

TOWARDS A RETURN OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY?

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Industrial Policy at Crossroad: A Nepalese Perspective

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Outlines of Presentation

- History of industries in Nepal.
- Evolution of industrial policies
- Salient features of Industrial Policy-2010.
- Critical review of policy.
- The way forward.

History of industries in Nepal.

- Traditional industries mainly consisted of weaving of coarse clothes, pottery, household utensils, carving of Thangka, casting of god's statue etc.
- Modern industries started in 1930s with saw mills, match factories, cotton and sugar mills and jute industries.
- Formation of Industrial Promotion Board in 1936, Company Act and Nepal Patent Design and Trade Mark Act brought out in 1936.

Evolution of Industrial policies

- The first industrial policy brought out in 1957 and subsequently replaced in 1960, 1974, 1981, 1987, 1992 and lately in 2010.
- Till 1992, focus was on IS, supported by high tariff wall and quota restrictions.
- Licenses required to establish and expand the industries. Foreign investment allowed up to 50 percent in equity.

Evolution of Industrial policies...

The Industrial Policy-1992 was based on the principle of bringing the private sector in the forefront of play for industrialization of the country through; privatization of the Public Enterprises (PEs), ensuring prevention from nationalization of the private industries, and promoting competitiveness and competition among the private industries for reducing the production cost. Government was supposed to make joint investment with the private sector in the areas where the private sector shy away and such ventures are essential for the country.

Industrial Policy-2010

Broad objective:

Contribute to poverty eradication program through promotion of public and private sector partnership and broad based industrial growth.

Industrial Policy-2010

Specific Objectives:

- Increasing national income and employment by enhancing export of qualitative and competitive industrial products.
- Enhancing the contribution of industrial sector in national and regional development by increasing the use of local resources, raw materials and skills.
- Sustaining industrialization through the application of new technology and environment friendly production process.
- Creating an enabling condition for Nepal to be an attractive destination in South Asia for investment with a focus on development of productive human resources and managerial competence.
- Protecting the intellectual property rights of the industries.

Industrial Policy-2010

Measures:

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and Facilities.

visions for Micro, Cottage and Small nd Special Economic Zones (SEZ).

Industries

l Arrangements