

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

A leadership talk organised by MHRD, AICTE and IIC on 13th April 2020 at Twitter live platform. Dr. Abhay Jere, Chief Innovation Officer, MHRD Innovation Cell, talked with Padam Bhushan Dr.V.K. Saraswat, Member Niti Aayog on the topic of COVID-19.

Dr. Saraswat share the information that Niti Aayog advises the GOI for how to make lockdown successful by helping MSME, daily wagers and BPL people, etc. by providing them financial support like no wage cuts, No EMI, help in EPFO contribution, etc. and GOI gives 1.7 lakh CR package. Also, how Indian Govt. and private sector help country to fight COVID-19 by producing in mass production of ventilators, N-95 & 99 masks etc. He gives examples of DRDO collaborate with private firm and medical institutions.

Dr. Saraswat gives their view on post COVID-19 India. India have to take this pandemic as an opportunity because bilateral trade of China and other countries will reduce and most of world countries will reduce their dependency to China. At that time India have opportunity to attract FDI to establish Manufacturing in India and India also have to reduce their dependency over China. India have to concentrate to increase the employment asap in post COVID-19 India.

He also added that India should invest more in biotechnology and develop more Institute like IIV, Puna, because in last 15 years and also in future bio weapons are widely used to win war. He point out in lack of convertibility of medical technology into mass production scale and supply chain mismanagement in pharmaceutical industry. India should invest in biotechnology, bio research, medical instruments and pharmaceutical.

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