1st Terms of Reference of Joint Technical Committee on Sugar 2017-2022

Immediate Measures

- To review and redefine the mandate of the SIFB to include economic insurance and back to back to appoint an actuary to advise on special assistance and premium waiver on crops 2017 and 2018.
- 2. Abolition of Cess levy and that the budget of MCIA be funded by Government.
- To increase the import duty on sugar for the domestic market to at least 40% in order to protect the industry from foreign competition and allow higher remuneration from domestic sales.
- To review and rationalise the local storage of sugar wholly to the MSS.
- The Sugar Industry be exempted of the increase in handling fees applied by Cargo handling Corporation as from 1st July 2017.
- Provision of a special assistance to the Sugar Industry to maintain the parity between MUR and USD / Euro.
- To revalorise the important role of bagasse in providing competitive renewable energy through adequate payments to the ultimate beneficiaries.
- In the context of the renewable Sugarcane Industry Based Biomass Framework there is need to finalise on the utilisation of cane trash as a new source of renewable energy.

Medium Term Measures

- The provision of adequate policy space be provided for the setting up of the Sugar Based Agro-Industry Framework in the context of the Food Processing Development Certificate.
- Government with the support of the private sector should negotiate duty-free TRQs with countries like India, China and Turkey and bilateral discussions should be encouraged with countries within COMESA and SADC.
- To review of labour cost and fully integrate the sugar sector into the mainstream of the economy and harmonise the labour laws.