will be increased so that contribution of industrial sector in economy of the country will be at the forefront.

2. Efforts in the past

In order to achieve the objectives set by the Industrial Policy, 1992, it was first of all necessary to transform the economy, which was substantially relied on agriculture, to industrial economy; therefore, efforts were made to concentrate governmental activities concerning industrial development towards that direction. The Industrial Enterprises Act, 1992 enacted as directed by the

Industrial Policy, 1992, has created legal basis for development of industries by making available additional facilities and concessions such as income tax, sales tax and excise to the prescribed industries of various classes and located in various regions having them classified and prioritized with a view to move forward industrial development with high priority. However, because of various reasons, the facilities and concessions provided by the Industrial Enterprises Act, 1992 could not be continued and those facilities and concessions were gradually minimized and repealed with the first amendment to that Act, the Income Tax Act, 2002 and the Fiscal Acts enacted year by year. Despite of these facts, the efforts to make the industries competitive by making available to them other institutional and basic infrastructure services were continued. Accordingly, the National Productivity Council was formed as an institutional arrangement and the concept of Special Economic Zone was put forward towards infrastructure development.

In this connection, the then provision of compulsory licensing for establishment and operation of industries was repealed and it was provided that no license or permission would be required to establish industries other than the prescribed industries (industries that cause adverse impact on environment and public health or those related to producing arms and ammunition). It was expected that these measures would create conducive and competitive atmosphere for establishment and operation of industries, and industrial productivity and employment opportunities would be enhanced. In order to make more contribution in industrial

development, various efforts were made such as capacity development of labourers, enhancing managerial skills, encouraging the use of new technology, increasing sectoral investment, making provisions for restoration of sick industries, imparting trainings for entrepreneurship promotion and making necessary institutional arrangement for providing services and facilities from one window without hassles.

3. Present status

Despite of various efforts made in the past for industrial development, the stark reality before us is that there has been no industrialization in the expected pace in the country. The contribution of industry sector in the gross domestic product could not reach even ten percent, which is a challenge before us. Economy of the country even today is excessively dependent upon traditional agricultural system and remittance. Though there is high potentiality of development of industries, the available resources, means and potentialities could not have been exploited due to lack of appropriate management capacity. This has resulted in non-use of available resources and raw materials and the country has been facing various problems such as extreme unemployment and semi-unemployment due to which, the workforce available in the country is compelled to resort to foreign employment at minimal wages.

In the meantime, Nepal has become a member of the World Trade Organization and its connectivity with world market has expanded. Because of rapid industrialization and competition going on in neighboring countries, Nepali industries have to enhance productivity and demonstrate professional acumen taking into consideration the global competitiveness. Similarly, Nepali industries have to ensure quality of products, transparency in commercial transaction, regular studies of market trends and have to make extra efforts for capturing markets. Since there is no environment for protection of industries from governmental level, Nepali industries have to be promoted by way of activities for industrial promotion such as trainings, exchange of information, creating investment friendly atmosphere and industrial fairs. It is expected that from implementation of this new Policy, which has been prepared with timely review of the existing Policy, large-scale industries will be established in the country and thereby, employment will be increased and with development of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, self-employment will be promoted, Nepali labour and skills will be utilized and pace of industrialization will be accelerated in the country.

4. Main problems and challenges

The main problems of industrial development in Nepal are political instability, industrial insecurity, unfavorable labour relation, minimal availability of energy, weak industrial infrastructures, lack

of competent human resources, lack of capacity to adopt new technology, low productivity, lack of diversification of exportable items and weak supply management and so on. Similarly, lack of the mentality and atmosphere to adopt industrial enterprises as a means of livelihood is one of the major problems of our industrial development. Our common national challenges are making investment within the country, optimum utilization of capital and intellectual property in the production-oriented areas and creating employment opportunities in the country and creating a reliable industrial atmosphere. As a result, Nepali labour force is attracted to foreign markets; there is increasing lack of competent human resources from management level to laborers in Nepal and the available important resources are remained unused. Therefore, the main challenge in the industry sector in Nepal is to create such an atmosphere in which investment can be made with certainty in industry sector.

In addition to the above, the challenges such as geographical location of the country, structure of the topography, worldwide rapidly increasing competitive atmosphere, economic liberalization, impact of globalization, increasing and changing use of information technology, environmental challenges have to be taken into account and industrial and commercial processes have to be made simple, easy, transparent and scientific and there is a need of the day to enhance the role of industries in overall development of the country. Moreover, diversification of competitive capacity of

exportable items and productivity increment are also the challenges of the industry sector.

5. Need for new policy

It is highly necessary to create reliable industry-friendly atmosphere along with realistic and practical working policies and programs having conducted intensive studies and researches on the significant factors that obstruct the pace of industrial development in the country are law and order situation, Government policies, laws and procedures, working process and style, availability of market, feature of competitiveness, financial arrangement, labour-management relation and condition of labor productivity, condition of industrial infrastructure development, availability of required professional skills and competent labour force, use of latest technology, honor to and protection of innovative research and invention, availability and storage of required raw materials and ancillary-raw materials, identification of areas of comparative advantage, and compliance of the suitable industrial and trade policies, and studies on the impact likely to be caused by the trade policies of foreign countries.

With the political changes occurred in the country and taking into account of the challenges and opportunities posed by economic liberalization and globalization, the Industrial Policy and Foreign Investment and One Window policy were framed in the year 1992. Though the Industrial Policy, 1992 encouraged to develop bases for promoting growth of industrial products and services, no expected

success could be achieved from this policy in respect to employment generation, production, export promotion and investment.

In order to utilize the opportunities arising out from changes occurring in economic sector, revolution in information technology sector and Nepal's accession to multilateral, regional and bilateral treaty organizations; and to redefine the increasing roles of service industries in the economy of the country, it is necessary to formulate a new liberal and comprehensive Industrial Policy including the subjects that could not have been included in the policy reform efforts in the past. In order to enhance the competitive capacity having regard to the facilities and concessions being provided for promotion of industries in the neighboring countries bordering Nepal, accelerating industrial growth as industrialization is one of the major catalysts of economic development of a country, and to involve even private sector in building physical infrastructures and human resources, a new industrial policy is required with a new vision, strategies, aims and objectives and implementation capacity.

This policy has been formulated in order to accelerate the pace of industrialization in response to the diversity in the service industry and opportunities arising out of them. In this policy, special provisions have been made for promotion of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries. Similarly, special policy provisions have been made for woman entrepreneurs. Moreover, it is

necessary to make provisions for supremacy of industrial policy for promotion of industrial promotion and development and to ensure that no other legal and policy provisions will be made nor unnecessary intervention will be brought curtailing the facilities provided by this policy.

6. Vision

To make remarkable contribution in national economy through sustainable and broad-based industrial development in an effective, coordinated and collaborative partnership of public, private and cooperative sectors thereby to support poverty alleviation.

7. Main objectives of the Policy

- 7.1. To increase export of industrial products along with growth in national income and employment through enhancement of quality and competitive industrial products and productivity;
- 7.2. To increase contribution of industrial sector in the balanced national and regional development by mobilizing local resources, raw materials, skills and means;
- 7.3. To establish industrial entrepreneurship as a sustainable and reliable sector by utilizing latest technology and environment friendly production process;
- 7.4. To create strong basis of investment having developed productive human resources and managerial capacity required for industrial development thereby establish Nepal as an

attractive place for investment in the South Asian region and in the world as well by;

7.5. To protect industrial intellectual property rights.

8. Policies

Policy concerning objective 7.1 (to increase export of industrial products along with growth in national income and employment through enhancement of quality and competitive industrial products and productivity)

- 8.1. Assistance shall be provided to increase export of industrial products thereby contributing in foreign currency earning and balance of payment;
- 8.2. Priority shall be accorded to develop or acquire new technology at national and industrial unit levels in order to enhance competitive capacity, quality and productivity of industrial products and services;
- 8.3. The *no pay for no work* principle shall be followed as provided by the labour law with the objective of creating cordial relationship between employers and employees and to create additional employment opportunities and certainty by making the labour policy flexible with a view to enhance productivity having accepted the strengthened industrial relationship as a strong basis of industrial development.

- 8.4. Additional facilities and concession shall be made available as incentives to export-oriented industries, industries established in Special Economic Zone, prioritized industries and industries established in least developed, undeveloped and under developed regions.
- 8.5. Encouragement shall be given to engage in research and development in the areas of industrial information and communication, appropriate technology and bio-technology which have been emerging as new potential areas in the world.

Policy concerning Objective 7.2 (7.2 To increase contribution of industrial sector in the balanced regional development by mobilizing local resources, raw materials, skills and means)

- 8.6. Special emphasis shall be given to promote the industries that use local resources, raw materials, skills, labour and technology.
- 8.7. The industrial base shall be made strong and sustainable having identified and utilized the areas of competitive benefits and comparative advantage.
- 8.8. For the protection of national industries, provision of encouragement shall be made for purchase by governmental and Government-owned agencies of the industrial products that involve at least 30 percent value addition in Nepal.

Policy concerning Objective 7.3 (7.3 to establish industrial entrepreneurship as a sustainable and reliable sector by utilizing latest technology and environment friendly production process)

8.9. Technical and financial assistance shall be made available to the industries that use environment-friendly and energy saving technology on their own costs;

8.10. Special measures shall be taken to promote green industries and to make the established industries pollution free and zero to carbon emissions.

Policy concerning Objective 7.4 (7.4 To create strong basis of investment having developed productive human resources and managerial capacity required for industrial development thereby establish Nepal as an attractive place for investment in the South Asian region and in the world as well by)

8.11. In order to attract creative youth talents in industrial enterprises to create opportunities of self-employment, capacity enhancement activities for development of industrial skills and entrepreneurship and sound industrial management shall be launched as a campaign.

8.12. System of avoidance of inconsistency with industrial development shall be followed while making and reforming macro economic policies, revenue policy, local tax and other sectoral policies and while affording protection, facilities and

concession to industries, consistency shall be maintained with multilateral and regional agreements.

- 8.13. Industrial security force shall be formed and made effective for strengthening industrial security.
- 8.14. The non-resident Nepali people shall be encouraged to invest in Nepal for protection, diversification and promotion of foreign investment and economic diplomacy units at Nepalese Embassies and missions located in the countries making more foreign direct investment shall be strengthened for promotion of industrial investment.
- 8.15. The Investment Promotion Fund; Technology Development Fund; Micro Cottage and Small Industries Development Fund and Sick Industries Revival Fund shall be established and operated in collaboration with private and cooperative sectors and Industrial Investment Protection Fund shall be established and operated for compensation of non-business and non-commercial risks.
- 8.16. Institutional arrangement of institutions like Investment Board; One Stop Service Centre; Industrial Promotion Board; Industrial estate Management Authority; Industrial Human Resources Development Institution and Nepal Business Forum shall be made for making available protection, facilities and concession to industries.
- 8.17.** Activities such as contract manufacturing, outsourcing, contracting out, franchising, ancillary and buy back shall be

promoted so that they assist in increasing forward and backward linkages in production process.

Policy concerning Objective 7.5 (7.5 to protect industrial intellectual property rights.)

8.18. Effective body shall be established for protection of industrial intellectual property rights.

8.19. Entrepreneurs shall be given special encouragement to use intellectual property.

9. Special policy provisions relating to micro enterprises, cottage and small industries

9.1. Institutional structure and infrastructures shall be created along with making necessary legal provisions that support to promote, develop and expand micro enterprises, cottage and small industries.

9.2. Services of the existing Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small Industries Development Fund shall be expanded and made effective for enhancing the competitive capacity of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries and for their market access and expansion.

9.3. District entrepreneurship development plan shall be prepared in coordination with District Development Committee/ Municipality/Village Development Committee on the basis of

natural resources, human resources and opportunities of investment and shall be implemented in phase wise manner in collaboration with such bodies.

- 9.4. While establishing and promoting micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, special priority shall be accorded to the targeted groups as prescribed by Government of Nepal and appropriate enterprises shall be selected based on potentiality of resources and means and demand of market through motivation and entrepreneurship development training and capacity to operate such entrepreneurship shall be developed.
- 9.5. Industrial clusters shall be developed having established community or cooperative micro enterprises, cottage and small industries village in order to make available Business Development Services to the production-oriented industries in rural areas.
- 9.6. Most potential resources and means at local level shall be identified according to the concept of one village one product and Product Development Center shall be established to promote production of industrial goods based on it and industrial promotion shall be accorded priority through establishment of the product specific industrial clusters.
- 9.7. Provision of making available grant shall be made to the local bodies taking initiative to develop industrial infrastructures for micro enterprises, cottage and small industries village based on the proportion of expenses they have made for it.

- 9.8. Identity of the products of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be maintained through the use of collective mark and assistance shall be given for their promotion.
- 9.9. Integrated and competent institutional arrangement shall be made for protection of intellectual property in micro enterprises, cottage and small industries and its appropriate protection and use shall be encouraged.
- 9.10. **Special provisions shall be made for production and market promotion of the products of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries. ?**

10. Strategies

Strategy concerning objective 7.1 (to increase export of industrial products along with growth in national income and employment through enhancement of quality and competitive industrial products and productivity)

- 10.1. Competitive capacity of industry sector shall be enhanced by utilization of managerial capacity, creativity and promotion of knowledge and skills and adoption of appropriate technology.
- 10.2. Well-facilitated Special Economic Zones shall be established for encouragement of establishing export-oriented industries based on public-private partnership.

- 10.3. Institutional expansion and strengthening of Department of Standards and Metrology shall be made and the Nepal sign of standard shall be standardized in consistency with international standard and industries shall be encouraged to use such a sign.
- 10.4. The labour law shall be made flexible in an objective manner with a view to enhance productivity capacity of labourers and to increase additional employment.
- 10.5. Protection shall be afforded to industries through the anti-dumping duty and countervailing duty within the bounded rate.
- 10.6. Industries shall be developed taking into account of the reform in the massively expanding market and trade balance between the neighboring India and China. Initiatives for entering into agreements or to modifying the existing agreements, if any, shall be taken for entry into these markets.
- 10.7. The provisions of multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements shall be effectively implemented in consistency with the condition, context and needs of the country.
- 10.8. Forward and backward linkages among industries in the country shall be promoted and provision of entitling to facilities based on the value addition within the country for sustainable industrial development shall be made.

10.9. The Government-owned industries shall be commercially operated.

Strategy concerning Objective 7.2 (7.2 to increase contribution of industrial sector in the balanced regional development by mobilizing local resources, raw materials, skills and means)

10.10. Additional facilities and concession shall be made available to the industries to be established in geographically remote areas and areas having less than the prescribed level of income, industries to be established in Special Economic Zone, export-promoting industries and the industries directly employing the prescribed or more number of employees.

10.11. The industrial profile of each district shall be prepared and private sector shall be encouraged to establish industrial village as per the concept of **one village one product** based on the availability of local raw materials and traditional skills.

10.12. Programs to assist in technology, market, skills and research shall be made available to the industries based on agriculture, non-timber forest products, animal husbandry, dairy industries, bird farming and industries based on fruits and herbs.

- 10.13. A special package of facilities shall be introduced for industrial development in the Karnali corridor.
- 10.14. Land use plan for industrial purpose shall be formulated in coordination with local bodies. Based on such plan, Industrial estate, industrial corridor, industrial cluster and industrial village shall be developed. A certain area of buffer zone shall be maintained between Industrial estate and human settlements and a policy of developing well-managed human settlement shall be followed.
- 10.15. Raw material-based industries shall be developed in the country having coordinated agro-industries and export.
- 10.16.** Special plan of action shall be introduced to operate herbs and fruits processing industries through cooperatives in various parts, especially in remote and mountainous areas of the country.

Strategy concerning Objective 7.3 (7.3 to establish industrial entrepreneurship as a sustainable and reliable sector by utilizing latest technology and environment friendly production process)

- 10.17. Provisions of concessions and facilities shall be made to assist in industrial research and development, environment protection, and the use of clean production technology and process.

Strategy concerning Objective 7.4 (7.4 to create strong basis of investment having developed productive human resources and managerial capacity required for industrial development thereby establish Nepal as an attractive place for investment in the South Asian region and in the world as well by)

- 10.18. High-level special mechanism shall be developed for regeneration and restructuring of sick industries.
- 10.19.** Provision of mobilizing the capital in the private and cooperative sector shall be made as the main foundation of industry.
- 10.20. **One stop service center** shall be established and made effective for permission for establishment, registration, expansion and exit of an industry and to ensure the availability of services in simple and transparent manner within the specified period.
- 10.21. Effective coordination shall be maintained among the agencies engaged in industrial promotion and administration and administrative procedures shall be simplified.
- 10.22. Government of Nepal shall play roles of a facilitator in promotion of industrial investment.
- 10.23. The difficulties in performance of works of the existing One Window Committee shall be removed and the one

stop services center shall be empowered having ensured its effectiveness made ensuring effectiveness in functions and duties in service delivery.

- 10.24. In order to make the research on industries and skills development trainings meaningful, such programs shall be unified.
- 10.25. The industries to be established by cooperative societies shall be encouraged by way of tax incentives.
- 10.26. To internalize the concept of partnership among public, private and cooperative sector and to enhance work efficiency, professional persons from cooperative sector shall also be involved in Committees, Authority, Board and so on to be formed under the Ministry of Industries.
- 10.27. In order to take initiative to consider the problems being faced by industrial enterprises and to solve the problem, a separate high-level unit with higher authority shall be formed in the Ministry of Industries.
- 10.28. Provisions for simple and easy exit for closing down of industrial enterprises shall be made and arrangement shall be made to execute the order of exit within three months from the date of application.
- 10.29. For making available land necessary for Industrial estate to be developed in private sector and private industries, legal provisions shall be simplified and Government-

owned land shall be made available to such Industrial estates on lease.

- 10.30. Necessary institutional arrangement, policy reform and provisions for incentives shall be made available to attract native and foreign capital in construction of hydro power projects, mining industries, tourism, physical infrastructures.
- 10.31. Sub-contracting law necessary for product outsourcing shall be made.
- 10.32. Provision of deducting from the taxable amount the expenses made by industrial enterprises in research and development shall be made to encourage investment in new technologies in new areas.
- 10.33. The number of Commercial Benches shall be increased to settle disputes concerning industrial and commercial matters.
- 10.34. A group of experts shall be formed to study the industrial policies and foreign investment policies of other countries of the world including neighboring countries and to make recommendations on the policies and strategies to be followed by Nepal on the basis of the study so conducted.
- 10.35. Necessary legal reform shall be introduced for exit, credit flow and recovery process having followed the concept of limited legal liability of industrial enterprises.

10.36. Modern fire brigade shall be established in coordination with local municipalities in various Industrial estates and industrial corridors.

10.37. Necessary provisions shall be made for supplying electricity with priority to industrial enterprises including Industrial estates and industrial corridors.

Strategies concerning Objective 7.5 (7.5 to protect industrial intellectual property)

10.38. Provisions for producing goods using the trademark in one's control or ownership from other industries by way of contract or re-contract for using the same trademark shall be made

10.39. Provisions shall be made so that any industry may manufacture intermediate goods for other industries within or outside Nepal on a contract.

10.40. A separate and efficient Agency shall be established for protection, regulation and management of intellectual property integrating all aspects of intellectual property rights.

11. Special strategies relating to micro enterprises, cottage and small industries

11.1. While operating programs for promotion, development and expansion of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries,

the places and target groups shall be identified on a priority basis through social mobilization as well.

- 11.2. To the extent possible, the micro and cottage entrepreneurs shall be associated with groups and provisions shall be made for providing **unified business development service** to provide them entrepreneurship and skills development trainings, and to assist them in selecting appropriate technology, production management, access to capital, and in marketing.
- 11.3. Micro entrepreneurs and cottage and small industrialists shall be encouraged to be competitive by capacity development and productivity enhancement to produce quality goods based on market demand.
- 11.4. Provisions of financial access shall be made to micro enterprises, cottage and small industries through the various Funds such as the Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small Industries Development Fund, Rural Self-employment fund, Equity Fund, Credit Guarantee Fund.
- 11.5. For separate identity of the products of community and cooperative micro enterprises, cottage and small industries villages, collective mark shall cause to be registered and assistance shall be rendered for market promotion through the use of the mark.
- 11.6. **“One village one product”** program shall be launched as a campaign.

- 11.7. In order to create capital required for development of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, such entrepreneurs shall be encouraged for saving and motivated to be associated to multi-purpose cooperative.
- 11.8. For appropriate development of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, technical, consultancy and monitoring services shall be made available also through representative organizations of such industries.
- 11.9. Market of the goods and services of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be promoted. Backward and forward linkages shall be maintained with the middle and large scale industries and micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be developed as ancillary industries to produce auxiliary goods to be used by the middle and large scale industries.
- 11.10.** In order to assist in market promotion of products of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, emphasis shall be given in establishment and development of sales counters and gift houses in collaboration with private sector, cooperative sector and local bodies.
- 11.11. **The Export House Establishment and Operation Orders, 2007** issued for the purpose of promotion of export of the goods produced from micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be effectively enforced along with modification.

- 11.12. In order to use information technology for promotion of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, information technology hubs shall be brought into operation in collaboration with cooperative and private sector as well. Provisions of transmission of all backward and forward information necessary for development of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be made by using all communication mediums (print, radio, television, internet and so on) through these hubs.
- 11.13. Industrial property of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be protected and concession shall be provided in the fee to be charged for the protection.
- 11.14. For promoting sale of the products of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries, governmental and nongovernmental agencies shall be encouraged to purchase such products.
- 11.15. For promotion of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries based on agriculture, forests, tourism and mining, the collection or extraction and supply of raw materials, as the case may be, shall be simplified subject to the current agriculture, forests, tourism and mining policies and relevant Acts.
- 11.16. Provisions of operation of promotional activities shall be made in partnership with Government, cooperative and

private sector for promotion and development of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries.

- 11.17. Investment to be made in micro enterprises and cottage industries shall be reserved for the Nepali citizens; however, foreign investors shall be encouraged for making available technology and market promotion services.
- 11.18. The services, facilities and concessions to be provided to micro enterprises, cottage and small industries shall be made available from one window.
- 11.19. Provisions shall be made for providing Business Development Services to be made available to industries from Business Development Services Provider. For this purpose, private sector shall be encouraged for this.
- 11.20. Business Incubation Centers especially based on agricultural and non-timber forest based raw materials and technology in collaboration with the private sector umbrella organizations such as Cottage and Small Industries Association, Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries, National Micro Entrepreneurs Groups shall be established.
- 11.21. Special provisions shall be made to attract talented and creative youth and women in micro enterprises, cottage and small industries through Business Incubation centers.

- 11.22. Provisions of Angel Fund and Venture Capital Fund shall be made for assisting in running industries to entrepreneurs having crossed the stage of Business Incubation centers and programs of employment generation shall be launched through them.
- 11.23. Regional Level Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small industrial villages, Production Development Centers shall be established in various places, on the basis of viability and priority, in collaboration with the private sector umbrella organizations such as Cottage and Small Industries Association, Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries, National Micro Entrepreneurs Groups.
- 11.24. Community/Collective Services Centers shall be established in appropriate places to assist micro entrepreneurs in providing services in an intergraded manner and in infrastructures required for marketing services.
- 11.25. Provisions shall be made for making available loans in simple and easy manner from banks and financial institutions to women entrepreneurs engaged in micro, cottage and small-scaled industries.

12. Definition and classification of industrial enterprises

12.1. Definition

For the purpose of this Policy, any economic activity conducted by an individual, firm or company to produce goods or provide service a profit-making objective shall be regarded as an industrial enterprise.

Industrial enterprises have been defined as follows based on nature of production and service:-

12.2.1. Industries based on agriculture and forestry

The businesses of production or processing from raw materials based on agriculture and forests product as referred to in schedule-1.

12.2.2. Production-oriented industries

The industries producing goods having used raw materials or semi-processed raw materials or unused materials having added value as prescribed.

12.2.3. Export-oriented industries

The industries exporting 51% or more of their products to abroad

12.2.4. Energy-oriented industries

The industries producing energy from water resources, wind, solar power, coal, natural oil and gas, bio-gas and other sources

12.2.5. **Mining industries**

The industries extracting and processing metallic and non-metallic minerals

12.2.6. **Tourism industries**

The enterprise that provides services to tourists as referred to in schedule-2

12.2.7. **Construction industries**

The enterprise that constructs and operated physical infrastructure as referred to in schedule-3

12.2.8. **Information and communication technology industries**

Industrial enterprise relating to information, knowledge and communication having used technology for information collection, processing and transmission as referred to in schedule-4.

12.2.9. **Services industries**

The industrial enterprises as referred to in schedule-5

12.3. Classification of industries based on investment nature shall be as follows:-

12.3.1. Micro Enterprises

For the purpose of this Policy, a micro enterprise means the enterprise having met the following conditions:-

- Where investment is up to two hundred thousand rupees as fixed capital except the house or land
- Where the entrepreneur himself/herself engaged in management
- Where there are up to nine workers including the entrepreneur
- Where the annual financial transaction is less than two million rupees, and
- If an instrument with engine is used, the electric motor or other oil engine capacity has to be less than ten kilowatt

Explanation: Even if the aforesaid conditions have been fulfilled, an enterprise that requires permission, liquors, beer, cigarette, *biri*, or other tobacco goods or materials shall not be deemed to be a micro enterprise. Moreover, if an enterprise registered once as micro enterprise is upgraded as

other industry, such an industry shall not be listed as a micro enterprise.

12.3.2. Traditional and Other Cottage Industries

An industrial enterprise that uses traditional skills and technology, the instruments and machinery based on local raw materials and associated with art and culture of the country and that uses electric power up to 10 kilowatts as referred to in schedule-6.

12.3.3. Small Scale industries

An industrial enterprise other than those of micro enterprises and traditional and other cottage industries having the fixed assets of up to 50 million rupees.

12.3.4. Medium Scale Industries

An industrial enterprise having the fixed assets more than fifty million to one hundred fifty million rupees.

12.3.5. Large scale Industries

An industrial enterprise having the fixed assets of more than one hundred fifty million rupees.

Explanation:

(1) The fixed assets of the aforesaid industries includes the following movable or immovable property:-

- a. Land and land improvement (works such as land leveling, filling, retaining wall construction)

- b. Surface physical infrastructure (such as sewerage, internal road)
- c. Office, factory building, warehouse, electricity distribution, water supply system, and residential housing
- d. Machines, instruments and tools
- e. Transport vehicles
- f. Electricity, instruments, office equipments
- g. Furniture, fixture and furnishing, communication provisions and equipments

(2) In addition to the property referred to in sub-section (1), the capitalized technical consultancy, before investment or at the various stages of construction phase and supervision expenses, pre-investment and pre-operation expenses and the capitalized interests to be charged during construction phase shall also be regarded to be the fixed assets of an industry.

13. Prioritized Industries

13.1. The industries referred to in schedule -7 are specified as the prioritized industries.

13.2. The list of the prioritized industries shall be reviewed in every five years. Government of Nepal may, on the recommendation of the Industrial Promotion Board alter the list as may be necessary.

14. **Permission**

- 14.1. No permission shall be required to establish, extend and diversify and modernize industries other than the industries referred to in schedule 8 that causes adverse impact on security, public health and environment.
- 14.2. In case of the industries requiring permission from the Department of Industry, the department shall grant permission within a period of 30 days of the date of submission of application. In case there is any reason for not granting permission, information shall have to be given to the applicant specifying the reason therefor within a period of three days of the expiry of the time-limit.
- 14.3. The person who obtains permission has to operate the industry within the period prescribed in the permission having followed the conditions referred to in the permission. The permission shall be revoked if the industry is not operated or conditions are not complied with except in case of reasonable ground.
- 14.4. While making foreign investment in an industrial enterprise, permission shall have to be obtained as per the law in force for the time being.

15. Registration

- 15.1. A micro enterprise and traditional cottage industry shall have to inform to the local body within one month of its operation along with its short description. The local body shall have to maintain records of such information.
- 15.2. The concerned agency shall register an industry within a period of 15 days of duly submission of an application by other industries that do not require permission. In case an industry could not be registered for any reason, information shall have to be given to the applicant specifying the reason therefor within three days.
- 15.3. In case the initial environmental examination (IEE) or environmental impact assessment (EIA) is to be approved as per nature and capacity of an industry that is referred to in schedule -8 or the industry that does not require permission, the report thereof shall have to be submitted to the agency registering the industry.
- 15.4. The agency that registers an industry shall monitor as to the operation of the industry periodically and shall assist in operating the industry by providing consultation if required by the industry. If the industry could have not been operated within the prescribed time except in cases of reasonable cause, the registration/permission shall be revoked.
- 15.5.** Government of Nepal shall make necessary coordination to formulate sectoral norms relating to IEE or EIA.

16. Special provisions relating to administration of micro enterprises, cottage and small industries

- 16.1. Within one month of its operation, a micro enterprise, the entrepreneur shall have to inform to the local body (Village Development Committee or Municipality) along with its short description. The local body shall register and provide with a certificate having charged the prescribed fee if the entrepreneur so desires. The local body shall make available monthly record of such information to the Office of the Cottage and Small Industries Development Board located in the district.
- 16.2. The concerned agency shall register an industry within a period of 15 days of duly submission of an application by other industries that do not require permission. In case an industry could not be registered for any reason, information shall have to be given to the applicant specifying the reason therefor within a period of three days.
- 16.3. Registration and renewal of a cottage and small industry other than those referred to in schedule-8 shall be carried out by the Office of the Cottage and Small Industries Development Board located in the district.
- 16.4. It shall be enough for a micro enterprise and traditional cottage industry to furnish general information as to the source of water, discharge of waste materials for the purpose

of environment management but in case of small industries, initial environmental examination has to be carried out according to the prevailing Environment Protection Act and Rules and if not required, only giving information will be enough.

- 16.5.** The existing provision of maintaining the distance of one kilometer from forest areas for establishing industries in the hilly districts shall be reviewed and provisions shall be made that industries will be registered requiring to maintain reasonable distance limit.

17. Facilities and Concessions

The following facilities and concession shall be provided for development and promotion of an industry:-

(A) Facilities and concession of exemption of income tax

- 17.1. Except in the case of an industry that produces all types of tobacco and liquors and *kattha* industries, there shall be concession by a less of five percent point in the corporate rate of tax to be levied in the income earned by a special industry.
- 17.2. Except in the case of an industry that produces all types of tobacco and liquors and *kattha* industries, the industries established in the least developed areas referred to in schedule-9 shall be entitled to ninety percent exemption in

the income tax to be charged for ten years from the date of commencement of transaction.

17.3. Except in the case of an industry that produces all types of tobacco and liquors and *kattha* industries, the industries established in the undeveloped areas referred to in schedule-10 shall be entitled to eighty percent exemption in the income tax to be charged for ten years from the date of commencement of transaction.

17.4. Except in the case of an industry that produces all types of tobacco and liquors and *kattha* industries, the industries established in the under developed areas referred to in schedule-11 shall be entitled to a seventy percent exemption in the income tax to be charged for ten years from the date of commencement of transaction.

17.5. The industries that produce cider and wines based on fruits having a maximum alcohol content of up to 12 percent in the districts referred to in schedule-9 shall also be entitled to forty percent exemption in the income tax to be charged for ten years from the date of commencement of transaction.

17.6. Except in the case of an industry that produces all types of tobacco and liquors and *kattha* industries, the industries engaged in hydro power generation and transmission, mining extraction, producing cement by making clinker with the use of local raw materials (cement industries) and industries to explore and extract petroleum or natural gas, out of the

prioritized industries referred to in schedule-7, shall be entitled to ninety percent exemption in the income tax to be charged for seven years from the date of commencement of transaction.

17.7. In case information and communication technology industries referred to in schedule-4 are established in Information Technology Park, there shall be an exemption of fifty percent in the income tax to be levied.

17.8. In case any small-scale industry that provides a direct employment to more than 100 native workers regularly for a period of more than six months in the minimum, a medium scale industry that provides more than 200 workers and large scale industry that provides more than 500 workers, such an industry shall be entitled to a further exemption of 25 percent in the income tax to be charged in that year. Moreover, in case such an industry provides 50 percent of such direct employment to native women, persons belonging to Dalit or persons with disability, there shall be an exemption of forty percent in the income tax to be levied in that year.

17.9. The expenses incurred for serving long term interests and welfare of laborers and employees of an industry such as residence, life insurance, health facilities, education and training, child care centers sports/ exercises for physical fitness may be deducted for the purpose of income tax. Moreover, in case of an industry that provides employment to

differently able persons including dwarf, the salary and other expenses paid to such workers may also be deducted for the purpose of income tax.

- 17.10. The expenses made by any industry in the machine or instrument that help decrease consumption of energy, the capital expenses and technology and process for installation of a system for pollution control and less impact in environment may be deducted for the purpose of income tax. Such facility shall have to be utilized once or within a period of five years.
- 17.11. For the purpose of income tax assessment, an amount not exceeding five percent of the total sales income of the industry may be expensed for enhancement of entrepreneurship and skills development training research and development and for acquiring new technology.
- 17.12. For the purpose of income tax, an amount not exceeding ten percent of the total sales income of the industry may be expensed for market promotion, survey and advertisement.
- 17.13. The amount of expenses made for security of physical property of the industry and its insurance may be deducted from the taxable income.
- 17.14. While depreciating the fixed assets of national prioritized industries, an additional one third amount in the rate of depreciation rate referred to in the prevailing Income Tax Act may be deducted.

- 17.15. In case of an industry that diversifies the same industry or other industry by reinvestment or that expands the installed capacity of the industry by twenty five percent or more or that modernizes technology or develops subsidiary industry, forty percent of the additional fixed assets created by such reinvestment may be deducted for the purpose of tax. Such exempted amount shall have to be deducted once in a year or within a period of five years.
- 17.16. The expenses made by an industry while protecting industrial property under intellectual property registered in Nepal may be debited by the industry for the purpose of income tax. Exemption as in the case of export shall be given in the income acquired from export of intellectual property. Fifty percent of the expenses made by an industry in registration for protecting intellectual property in abroad shall be borne by the Government. Similarly, the income acquired from the sale of intellectual property shall be liable to income tax only at the rate of dividend.
- 17.17. The donation and assistance as prescribed given for rescue from natural calamity and social service sector shall be exempted for the purpose of income tax.
- 17.18. The rate of income tax to be levied for the prescribed industries to be established as cooperative shall be less by fifty percent of the rate of general income tax.

17.19. Cottage and small industries may produce auxiliary products for large and medium-scale industries necessary for them having entered into a written agreement. The industries entering into such agreements which produce auxiliary products may also supply goods having entered into a sub-agreement for co-products. In case such auxiliary products have been produced, there shall be an exemption of fifty percent in the income tax to be levied in the goods to be produced from the use of such auxiliary products.

(B) Facilities and concession in custom tariff, excise and value added tax

17.20. No excise and value added tax shall be levied if the goods produced in the country is exported to abroad.

17.21. Export oriented industries, export promotion house or industries in Special Economic Zone may cause goods to be produced from other industries by sub-contracting with them. The exporter shall be entitled to refund, on the basis of the volume of export and as may be prescribed, the custom duties, excise and value added tax levied on raw materials, auxiliary raw materials and packaging materials used in the goods so caused to be produced.

17.22. In order to simplify the duty draw back system available for exporting goods, the same rate shall be fixed for the industries of the same nature based on consumption of the raw materials. Provisions shall be made for getting the draw

back facilities from the bank which has carried out the export transaction. In case of the industries to which no same rate could be fixed, the existing procedures shall also be continued.

- 17.23. The facility of duty draw back entitled to industries shall compulsorily be made available to the exporter on the basis of volume of export within a period of forty-five days on which the application was submitted.
- 17.24. The product or service sold by an industry so as to earning foreign currency within the country having taken part in an international tender shall be made available the facility of duty draw back as the deemed export. Such a facility shall be made available within on which the application was submitted.
- 17.25. If an industry sells its products within the country so as to earning foreign currency; the fee, tariff required for the production and the custom duty, excise and value added tax levied on the raw materials, auxiliary raw materials and packaging materials used in the production shall be refunded regarding it as the deemed export. Such facility shall be made available within a period of forty-five days of the date on which the application was submitted.
- 17.26. If an industry that produces semi-processed or semi-readymade intermediary goods sells its products to an industry that produces other main goods, such an industry

shall be entitled to adjust the excise and value added tax levied on such goods in the tax account based on the volume of the goods used by the industry. However, in order to enjoy this facility, such an industry shall have to be registered for the purpose of value added tax or excise.

17.27. The custom duty levied on the raw materials, auxiliary raw materials and packaging materials required for own products of an industry may normally be fixed at one slab less than the custom rate to be levied on the readymade goods to be imported which is made of such raw materials. In the case of import of the goods which is levied less than one percent in the minimum, the custom rate shall be fixed by 25% in the minimum.

17.28. Only one percent custom duty shall be levied on machinery, transformer, generator, industrial equipment and instrument imported by an industry for its own purpose. Moreover, one percent custom duty shall be levied on machinery and equipment to be imported for research and development (R&D) including the machinery, scientific instrument, and machinery and equipment for expansion of the industry and no value added tax and excise shall be levied.

(C) Additional Facilities and concession and certainty

17.29. The facilities and concession which the industries referred to in this Policy are entitled to shall be ensured by making of laws. In case there is any alteration or change in the

classification, the schedules and provisions as to the facilities and concessions in the least developed, undeveloped and least development, certainty shall be guaranteed that industries shall be entitled to enjoy such facilities uninterrupted until the period prescribed by the law made for implementation of this Policy. In case any industry is entitled to get more than one facility at the same time, the industry shall get the most favored facility it has chosen.

- 17.30. The facilities and concessions to be entitled to under this Policy shall not be changed for the prescribed period.
- 17.31. No royalty shall be charged on the electricity generated by an industry for its own purpose. Moreover, if the industry desires to sell the electricity energy, provision shall be made to allow the excess energy to the national grid at the prevailing market rate.
- 17.32. Government of Nepal may, on the recommendation of the Industrial Promotion Board and having published a notification in the Nepal gazette, provide additional facilities to any prioritized industry or the industries established having used the patent technology approved in Nepal.
- 17.33. The export promotion industries shall be made available the facility of bonded ware house in more simplified manner. Such facility shall be made available within forty-five days of the date of submission of application.

- 17.34. In case of an industry, the demand charge levied in the electricity tariff shall be exempted based on the ratio of the time of load-shedding.
- 17.35. The Government shall assist in acquiring the land required for operation of the industry as per the nature and capacity. If it deems necessary to relax the ceiling of land having regard to the nature of the industry, exemption may be given in the land ceiling.
- 17.36. Provision of making available grant to a micro enterprise and cottage and small industry as seed capital shall be made for establishing industries in least developed areas.
- 17.37. The commercial visa to be provided to a non-resident Nepali shall be made available free of costs.
- 17.38. In order to facilitate new product development and its marketing and promotion to an industry operated in foreign investment, permission shall be granted to a subsidiary company of the holding company located in the country to import the goods produced by the holding company located in abroad for a certain period of time subject to the prescribed conditions and limits.
- 17.39. The industries based on forest products may be made available forests on lease.
- 17.40. Government of Nepal may, by publishing a notification in the Nepal Gazette, provide additional facility to export industries

and industries to be established in export promotion zone, governmental or non-governmental industrial estate, and industrial village.

- 17.41. Additional facility may be made available to any national prioritized industry or industry being invented and established in Nepal pursuant to a resolution of the Council of Ministers on the recommendation of the Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small Industries, Industrial Promotion Board through the Ministry of Industries.
- 17.42. No type of tax shall be levied on the industries established in Incubation Centers and Incubation Services.
- 17.43. Facilities shall also be given to the industries producing auxiliary raw materials or packing materials for export-oriented industries based on the volume of use by the export-oriented industries of such materials.
- 17.44. For the purpose of development and promotion of mining industries, the Government shall make provisions of special programs and budget for construction of access roads and expansion of electricity transmission line and to construct physical infrastructure for electricity services up to the industries and mining sites.

18. Special Facilities and Concessions for micro enterprises, cottage and small industries

The micro enterprise, cottage and small industries shall, in addition to the facilities and concessions referred to in Section 17 above, be entitled to the following facilities and services:-

- 18.1. No type of tax including excise, income tax, value added tax shall be levied on micro enterprises.
- 18.2. The excise and income tax to be levied to cottage industries established in the least developed, undeveloped and under developed regions referred to in Schedule-9, 10 and 11 shall be exempted for a period of twelve years, seven years and five years respectively. In the subsequent years in which income tax will be applicable, an exemption of 75%, 60% and 50% shall be given respectively. In addition, no excise and income tax shall be levied for a period of five years to the national prioritized goods to be prescribed by Government of Nepal from time to time for a period of ten years to the industries established in the prioritized regions.
- 18.3. An income tax exemption of 50% shall be given to the traditional cottage industries of all types referred to in Schedule-6.
- 18.4. The custom duties, excise and value added tax levied on raw materials, auxiliary raw materials and packaging materials used in the goods produced by an industry shall be refunded

on the basis of the volume of export of the produced goods. Such refundable revenue shall be refunded to the exporter within a period of sixty days from the date on which the application has been submitted for that purpose.

Provided that such an amount shall not be refunded if an application is not submitted within a period of forty-five days of the date of the export.

- 18.5.** In case an industry sells its products to a gift house or an export house, the value added tax levied on the raw material imported to produce such goods and the value added tax and excise levied on the readymade goods so produced shall be refunded to the concerned industry based on the volume of export of such goods.

Explanation: For the purpose of this clause, “export house” means a company, firm or a cooperative society established with the objective also of exporting to foreign countries having collected the products of industries established in Nepal and “gift house” also means a market center established with the objective of assisting in marketing of the goods produced by traditional Nepali micro enterprise, cottage and small industries having used local raw materials, skills and labour.

- 18.6. No type of tax, fee or charge shall be levied in the machines, tools, instrument and raw materials and its products.

Provided that in case the products of such industries are to be sold within the country for any reason, tax, fee or charge shall have to be paid on the basis of the volume of the sale.

- 18.7. In order to provide financial access to micro enterprise, cottage and small industries, special atmosphere shall be created for loan financing including deprived sector lending as provided in the law relating to financial institutions. Financial institutions shall be encouraged for this purpose.
- 18.8. Provisions for financial access shall be provided having affiliated local industries within micro enterprise, cottage and small industries villages and common services centers with cooperatives.
- 18.9. In order to make available loan on group guarantee by affiliating the micro entrepreneurs in the districts and Village Development Committees where financial services are not available, one fund shall be established under the Micro Enterprise, Cottage and Small Industries Board and bulk loan shall be made available.
- 18.10. Provisions shall be made that the process and documents required for services and facilities to be made available under various policies declared and legal measures made by the Government will be prepared and made available to industries from the offices of the Cottage and Small Industries Development Board located in districts.

None of the aforementioned facilities and concessions shall be made available to liquor-based and tobacco-based industries.

19. Special Provisions relating to Special Economic Zone

19.1. “Special Economic Zone” means the specialized industrialized area, export processing zone, export promotion house, structure with specialized or unified financial activities along with free trade areas made for any particular commercial purpose having the main objective to produce exportable goods and services declared by Government of Nepal by a notification published in the Nepal Gazette for operation of industrial activities intensively, in which integrated industrial services, standard industrial infrastructure, services and facilities, flexible labour related provisions, special facilities and concession for attracting investment are made available.

19.2. Legal and institutional provisions shall be made for establishing Special Economic Zone, development, management and operation of infrastructure structures fully in Government level, public-private partnership and fully by private sector in order to enhance industrial activity along with infrastructure and to assist in investment promotion, production growth, export promotion and employment creation through its medium.

19.3. The industries established in the Special Economic Zone shall be entitled to the following facilities and concessions:-

19.3.1. Income Tax Exemption

- a) An investor that invests in infrastructure shall be entitled to a cent percent exemption for the first seven years and a fifty percent exemption for five years thereafter from the income tax payable under the law in force from the date on which the investor operates the infrastructure or a license starts commercial transaction of the product.
- b) A production-oriented industry established in a Special Economic Zone located in a Himali district or in a hilly district prescribed by Government of Nepal shall be entitled to a cent percent exemption from the income tax to be levied as per law from the date of commencement of commercial transaction of its product for the first ten years and a fifty percent exemption for five years thereafter.
- c) An exemption of fifty percent shall be given in income tax payable in the income to be earned by a foreign investor from foreign technology, intellectual property or management service charge and royalty.

d) The industries established in a Special Economic Zone located in the least developed region referred to in Schedule-9 shall be entitled to a cent percent exemption from income tax for the first ten years from the date of commencement of its transaction. There shall be an exemption of fifty percent up to ten years thereafter in the income tax to be paid by such industries.

19.3.2. Facilities relating to value added tax

a) A license holder shall be entitled to enjoy a facility of cent percent tax deduction in the value added tax paid while importing three transport vehicles in maximum for one industry for the purpose of transportation of machinery, instruments, and spare parts of machines, raw materials or goods required for the industry having regard to the scale of the industry.

b) The facility of zero rate shall be made available in goods or service trade among entrepreneurs within a Special Economic Zone.

19.3.3. Exemption in Custom Duty

a) Custom duty shall be exempted on the basis of bank guarantee for the raw materials, auxiliary raw materials, packing materials and products

required to be used in production of exportable goods.

- b) Custom duty shall be exempted for plants, machinery, instruments, tools and spare parts required for industries.
- c) A license-holder may take goods or service, which may be sold in internal market of Nepal, out of Special Economic Zone upon payment of the custom duty and other tax to be levied on such goods or service.
- d) In case an importer sells any goods to an industry within Special Economic Zone, the Custom Office shall have to refund the custom duty levied on such goods to the concerned importer.
- e) A license-holder shall, while transferring ownership of the goods imported on custom duty exemption, follow the procedures prescribed by Government of Nepal by publication of a notification in the Nepal Gazette.

19.3.4. **Exemption of Local Tax**

No local tax of any type shall be levied on three transport vehicles in maximum for one industry for the purpose of transportation of machinery, instruments, and spare parts of machines, raw materials or goods

required for the industry having regard to the scale of the industry.

19.3.5. Facilities equal to export to be provided

In case a company, firm or industry sells its raw material or any of its products to an industry within Special Economic Zone, such sale shall be regarded as export and if the company, firm or industry is entitled to any facility as per prevailing law, it shall be entitled to such facility.

19.3.6. Facility of a bonded warehouse to an industry established in the special economic zone shall further be simplified and made available to it. Such a facility shall be provided within a period of forty five days from the date on which an application is submitted.

20. Institutional Arrangement

In order to make implementation of the Policy effective and make the promotion and regulation of industrial sector based on efficiency and professional capacity, the following structural, systematic and functional provisions have been made with institutional strengthening of the existing institutions as per their capacity, responsibility and powers:-

20.1. Board of Investment

20.1.1 In order to formulate integrated policies to accord appropriate priority, afford protection, extend cooperation

and express commitment for massive industrial investment; to mobilize and manage for resources required for promotional activities and to create an institution capable of making available from one place all types of services and cooperation to investors, a high-level powerful Board of Investment shall be formed under the Chairpersonship of the Prime Minister.

20.1.2 Provisions as to establishment of Board of Investment, its functions, duties and powers shall be made by enacting a separate Act.

20.2. Industrial Promotion Board

20.2.1 In order to promote and develop industrial sector and for coordination and facilitation for solution of problems of industrial sector, Government of Nepal shall form the Industrial Promotion Board under the chairpersonship of Minister of Industries with representation from the relevant governmental bodies and stakeholders:-

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------|
| (a) | Minister or Minister for State of Industries | Chairperson |
| (b) | Minister for State and/or Assistant Minister of Industries | Member |
| (c) | Member, National Planning Commission (looking after industry sector) | Member |
| (d) | Governor, Nepal Rastra bank | Member |

(e)	Secretary, Ministry of Industries	Member
(f)	Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Member
(g)	Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Supplies	Member
(h)	Secretary, Ministry of Tourism	Member
(i)	Secretary, Ministry of Environment	Member
(j)	Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Soil conservation	Member
(k)	Secretary, Ministry of Energy	Member
(l)	Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport	Member
(m)	Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and works	Member
(n)	Chairperson, Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industries	Member
(o)	Chairperson, Confederation of Nepalese Industries	Member
(p)	Chairperson, Federation of Cottage and Small Industries of Nepal	Member
(q)	Chairperson, Nepal Chamber of Commerce	Member
(r)	Persons nominated by Government of Nepal from among the experts on industry sector (including one woman)	Member-4
(s)	Persons nominated by Government of Nepal	Member-3

- f) To make provisions for Industrial Information Center;
- g) To cause to be conducted necessary studies and researches in order to increase industrial investment and to provide encouragement;
- h) Other functions, duties and powers of the Board shall be as prescribed.

20.2.3 The Board of Investment shall have a separate secretariat. Department of Industry shall manage the secretariat.

20.2.4 Government of Nepal may, by a notification published in the Nepal Gazette, alter and change the number of members of the Board.

20.2.5 The board may, if it deems fit, invite any native person or foreigner as an expert or advisor to take part in meeting of the Board as an observer.

20.2.6 The procedures as to meetings of the Board shall be as may be determined by the Board itself.

20.3. Foundation for Industrial Human Resources Development

The Institutes like Industrial Business Development Academy, Butwal Technical Institute, Cottage and Small Industries Trainings Centre, Skills Development Trainings Center which have been established with objectives to develop human resources and technology of the governmental and private sector institutes involved in industrial enterprises development activities, to provide

trainings, management and consultancy services to various types of instructors and to carry out research trainings and productivity increasing activities shall be integrated and an Academy for Development of Industrial Human Resources shall be established under a separate law.

20.4. Industrial estates Management Authority

In order to conduct necessary programs for bringing improvement in infrastructure and services management and enhancing competitive capacity of the industries established in Industrial estates, the present Industrial estates Management Limited shall be upgraded as Industrial estates Management Authority under a separate law.

20.5. National Council for Productivity

In order to conduct functions relating to research, consultancy, trainings and capacity development for productivity, a separate National Productivity Council shall be established by strengthening the institutional capacity of the existing National Productivity and Economic Development Center.

20.6. Department of Industry

20.6.1 For carrying out functions relating to administration of all types of industries and providing services and facilities from one place, the current Cottage and Small Industries Development Department and Department of Industry

shall be integrated and a capable Department shall be created.

- 20.6.2 The Department of Industry shall carry on the functions relating to registration, administration of, and facilities to middle-scale and large-scale industries; approval of foreign investment and transfer of technology; maintaining record and conducting administration and to carry on functions as the secretariat of the Industrial Promotion Board, except the functions relating to industries of all scales as referred to in Schedule-8 that require granting approval and industries in relation to which decisions have to be taken upon submission to Ministry of Industries and Board of Investment.
- 20.6.3 Capacity of the Department of Industry shall be developed in such a way so that the functions relating to control and monitoring of industrial environment pollution could be performed by that department.
- 20.6.4 The Department of Industry shall submit a quarterly report to the Ministry containing details of the functions performed by it and the Industrial Promotion Board and shall publicize it.
- 20.6.5 The Department of Industry shall cause its functions relating to industrial administration to be carried out by the offices subordinate to it.

20.6.6 The Department of Industry shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the operation of industries, conducting programs for restoration of the sick industries, bringing coordination at implementation level, and solving problems and other works.

20.6.7 The Department of Industry may delegate its powers to the Office of micro enterprises and cottage and small industries promotion Board located in districts.

20.7. One Stop Services Center

One Stop Services Center shall be formed within the Department of Industry to make available on time, from one point and without hassles the facilities, concession and infrastructure services provided by law. The functions, duties and powers of the said services center shall be as prescribed by law.

20.8. Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology

20.8.1 In order to ascertain the standards of industrial products, the existing Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology shall be upgraded with institutional strengthening. The Bureau shall certify the standard and monitor the goods (other than foods and medicines) produced by native industries.

20.8.2 Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology shall be developed as the main agency in the process of certification of exportable goods.

20.8.3 In order to strengthen and expand the working efficiency of the Bureau, provisions shall be made for additional technical human resources, regional offices with laboratories, training centers, and timely reform shall be made in working procedures and means and resources.

20.9. Intellectual Property Protection Office

Intellectual Property Protection Office shall be established covering the entire working areas and responsibility relating to intellectual property. This office shall carry on functions relating to promotion and effective protection of intellectual property.

20.10. Office of the Companies Registrar

20.10.1 The services made available by the Office of the Companies Registrar shall be decentralized to regions/districts so that the Office may carry on its functions efficiently.

20.10.2 The Regional level organizations shall be expanded in such a manner that the functions being carried out by the Office of the Companies Registrar may be carried out at regional level and networking shall be developed.

20.10.3 The Office of the Companies Registrar shall be strengthened and made well-managed and company law shall also be timely reviewed.

20.11. Department of Mines and Geology

In order to make the activities of the Department of Mines and Geology effective, adequate provisions of technical human resources, physical and financial means and resources shall be made as may be necessary and regional offices shall also be created.

20.12. National Micro Entrepreneurship, Cottage and Small Industries Promotion Board and Cottage and Small Industries Development Board

20.12.1 In order to promote micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries and remove non-clarity among the agencies engaged in their administration, the “National Micro Entrepreneurship, Cottage and Small Industries Promotion Board” shall be formed at the central level. The Cottage and Small Industries Development Board, which shall have the responsibility of promotion, development and expansion of cottage and small industries, shall be adjusted within the structure of the same Board and all promotional services including registration and renewal

of, and recommendation for, micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries shall be made available from all seventy five districts through the Offices of the Board.

20.12.2 In order for development and promotion of micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries, the following National Micro Entrepreneurship, Cottage and Small Industries Promotion Board shall be formed:-

Formation of the Board:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| (a) Minister or Minister for State of Industries | Chairperson |
| (b) Minister for State and/or Assistant Minister of Industries | Member |
| (c) Member, National Planning Commission (responsible to deal with industry sector) | Member |
| (d) Governor, Nepal Rastra Bank | Member |
| (e) Secretary, Ministry of Industries | Member |
| (f) Secretaries of the concerned stakeholder Ministry (to be invited as may be necessary) | Member |
| (g) Chairperson, Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industries | Member |
| (h) Chairperson, Federation of Cottage and Small Industries of Nepal | Member |

- (i) Chairperson, National Federation of Micro Entrepreneurship Groups Member
- (j) Chairperson, Federation of Forest Users Groups
- (k) Representatives (three in maximum) Trade Union Members Federations
- (l) Women Entrepreneur Representatives in the areas of micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries two persons Member
- (m) Executive Director, Micro Entrepreneurship, Cottage and Small Industries Promotion Board Member-Secretary

20.12.3 **Functions, Duties and Powers of the Board**

- a) To formulate policies and Rules concerning promotion of, and investment into, micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries and to provide necessary guidelines for implementation;
- b) To maintain coordination between the objectives of the micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries policy and level of implementation;
- c) To make recommendation to Government of Nepal in case of need for any change in standardization and classification of industries;

- d) In case of submission of an application that any industry has not been provided with the facilities and concessions made available by the micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries policy, to conduct an inquiry into it and to issue directive to the concerned agency;
- e) To make available through its office the facilities provided by this policy to micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries;
- f) To delegate any of its function, duty or authority to the concerned office as may be required.

- 20.12.4 Government of Nepal may, by publishing a notification in the Nepal Gazette, alter or change the members of the Board.
- 20.12.5 The Board may, if it deems necessary, invite any official or expert.
- 20.12.6 Meetings of the Board shall be held as may be necessary. Other procedures relating to meetings of the Board shall be as prescribed by the Board.
- 20.12.7 While formulating or reforming any policy by any other governmental agency that may have direct impact on micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries, this Board shall have to be consulted through the Ministry of Industries.

20.12.8 Government of Nepal may, in order to make effective the functions of promotion of micro entrepreneurship, cottage and small industries at local level, form “District Micro Entrepreneurship, Cottage and Small Industries Promotion Board” under the chairpersonship of the President of District Development Committee with the representation from the concerned agencies and stakeholders.

21. Special Provisions for Woman entrepreneurs

With the objective of involving more women in industrial enterprises thereby more opportunities of employment may be available and for enhancing financial empowerment of women, the following additional provisions have been made as per concept of inclusion:-

21.1. In any level to formulate policies relating to any industrial enterprises, representation of women belonging to indigenous and tribal people, dalit, Madhesi, marginalized communities who are involved in the concerned industrial enterprises shall be made mandatory.

21.2. Provision of group loan shall be made in various banking and cooperative institutions for extending loans in simple and easy manner to woman entrepreneurs of cottage and small scale.

21.3. Priority shall be given to women in the venture capital to be provided while establishing an industry.

- 21.4. An exemption of 35% in the registration fee shall be given if an industry is registered only in the name of woman.
- 21.5. Special priority shall be given to woman entrepreneurs if they desire to establish an industry in an Industrial estate.
- 21.6. In order to develop women entrepreneurship and to encourage women to become an entrepreneur, women shall be involved in trainings, meetings, seminars, study visits on technology development.
- 21.7. In the sales counters to be developed in various development regions, provisions shall be made for sales counters also for the products developed by women entrepreneurs.
- 21.8. In exhibitions concerning industry or business to be organized by Government agencies, women entrepreneurship/businesspersons shall compulsorily involve women.
- 21.9. Provisions shall be made for making available export loans to women entrepreneurship/businesspersons exporting their products.
- 21.10. The industry registered only in name of a woman shall be provided with an exemption of 20% in the fee for getting registered the industrial property such as patent, design and trademark.

- 21.11. For development of women entrepreneurship, a separate women entrepreneurship fund shall be created.
- 21.12. A separate sectoral unit shall be created in the Ministry of Industries for development of women entrepreneurship.
- 21.13. Mandatory provisions of introducing directives for prevention and control of all types of gender-based violence at workplace shall be made for protection of rights of women entrepreneurs, woman workers, and women service-seekers.
- 21.14.** Plan, program and budget implementation concerning industrial promotion shall be made gender-friendly and to ensure the guarantee of gender equality, gender analysis and assessment, gender auditing and gender budget system of the concerned policies and programs shall be introduced.

22. Provisions relating to reform and restructuring of sick industries

Provisions shall be made in laws for identification, rehabilitation and reconstruction of the sick industries of all scales and a high level powerful commission along with judicial authorities shall be formed involving experts on the concerned field to solve problems related to the sick industries. The structure, functions, duties and powers of the commission shall be as provided for in law.

23. Financial aspects

From the implementation of this policy, industrial activities will be increased thereby investment will be increased, quality products will be increased and productivity will be increased, productive and competent human resources will be produced, employment opportunities will be generated, export will be increased and industrial culture will be developed thereby it will ultimately contribute in macro economic development of the country.

24. Reform in legal provisions

The provisions made in this policy shall be given legal shape by including them in various relevant laws such as the Fiscal Act, Industrial Enterprises Act.

25. Monitoring and Evaluation

The National Planning Commission shall carry out annual and periodic evaluation of overall status of policy implementation. Ministry of Industries shall carry out monitoring of physical achievements functional evaluation of the policy. The Board of Investment by way of study and research on overall status of investment atmosphere shall monitor and evaluate the policy. The evaluation report of overall aspects of policy implementation shall be made public.

The local Village Development Committee or Municipality shall monitor the micro enterprises to be established under this policy and information thereof shall be furnished to the district office of the Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small Industries Board. For this purpose, additional assistance may be sought from the district office of the Board as may be necessary. The Micro Enterprises, Cottage and Small Industries Board and office thereunder shall make provisions for periodic studies, monitoring, and evaluation. Based on classification of industries, Department of Industry shall monitor the middle and large scale industries and small industries that require permission.

26. Review and Improvement of Policy

Effectiveness, appropriateness, and justification and of implementation of the policy shall be independently reviewed in every five years and timely review and improvement shall be brought in the policy.

27. Risks

Since industries have to compete at international level, if production and distribution of competitive goods and services by enhancing quality and productivity of industrialization products could not be done, there is a possibility of marginalization of Nepalese industries. Taking into consideration this fact, there is a need to be aware to bring timely changes in laws and policies

on the basis of feedback making monitoring and evaluation effective. Moreover, positive and enabling environment may be created for development of industry sector only if contribution of industry sector is targeted to employment generation, income generation and increasing the gross domestic product rather than to revenue increment.

28. **Repeal**

The Industrial Policy, 1992 is hereby repealed.

Schedule-1

(Relating to section 12.2.1)

Industries based on agriculture and forest products

1. Horticulture/fruits processing
2. Food processing
3. Animal husbandry, animal breeding, avian farming avian breeding
4. Dairy Industries (including dairy products)
5. Hatchery/chickens breeding
6. Fisheries/fish breeding
7. Sericulture farming and silk processing
8. Tea estate/tea processing
9. Coffee farming/coffee processing
10. Herbs farming/herbs processing
11. Production of vegetable seeds
12. Vegetables farming/vegetable processing
13. establishment and operation of green houses
14. Bee-keeping (including honey production and processing)
15. Floriculture (including preparing a garland, decoration, making bucket, and seeds production)
16. Nursery enterprise
17. Rubber farming and preliminary processing of rubber

18. Cold storage
19. Establishment and management of cooperative/leasehold/community/private forests
20. Commercial farming and processing of cash crops (such as sugarcane, cotton, jute, sajiwan, sweet sorghum, stevia rebaudiane, tobacco, cardamom, ginger, keshar, oil seeds, and spices crops, pulses and so on)
21. Rattan, bamboo farming and products from rattan and bamboo
22. establishment and management of botanical garden
23. Botanical reproduction enterprises (including tissue culture)

Schedule-2

(Relating to section 12.2.6)

Tourism Industries

1. Tourists residence, motel, hotel, resort, and restaurants
2. travel agency, tour operator, tourist guide, hillling centers, casino, massage, spa
3. Adventure tourism, skiing, gliding, water rafting, hot air ballooning, para sailing, horse riding, bunjee jumping, mountain expedition and observation
4. Golf course, polo, pony trekking, trekking
5. Village tourism and eco-tourism
6. Cultural, religious, conference and sports tourism
7. Fun park development and operation
8. Wildlife conservation
9. Mountain flights operation

Schedule-3
(Relating to section 12.2.7)

Construction industries

(To build and operate)

1. Roads, bridges, tunnels
2. Ropeways, railways, tram, trolley bus, cable car, monorail, sliding car
3. Airport runways/airports
4. Industrial structure and infrastructure complex
5. Convention, conference halls
6. Sewerage and sewerage system
7. water supply and distribution
8. Irrigation infrastructure
9. Power houses and energy transmission lines
10. Sport complex and stadium
11. vehicles parking place and parking houses
12. Export processing Zones
13. Special Economic Zones
14. Cargo complex
15. Solar and wind energy generation
16. Water treatment plants

The aforesaid industries shall have to be operated within the framework of build-own-operate-transfer (BOOT); build-operate-transfer (BOT) and build-transfer.

Schedule-4

(Relating to section 12.2.8)

Information and Communication Industries

1. Technology parks
2. IT parks
3. biotech parks
4. Software development
5. Computer and allied services
6. Statistics processing
7. Cyber café
8. Digital mapping
9. V-sat, internet services
10. telephone and cellular telephone services
11. Mobile telephone
12. Paging services
13. Television broadcasting services (satellite and cable television broadcasting)
14. FM radio broadcasting
15. E-mail, voicemail, fax
16. Audio-video, CD ROM recording and production
17. Print media industries
18. Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)

Schedule-5

(Relating to section 12.2.9)

Service-oriented industrial enterprises

1. Machinery workshop
2. Printing and printing services
3. Professional research and development, management, engineering and design, legal, accounting auditing, teachers trainings, educational and technical consultancy services
4. Ginning and Bailing business
5. Film making business
6. Exhibition services
7. Cultural and entertaining business
8. Construction business
9. Public transport business
10. Photography
11. Hospitals
12. Nursing Homes
13. Teaching and training institutes
14. Library, archives and museums services
15. Laboratory services
16. Air services
17. Sports services
18. Operation of cold storage (non-agricultural)
19. House wiring, electrical fittings, and repair

20. Solid waste collection and sanitation
21. Real estate purchase and sales business
22. Heavy equipment hiring, repair and operation
23. Veterinary services
24. Battery recharging
25. Medical examination (services like X-rays, CT scanning, MRI, ultrasound services) and health examination laboratory
26. Services for operation of constructed infrastructures (such as conference halls, water supply, fuel and fuel-gas supply pipeline, godown and storage, airport, bus park, stadium, sports complex, ropeways, roads, irrigation, electricity transmission, power house, railway services, cargo complex, inland clearance depot and so on;
27. Rice mills, grinding, crossing and packaging
28. Cloths and thread dyeing, sizing, and fabric printing (except printing by textiles industry)
29. Cargo business
30. Packaging, refilling services (LPG refilling, and vehicles gas refilling stations)
31. Courier services
32. Dry-cleaning business
33. Beauty parlous
34. Interior decoration
35. Security services business

36. Printing services
37. Advertising services
38. Advertising materials preparation services
39. News reporting services
40. Programs and documentaries and tele-films made for broadcasting from televisions
41. Soil testing services
42. Health clubs
43. Drinking water supply services
44. Zoological parks operation
45. Geological parks operation
46. Business incubation services
47. Commercial complex operation
48. Foreign employment services

Schedule-6

(Relating to section 12.3.2)

Traditional and other cottage industries¹

1. Hand looms, paddle looms, semi-automatic looms, fabric wrapping; dyeing, printing, sewing (except readymade garment) and weaving through traditional technology
2. Hand woven *Radi*, *pakhi*, carpet, *pashmina*, and dress based on wool and silk
3. Handmade paper and goods based on it
4. Filigree and ornamental items based on traditional crafts
5. Traditional sculpture
6. Handmade utensils and handicrafts made of copper, brass, *dhalot*, *kaash*, and German silver
7. Handmade utensils made of iron and items of home use such as knives, *chulesi*, sickle and spade and so on
8. Handmade ornaments made of gold and silver, utensils (including valuable, semi-valuable goods, utensils and normal stone fitted)
9. Stone-cutting industries (precious, semi-precious and ordinary stones available in the country)
10. Handmade goods made of rural tanning/leather

¹ In case of a traditional cottage industry, electric power of more than 10 kilowatts must not be used.

11. Industries based on natural fiber including jute, sawai grass, bamboo fiber, grass, cotton threads, allo
12. Stone-art (goods made from stone carving)
13. Pauva, thanka art and other traditional fine art
14. Masks and dolls and toys demonstrating traditional culture
15. Various handicraft items demonstrating traditional culture, musical instruments, and arts
16. Decorative items made of wood, bone, horn, clay, stone and artistic goods made from minerals
17. Ceramics and clay pots

Schedule-7

(Relating to section 13.1)

Prioritized Industries

1. Industries based on agriculture and forests products (as referred to in schedule-1)
2. construction Industries (to construct and operate) as referred to in schedule-3
3. Energy-oriented Industries including power generation and distribution
4. Export promotion Industries
5. Industries relating to adventure tourism along with infrastructure, village tourism, eco-tourism, golf course, polo, pony trekking, trekking, water rafting, conference tourism, religious tourism, cultural tourism, fun park construction and operation, wildlife reserves
6. Mining industries, petroleum and natural gas exploration and extraction
7. Industries producing cement and clinker using native limestone, pulp and papers, sugar, chemical fertilizers (except mixing), powder milk, medicines production, processing of solid waste and unused materials, Industries manufacturing energy-saving instruments, Industries that manufacture pollution-reducing instruments, Industries

manufacturing means and instruments to be used by persons with disability, Industries manufacturing agricultural tools and machinery and industrial instruments, Industries manufacturing electric vehicles

8. Public transport enterprises, cold storage construction and operation, solid waste collection, rural information and communication technology-related services, computer software
9. Hospitals, nursing homes, veterinary hospital and clinics medical examination services, health laboratory, bio-research laboratory, teaching and training institutes to be established outside Kathmandu Valley, Pokhara Sub-Municipal Corporation areas, and Sub-Municipal Corporation and Municipality areas located in the terai districts
10. Traditional cottage Industries

Schedule-8

(Relating to section 14.1)

Industries requiring permission

1. Industries producing arms ammunitions and also gun powder, and explosive substances like security printing, currencies and coins;
2. Industries producing, cigarette, *biri*, *khaini*, cigar and other products the main raw material of which is tobacco and Industries manufacturing liquors, and beer
3. Stone, concrete, sand extraction and processing Industries;
4. Industries requiring permission under sectoral laws

Schedule-9

(Relating to section 17.2)

Least developed Area

1. Bajura	2. Jajarkot	3. Dolpa
4. Humla	5. Jumla	6. Kalikot
7. Darchula	8. Achham	9. Bajhang
10. Mugu	11. Rukum	12. Salyan
13. Dailekh	14. Rolpa	15. Terhthum
16. Doti	17. Khotang	18. Sankhuwasabha
19. Manang	20. Mustang	21. Solukhumbu
22. Taplajung	23. Okhaldhunga	

Schedule-10
(Relating to section 17.3)

Undeveloped Area

1. Baitadi	2. Dadeldhura	3. Myagdi
4. Bhojpur	5. Ilam	6. Sindhuli
7. Panchthar	8. Pyuthan	9. Baglung
10. Rasuwa	11. Sindhupalchok	12. Gulmi
13. Parbat	14. Dolakha	15. Ramechhap

Schedule-11
(Relating to section 17.4)

Under developed Area

1. Kailali	2. Bardiya	3. Kanchanpur
4. Palpa	5. Lamjung	6. Gorkha
7. Arghakhanchi	8. Dhankuta	9. Surkhet
10. Dang	11. Syangja	12. Tanahun
13. Udaypur	14. Nuwakot	15. Dhading
16. Kabhrepalanchok	17. Kapilbastu	18. Siraha
19. Banke	20. Dhanusha	21. Rautahat
22. Saptari	23. Sarlahi	24. Mahottari