**Security Printing Centre (SPC)**

**"Towards Self-reliance with Security Printing"**

**Background**

Nepal is a small least developed country located in between two Asian giants, China and India. Execution of planned economic effort has already passed six decades. During this period, country has done good progress in some social sectors (education, health) and basic development infrastructures such as transportation, telecommunication, electricity. Yet, the country is not fastly going up to the rostrum of developed countries, the reason being of political instability, geographical location and prevalence of poverty and illiteracy. In addition to this, some small but productive sectors were also not taken off for the economic development. Security Printing is one of those productive enterprise left behind.

In this background, Government of Nepal, as per the provision of Development Committee Act 1956, has promulgated Security Printing Development Committee (Formation) order 2016. Further more, as per the provision of this legal order, Security Printing Centre has been recently established at Singha Durbar as the administrative office of the committee.

**Scope of Work**

* Policies, budget and programmes related to security printing
* Physical infrastructure construction essential for security printing.
* Establishment and operation of security printing press for Passports, Cheques, Smartcards, Postage stamps, Banknotes, Revenue stickers and other valuable items.
* Personalization of Passport and Smartcards
* Service charge determination
* Appropriate study and research essential for security printing.
* Training and orientation programmes related to security printing
* Management of financial resources

**Composition of Security Printing Development Committee**

3.1 Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communication …. **Chairman**

3.2 Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance ……………………. **Member**

3.3 Joint Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology ………. **Member**

3.4 Joint Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs …………… **Member**

3.5 Joint Secretary, Home Ministry ………… **Member**

3.6 Director General, Department of Printing …….. **Member**

3.7 Two person nominated by the Ministry of Information and

Communication ( including one female ) …………. **Member**

3.8 Executive Director ………… **Member secretary**

**A Glimpse of Policies & Programmes of Security Printing Centre (SPC)**

**Vision**

To make Nepal self-reliant with the development of Security Printing, and, to promote Security Printing Center (SPC) as an attractive venue of international printing market.

**Objective:**

To save the national money being spent on Security Printing outside the country, and, to provide confidential service and superior secure items in the external market.

**Goal:**

To develop Security Printing as the source of national revenue, productive employment and earning good amount of foreign currencies.

**Strategic Objectives:**

* To formulate an action oriented and result oriented master plan in order to develop Security Printing in three time bound phases:-

a) First Phase:- To make Nepal Self-reliant within 5 years.

b) Second Phase: To provide reliable service & quality secure goods to the SAARC and ASEAN Countries within next 10 years.

c) Third Phase: To provide goods & services of Security Printing to the overseas countries, other than mentioned above, within next 15 years.

* To give topmost priority for the development of Security Printing programmes similar to the highly prioritized project of National Glory.
* To provide full fledged legal recognition to the service of Security Printing as the most essential service of people.
* To develop a functional organization structure of Security Printing Centre based on the OD (organization Development) report assumed to be submitted by a study group of experts and scholars assigned by SPC.

**Operational programmes and Activities**

* Two different study group of experts and scholars will be formed within the year 2017, and assigned to work on the formulation of goal oriented master plan and functional organization structure of the security printing centre. Study group of organization development will be asked to submit OD (Organization Development) Report within one year, while, study group of master plan will be given 2 years period for work completion. Virtually the expected master plan will envision basic planning & policy concepts for SPC. Likewise, the organization structure & required no of manpower of SPC will be based on the Organization Development report to be submitted by above mentioned study group.
* About 15 hectares of land, essential budget will be made available through the co-operation of related government ministries in order to develop Security Printing Centre (SPC) in the form of a small confined area proposed to be named as "SPC-Village".
* Within this year, tender document will be prepared to purchase essential quality printing machines & equipment for installing in the assigned complex.
* To disseminate the nature role and need of SPC, introductory brochure and website content will be documented and distributed. To make citizen of every concerned sector aware, goal oriented workshops and training programme will be conducted at major cities of the country.
* Bulletin Newscasts related to functioning of SPC will also be advertised, published, and broadcasted through Radio, Television and Newspapers.
* With the amendment of essential services operation act 1961,full fledge legal provision will be made to recognize the security printing as essential service like drinking water and electricity, Any sort of strikes, pendown and agitation movement will be restrictly prohibited.
* Development programme and Project of SPC will be prioritized as the Project of National Glory through the appropriate mechanism of Government of Nepal.
* Various types of job related training programmes and orientation workshops will be vigourously conducted so as to make SPC- employee professional, ethical and productive. Career Progression path of staff will be legally formulated.
* With the understanding made between SPC and reputed international printing industry (1 or 2) apprenticeship programmes will be launched, so as to make staff skillful and dedicated.

**Expected Outputs**

* In the initial operation phase of SPC, about 500 staff can be expected to be employed directly, and about 25000 people can be engaged indirectly in the stakeholders institutions working for the delivery of security printing items.
* After the startup operation of SPC, about 1000 million Nepalese rupees can be hold to the nation. Moreover about other 1000 million Nepalese rupees (equivalent of foreign currencies) can be expected to be collected to the national treasury.
* National confidence in the economy can be strengthened by the success story of SPC.
* Nepal, being one of the best destination of foreign tourists, SPC- promotion indirectly can make positive impact to the tourism sector.

**Problems and challenges**

* Just to make all citizen aware of the importance of security printing, publicity and advocacy programmes are to be intensively conducted to the civil society members, representatives of political parties, media agencies, members of consumer associations and other concerned ones.
* High level commitment, from both leadership and institutional level, should be clearly and formally stated, so as to provide necessary budget and availability of physical resources and equipments for the continuous implementation of development programmes related to SP.(Security Printing)
* Security Printing is a most delicated and technology-driven industry. This enterprise requires a good number of honest and professionally sharpened manpower. Inland Market can be deficient of some technical manpowers. As the SPC is newly established, in the initial phase of its operation, SPC with the coordination of Ministry of General Administration has either to depute technical manpower (from other technical services) temporarily or to contract from the market so as to run the institution. In the mean time, operational training, demonstrative orientation and shortterm apprenticeship programmes are to be managed by SPC for above mentioned manpower. But for the longterm, as per the provisions of expected organization development plan, SPC has to hire large number of trained and specific technical manpower for the operation of product wise units of the centre. Even after recruitment, SPC has to make other regular human resource development plan to develop the potentiality of recruited staff which is ultimately related with the enhancement of the Centre's Productivity.
* Prompt rapport and Proper coordination is necessary in between SPC and at least one or two other reputed external company, just to make operational work smooth and successful.