FICCI Working Group on Civil Nuclear Energy

Abstract of the Manufacturing Subgroup report

India's rapidly industrializing and urbanizing economy is stoking the Power requirement demands to ever greater levels. While various measures are being taken to assuage this need, it is also equally important that India explores low carbon options for energy generation. Civil Nuclear energy, which currently contributes 4.7 GWe towards the power basket, provides a reliable, assured, and low carbon power source to the nation's economy. The report of Working Group on FICCI Civil Nuclear Energy highlights the important challenges being faced by the nuclear manufacturing sector in India.

India's Civil Nuclear manufacturing while adhering to some of the finest International standards in manufacturing, including nuclear safety and non-proliferation, has been facing structural and operational difficulties in contributing to their fullest potential. Some of these challenges include the lack proficient and adequately trained manpower, continuity of manufacturing orders, lack of business export plan of NPCIL technology to upcoming markets and logistical difficulties faced in transportation nuclear engineering equipment across the country. The working group after focused deliberations and discussions with industry partners has come out with important recommendations aimed at addressing these challenges. Some of the suggested measures include the creation of "Centers of excellence" to meet nuclear personnel training requirements, simultaneous financial closure of multiple projects, engaging the manufacturing industry for 10-15 years through repeat ordering and bulk tendering process, formulating procedures for gradual indigenization and training inputs for export of nuclear technology, with strict safeguards which continue and strengthen India's strong non proliferation commitments.

The report also emphasizes that should these challenges be overcome, the sector will witness a massive resurgence in civil nuclear manufacturing, giving a vital thrust to India's manufacturing and Power sector and will fulfill the objective of establishing 63 GWe of nuclear power by 2032 as envisaged by Government of India.