

## **Report on leadership talk with Padma Bhushan Dr. VK Saraswat, Member NITI Aayog on 13th April 2020**

In Leadership talk with Dr. Anand Deshpande, Chairman, Persistent Systems Ltd. on 14th April 2020, Dr. Abhay Jere discussed with him the scenario post-COVID-19.

The first point which was discussed was how the world order is going to change and what will be India's role in it. On this Dr. Anand Deshpande said that this is a short-order phenomenon. It is going to change the key component, manufacturing, and development with one country like China. There is a huge opportunity that will open up where Global supply chains are going to get re-distributed and how India is helping everyone and managing in this situation will help to establish its tech and supply chain companies as a leader in this market. He discussed how people are working from home and can work effectively showing that this is a whole off-short model working remotely maintaining productivity and quality of work during COVID-19 ensures how India as a country will come much stronger.

The second point discussed was the challenges faced by business persons, small companies and individuals who are facing survival problems. How the present situation has lowered the market and what problems they will face post it. The main point was after this short-term phenomenon, they have to re-do their business for a better future. At the individual level who may have lost their jobs, got their offers canceled or did not get any placement to have a good time to learn new things and become more marketable and readier for future when market opens up again.

The fourth point discussed where for the opportunities that will arise for the start-ups. How the current situation has given rise to new problems and how new start-ups can be established to solve these problems.

The last point in this discussion was on how online classes have opened up a new dimension of learning. How students are finding it more convenient and less important to go to schools and colleges and learn from online courses and platforms to gain much more knowledge at the same time. On the other hand, how institutions will face problems regarding this new thinking and how it is important to have them for actually practicing what they have learned. To do researches, collaborate at a global level and gain experience. Learn how to work in a collaborative manner at these collaborative research platforms provided by the institutions.

These are the points that were discussed in the Leadership talk and are summarized above in brief.

**Dr. Pooja Gupta**  
**Member IIC-MAIT**