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The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry

(Formerly known as FTAPCCI)

Empowering Industry, Commerce & Trade
Registered under the Companies Act, 1956

REGD OFFICE : Federation House, FTCCI Marg , 11-6-841, Red Hills, Hyderabad 500004, Telangana, India. Tel : 91-40-23395515 to 22 (8 lines), Fax : 91-40-23395525
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Ramakanth Inani
President

K. Bhasker Reddy
Senior Vice President

Anil Agarwal
Vice President

Press Release

- **900 Crores spent under Covid Kavach**
- **1.5 lac Health & wellness centers to come up by 2022**
- **2.4 Crore beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat**
- **157 Hospitals which are linked to Medical Collages will go under major up gradation**

said **Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister for Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India.**

Hyderabad 27th November 2020: The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), FAPCCI, FICCI, & ASCI organized a **webinar on Government measures on COVID 19- HEALTH CARE REFORMS**. **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, Hon'ble Union Minister for Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of India addressed the participants and the following officials attended the event **Mr. CV Atchut Rao**, President, FAPCCI, **Dr. Subodh Kandamuthan**, Centre Director, Centre for healthcare Management, ASCI, **Mr. Muralidharan Thyagarajan**, Chair, Telangana State Council, FICCI, **Mr. Ramakanth Inani**, President, **Mr. Shekhar Agarwal**, Chair, **Mr Narender Surana**, Advisor, Healthcare and Disaster Management Committee, **Mr. K. Bhasker Reddy**, Sr. Vice President, **Mr. Anil Agarwal**, Vice President, FTCCI

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare said "FTCCI and FAPCCI were pro-active in realizing their responsibility towards the society and had come out with the Analytics Report on COVID-19. The Government took timely action to contain the spread of the virus and these steps had ensured that the state was on better footing."

Dr. Harsh Vardhan observed that the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Governments have taken steps to include the treatment for COVID 19 under the Arogya Sri scheme and has taken steps to provide isolation facilities for patients hailing from below poverty line families in the Government Hospitals. He expressed his thankfulness to both the Federations for coming forward to extend all cooperation in working with the Central Government in providing access to health care simple, accessible and affordable to all.

The Andhra Pradesh Government has initiated several measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic. District collectors were appointed as nodal officers for control of COVID-19 in the district-level. State and



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district level surveillance teams were formed to track foreign returnees, travelers from abroad and contact them. House-to-house active search to identify all foreign returnees is taken up in the State Simultaneously the Government has taken steps to train the health staff at state and district-levels. He state government has ramped up its health infrastructure and decentralized it, and designated private hospitals as COVID hospitals for severe cases and others as COVID care centers for those with mild symptoms.

He further said, "The Government has worked out round the clock to boost production and expand our health care work force, thus bridging the gaps in demand and supply of essentials such as kits, PPEs, ventilators. Etc. An Aatma Nirbhar Bharat movement has been launched to have self sufficiency in all our capacities."

Emphasising on the use of technology in COVID management, Dr Vardhan noted, "India is making use of Information Technology in virtually every aspect of COVID management. Aarogya Setu App is presently being used by more than 170 million Indians making it one of the most downloaded apps in the world. A web-based tele-consultation service has been initiated to enable non-COVID-19 healthcare services. So far, more than 0.60 million tele-consultations have been conducted and more people are getting on-board."

Dr Vardhan said, "India has made huge strides in improving the health of our people in the last two decades. Strengthening and accelerating establishment of Health and Wellness Centers is one of them. And now, India's contribution will be critical in fight against COVID-19. The government has accorded top-most priority to research and manufacturing to ensure that the vaccine reaches the last person. The Administration is working on all aspects, besides designing innovative approaches to distribute vaccines in rural and remote regions of the country. The digital platform for vaccine administration and distribution is prepared and test runs underway in partnership with state and district level stakeholders."

The central Government is constantly monitoring, evaluation and providing handholding support to the States to tackle the COVID crisis. The Government of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh has also undertaken various unique strategies to keep their response mechanism vigilant.

Dr. Vardhan urged people to follow COVID Appropriate behavior. He said, "In view of the persisting pandemic scenario there is no place for any relaxation in preventive measures such as wearing masks, keeping distance and ensuring hygiene."

Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI said The government health services are available free of cost to all citizens, there are severe limitations in quality and infrastructure and he said the governments need to work



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with private healthcare companies for building health infrastructure and to upgrade the current primary care centers in a more efficient manner. He also said urged to address severe shortage of trained personnel in government hospitals. Hyderabad being a pharma hub, we are happy that pharma companies rouse to occasion and come forward to offer the COVID-19 Vaccine.

Mr. Shekhar Agarwal, Chair, Healthcare and Disaster Management Committee, said GOI took exemplary and fast action to control a deadly disease which resulted in the lowest mortality rate in our country. This is the greatest contribution that anyone can make to society. We can come together with the government to plan the vaccine roll-out in our state.

C.V. Atchut Rao, President, Federation of Andhra Pradesh Chambers of commerce and Industry said the present structure of the primary healthcare system originated in the 1940s and the 80-yr-old system has several limitations: it is not accessible, is personnel-intensive, is expensive with limited returns, does not provide required services and does not address the cause/determinants of disease. We should build a specific 'ring-fenced' funding provision to support the ecosystem for innovative healthcare devices. Given the high percentage of Indians living in rural areas, primary care is the most important need for the population. In this regard I would like to state that the both the federations are ready to work with the Central and respective state government to take the Government initiatives.

I would like to state that the epidemic preparedness must enter our policy and there is every need to scale up the manufacturing. It is the time for the Government need to encourage new innovations and technologies for use of health care system. Strategic planning with appropriate allocation of funds aimed at self-reliance is a sure step towards actually reaching self-reliance.

About FTCCI

FTCCI have been energizing industry for 100 years. We've been engaging with the government to represent our members and played a key role in enabling change through meaningful interactions for an entire century. FTCCI liaises between Trade, Industry and the Government, participating & suggesting to the government on their policies on industry, labor laws, energy, environment, direct & indirect taxes & various issues. It also draws attention and represents industry about the issues and challenges of industry & trade. FTCCI conducts studies on various subjects related to trade and industry and acts as a knowledge chamber.

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