

## The Impact of Hike in Power Tariff



An emergency meeting of CICU working committee and representatives of the associations affiliated with this Chamber was held on 18/04/2013 at CICU complex, Focal Point, Ludhiana. The power tariff hike is uncalled for which will have negative impact on the industry as the cost of production will go up subsequently and lead the industry uncompetitive.



The hike in power tariff at differential rates for domestic, industrial & agricultural sector has been strongly condemned by the

prominent traders & industrialists who blamed State Government for burdening them at the cost of providing free power to the agriculturists. In order to save the Punjab industry from disaster and further exodus to the adjoining states following measures should be adopted:-

- The enhanced power tariff should be withdrawn which is not at all justified as MSME's are already reeling under adverse economic scenario.
- Punjab State Energy Regulatory Commission should be headed by a retired high court judge or competent technocrat from other state so that

this authority can work as autonomous body.

- To study the legal aspects of independent functioning of the Regulatory Authority a committee of key industrialists comprising Sh. O.P. Bassi, Sh. T.R. Mishra & Sh. Rajnish Ahuja was formed. This committee will make recommendation for filing PIL against the biased working of Regulatory Authority.
- Electricity duty should be charged on turned amount basis and not as percentage of the monthly bill. Further octroi on electricity should be abolished.

They further requested and urged Chief Minister Sh. Parkash Singh Badal to advise the chairman PSERC to review the exorbitant increase in power tariff so as to save the Punjab Industry from sinking and shifting to other states having pro industry policies.

## Single Window Clearance Committee Meeting With Sh. Rahul Tewari, Dy. Commissioner



Single Window Clearance Committee meeting under the Punjab Industrial Facilitation Act-2005 was held on 05/05/2013. The meeting was chaired by Rahul Tewari, Deputy Commissioner, in the presence of Rahul Verma, Municipal Commissioner and Chief Administrator GLADA, KL Sharma, Chief Engineer, PSPCL, Kanwalpreet Kaur Brar, DETC, Mahesh Khanna, GM, DIC, Rishi Pal, Addl Deputy Comm. Development, Ludhiana, and other senior Govt. officials heading various departments related to industry and commerce in Punjab responded with rectification measures on the issue faced by industrialists.

On the occasion, Avtar Singh, Upkar Singh Ahuja, Phuman Singh, Rajnish Ahuja, G.S. Kahlon, Badish Jindal, T.L. Mishra, Rajan Gupta, Jatinder Mittal enlightened various issues related with poor infrastructures of focal point and other link roads.

To the problem of pending VAT refunds Kanwalpreet Brar, DETC said, "The work for updating the departments website is in process and once it is done then every work in the department will be done online. Bogus firms will be detected through their transactions and VAT refunds will also be issued online", said Brar. Industry also raised question about procurement policy and mixed land coming under mixed land use.

Grooming and training of children above 14 years, keeping their proper record and handling over their names, age record to the concerned labor department to let them legally work for maximum four and half hours as per industrial labor policy, reviewing of minimum industrial investment clause under declaration of green category industry, registration of sale deed of plots at old industrial areas under

industrial category not as commercial category were prominently raised in the meeting.

Brar, while answering the queries, said that refund cases will be disposed off on absolute scrutinizing the quality and completion of all documents and updations will be made in terms of timely refunds of VAT within the stipulated period of 60 days as laid in the Punjab Industrial Facilitation Act-2005.

Municipal Commissioner and Chief Administrator GLADA, Rahul Verma, divulged details of upcoming proposed industrial expansion under an area spread over 1200 acres to 2500 acres earmarked in the proximity of Sahnewal, Chandigarh road, near Kohara and Rahon road. He further also told that the rates of land under proposed industrial area will be decided keeping in view the demand and supply policy.

Verma also assured the provision of sufficient exhibition area very soon for the industry at the earmarked locations such as seven acre plot lying at phase V, relating to the nonfunctional Punjab Govt. knitwear corporation, near Kohara.