



Public Affairs Forum of India

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PRESS RELEASE

New Industry Policy has been a Success: Mr. Manpreet Singh Badal, Minister of Finance, Government of Punjab

*** Rethink on the Agricultural Reforms**

***Diversification in agriculture cannot be abrupt, it has to be organic.**

New Delhi, October 23, 2020: Mr. Manpreet Singh Badal, Minister of Finance and Planning Punjab, has suggested a three-point agenda for agricultural reforms for the state. Speaking at the PAFI 7th National Forum 2020 he said that Punjab Government supports the three-point agenda of “No buying below MSP”, “No conduct of business without a valid license” and “All produce has to come to the market yard”.

He further stated that Punjab favours Green Revolution 2.0 and is already moving towards producing quality seeds for grains and potato. Commenting on diversification of agri-food processing industry, Minister said that the state needs investments in R&D. He also said that the state is focussing on building a strong dairy sector and in a few years will be in a position to provide better breed of milch animals to other states.

Citing the recent figures of investment in the state, the Minister deemed the new industry policy, a success. He mentioned that three major upcoming industrial parks were coming up soon and the state has frozen power tariffs for industry and the ‘**Invest Punjab**’ office which offers single-window clearance is helping industry that has invested in Punjab. He also highlighted the setting up of the State Water Regulatory Authority.

He said that the state has been receiving very high industrial investments and even during the COVID-19 it has received over Rs 3500 crore of investments.

Talking about the state’s wish list, he highlighted the need for assistance from the Central Government in setting up Cold-chain infrastructure, special cargo flights to the UAE and neighbouring countries, and setting up logistics infrastructure. In addition, he was of the opinion that Central Government should extend the support via compensation cess to the states.

Mr Ishteyaque Amjad, President, PAFI & Vice President – Public Affairs, Communications & Sustainability Coca-Cola, India and South West Asia, welcomed the panellist in his opening remarks.



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Advocating 'Invest Punjab' as the best model, **Mr Viraj Chouhan, Chief Government Affairs & Communications Officer, PepsiCo India** thanked the State of Punjab for facilitating investment.

About Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI):

Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI), the only platform for corporate/public affairs practitioners in the country, has completed 11 years of work in the field of Public Affairs, Advocacy & Public Policy. PAFI has representation from large and medium-sized transnational, Indian and foreign companies. For more information, visit: www.pafi.in.

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