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Project Appraisal/Term Loan Appraisal

📌 Term Loans & Project Loans Overview

✓ Term loans are availed for:

1 **Greenfield Ventures** 🌱 (*New business projects*)

2 **Brownfield Units** 🏢 (*Expansion, modernization, or replacement of machinery in an existing business*)

✓ Project Loans are categorized into:

◆ **Infrastructure Projects** 🏗️ (*Roads, Power Plants, Airports, Railways, etc.*)

◆ **Non-Infrastructure Projects** 🏢 (*Commercial Real Estate, Manufacturing, IT Parks, etc.*)

📌 Project Appraisal - Capital Budgeting Decisions

✓ **Capital budgeting** is the process of **evaluating and selecting investment projects**.

✓ When multiple viable projects exist, the **finance manager** must assess:

◆ **Costs & Benefits** 📊

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- ◆ Risks & Uncertainty ⚠
- ◆ Expected Returns 📈










✓ Key Phases of Capital Budgeting:

📌 Phase	✅ Key Activities
1 Identification of Investment Opportunities	Analyzing market demand, competition, and industry trends.
2 Preliminary Screening	Checking financial feasibility, government regulations, and risk factors.
3 Feasibility Study	Detailed analysis of costs, financing, and project benefits.
4 Implementation	Execution of the investment plan (machinery purchase, workforce training, etc.).
5 Performance Review	Evaluating the project's success & deviations from projections.

11.3 Aspects of Project Appraisal from Lender's Perspective




Banks and financial institutions conduct **detailed project appraisals** before granting loans to ensure the **feasibility, profitability, and risk assessment** of a project.   

Key Aspects of Project Appraisal

 Aspect	 Key Areas Assessed
 Prima Facie Acceptability	Ensuring compliance with laws, funding viability, and regulatory norms.
 Environmental Compliance	Adhering to environmental laws & protecting local communities.
 Technical Feasibility	Assessing infrastructure, technology, machinery, and workforce.
 Economic Viability	Analyzing market demand, pricing, and business sustainability.
 Managerial Appraisal	Evaluating promoter's experience & management skills.
 Financial Appraisal	Checking project cost, funding sources, cash flow, and profitability.
 Commercial Viability	Examining profitability, breakeven analysis, and debt service coverage ratio (DSCR).

11.3.6.2 Cost of Project and Means of Finance







✓ A realistic assessment of project cost is crucial for determining:







- ◆ Funding sources 
- ◆ Financial viability 
- ◆ Profitability projections 


✓ Key Considerations:

- ✓ Project cost should account for inflation & cost escalations.
- ✓ Sources of finance must be clearly identified.
- ✓ Debt-to-equity ratio & financial structure must be optimized.





Cost of Project: Key Components


 Component	 Includes
 Land & Site Development	Land acquisition, lease charges, site levelling, approach roads.
 Building & Civil Works	Factory, office, warehouse, drainage, fencing.
 Plant & Machinery	Purchase, import duty, freight, installation.
 Technical Know-How	Fees for foreign/local technical expertise, training.

 Engineering & Consultancy Fees	Architects, engineers, consultants.
 Preliminary & Pre-Operative Expenses	Feasibility study, legal fees, travel, marketing.
 Interest During Construction (IDC)	Interest on loans until commercial production begins.
 Contingencies	Cost overruns due to inflation, tax changes.
 Initial Cash Losses	Expected losses in the first few months of operation.
 Debt Service Reserve Account (DSRA)	Reserve for loan repayment (typically for 1-4 quarters).

 Means of Finance: Funding Sources for the Project

 **Once the project cost is estimated, funding sources must be determined.**

 Source	 Examples
 Owned Capital	Share capital, retained earnings.
 Borrowed Capital	Term loans, debentures, public deposits.








 Other Long-Term Funds	Government subsidies, venture capital, foreign investment.
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Categories of Project Costs: Hard Costs vs. Soft Costs

✓ **Hard Costs = Tangible assets** (land, building, machinery).

✓ **Soft Costs = Non-physical expenses** (legal fees, training, consulting).





Sources of Finance: Debt vs. Equity

 Source	 Details
 Equity Financing	Promoters' capital, retained earnings, venture capital.
 Debt Financing	Term loans from banks, debentures, foreign currency loans.
 Deferred Credit	Supplier-provided credit (Deferred Payment Guarantee - DPG).
 Incentive-Based Financing	Government capital subsidies, tax exemptions.
 Miscellaneous Sources	Public deposits, unsecured loans, leasing, hire purchase.

Estimates of Cost of Production and Profitability






- ✓ Profitability analysis ensures a project can generate enough revenue to cover costs, repay loans, and grow.
- ✓ The borrower's ability to repay a loan depends on its operating surplus, not just collateral value.

Key Objectives of Cost & Profitability Estimates:










- ◆ Assess earning capacity of the project 
- ◆ Determine loan repayment feasibility 
- ◆ Ensure shareholder value & future growth 
- ◆ Facilitate cost control & optimization 

Components of Cost of Production & Profitability Analysis

- ✓ Key elements in profitability estimates include:

 Factor	 Key Considerations
 Installed Capacity	Maximum output production capability.
 Number of Working Shifts	Affects production volume & labor costs.
 Capacity Utilization	How efficiently resources are used.








 Product Mix	Balance between multiple products to optimize profit.
 Unit Cost of Production	Fixed + Variable costs per unit.
 Labor Costs	Salaries, wages, incentives, benefits.
 Repairs & Maintenance	Expenses incurred in maintaining, repairing, and servicing machinery, equipment, and infrastructure in an industrial plant
 Administrative Expenses	Overheads like office rent, utilities.
 Packing & Selling Costs	Logistics, distribution, sales promotion.
 Financial Costs	Loan interest, bank charges.
 Depreciation	Reduction in asset value over time.
 Inflation Impact	Rising input costs affecting profitability.

Commercial Viability

✓ Commercial viability ensures the project generates enough profit to sustain itself & repay debts.

✓ Must withstand economic fluctuations & market risks.

📌 Three Key Aspects of Commercial Viability:

 Aspect	 Definition
 Loan Repayment Ability	Ability to generate cash flow to meet debt obligations.
 Cushion for Unpaid Dues	Availability of backup funds/assets.
 Cost of Capital	Ensuring return on investment is higher than financing cost.




Break-Even Analysis (BEP)

✓ **Break-even point** = The production level where **total cost = total revenue**.

✓ At BEP, there is neither profit nor loss.







✓ Beyond BEP, every additional unit contributes to profit.

Importance of Break-Even Analysis:






- ◆ Helps in loan repayment scheduling 
- ◆ Determines minimum sales target for survival 
- ◆ Identifies margin of safety against market downturns 

Break-Even Point (BEP) Formula:

 **BEP (Units) = Fixed Cost ÷ Contribution per Unit**

 Component	 Definition
 Fixed Cost (FC)	Costs that do not change with production level (e.g., Rent, Salaries).
 Variable Cost (VC)	Costs that vary with production (e.g., Raw Materials, Packaging).
 Contribution	Sales Price – Variable Cost.
 Break-Even Point (BEP)	The level at which total revenue = total cost.

Risk Categorization Based on BEP

 BEP %	 Risk Level
≤ 50%	Low Risk (Healthy Business) 
51%-65%	Moderate Risk 
66%-70%	High Risk 

71%-85%	Very High Risk ❌
> 85%	Extreme Risk (Business at Loss) ❌

Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR)

- ✓ DSCR measures the ability of a business to repay its debt comfortably.
- ✓ It ensures loan repayment is a strain-free experience for the business.
- ✓ Ideal DSCR:
 - Gross DSCR (GDSCR): 1.50 – 1.75 ✓
 - Net DSCR (NDSCR): ~2.0 ✓ ✓ Higher DSCR (>2) indicates strong repayment capacity 💰.

📌 How is DSCR Calculated?




📊 Formula:

📊 Gross DSCR (GDSCR) = (Cash Accruals + Interest on Term Loans) / (EMI Installments + Interest on Term Loans)


📊 Net DSCR (NDSCR) = Cash Accruals / EMI Installments

📌 Strategies to Maintain DSCR

✓ **Repayment structuring:**

- Lower initial EMI, increasing later 
- Longer repayment tenure 
- Balloon payments towards the end 

✓ **Loan Agreement Clarity:**

- Clearly defined **repayment schedule & due dates** 
- Moratorium period considerations (when applicable)

Internal Rate of Return (IRR)

✓ IRR is the discount rate at which the project's Net Present Value (NPV) = 0.




✓ It represents the **project's annualized rate of return** .

✓ **A project is viable if IRR > Cost of Capital** 

 **Formula:**

$$IRR = r_1 + \left[\frac{NPV_1}{|NPV_1 - NPV_2|} \times (r_2 - r_1) \right]$$

 **IRR vs. NPV**

 Factor	 IRR	 NPV
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Definition	Discount rate where NPV = 0	Difference between the present value of cash inflows and the present value of cash outflows
Interpretation	Represents project's % return per year	Absolute profit/loss in ₹
Decision Criteria	IRR > Cost of Capital = Accept	NPV > 0 = Accept
Limitations	Assumes reinvestment at IRR	Sensitive to discount rate changes

11.3.7.4 Modified Internal Rate of Return (MIRR)

✓ The Modified Internal Rate of Return (MIRR) is an improved version of IRR that considers the reinvestment of cash inflows at a specified rate

✓ More realistic & accurate profitability measure  .

 Formula:

$$MIRR = \left(\frac{FV_{\text{positive cashflows}}}{PV_{\text{negative cashflows}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1$$

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 **Example:** An IT project has:

✓ IRR = 18% , ✓ MIRR = 12% , ✓ Cost of Capital = 10%

 MIRR provides a more conservative & realistic return estimate






11.3.7.5 Sensitivity Analysis (Cost-Volume-Price Analysis)



Sensitivity Analysis is a financial tool used to assess how changes in key variables (such as costs, revenues, interest rates, or inflation)

impact a project's profitability or financial viability. ✓ Key factors

tested:

- Rising input costs 
- Declining product prices 
- Sales volume fluctuations 

Risk Scenarios:

 Scenario	 Impact on BEP, DSCR, IRR
Raw Material Cost Increases by 10%	Higher production costs → Lower margins → Higher BEP
Sales Price Drops by 5%	Lower revenue → Higher BEP → Reduced DSCR
Loan Interest Rate Increases by 1%	Higher finance costs → Lower IRR