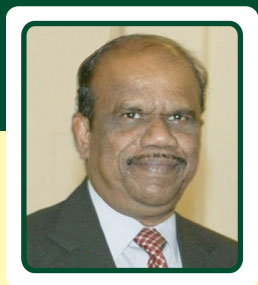


INDIA BEYOND 2020 CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

DIGITAL CONFERENCE



**Padma Bhusan, Padma Shri
DR. A. SIVATHANU PILLAI**

Former Chief Controller, R&D, DRDO &
Founder CEO and MD of Brahmos Aerospace

VISION FOR INDIA

Dr. Sivathanu Pillai goes straight to the idea of Vision 2020 and the five areas identified in the same which is as follows:

1. Agriculture and Food Processing
2. Education and Healthcare
3. Information and Communication Technology
4. Infrastructure (particularly the power), PURA and River Connectivity
5. Self Reliance in Critical Technologies and Strategic Industries

Over to his words,

“Particularly, agricultural productivity this year has gone up. In Vision 2020 we wanted to do green revolution 2 which has taken off too but still we have not achieved what we wanted. Nearly 350 billion tonnes of food grains we want to produce and we are moving towards that. We are the largest producer

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of milk in the world and all the other products regarding agriculture are also going well. Things are moving up in the Communication and IT sector too (last year they have given 120 million dollars). Super computers which were denied to us earlier, now we are making the same. Here also our scientists are contributing very well to make the large computing facilities for us. Then in area of power, we are more working on solar and wind. We have less power in the field of nuclear but we are having another twelve reactors being constructed. So we will be having more power from the nuclear field also. We have made achievements at the strategic part space and defence. But overall we might not have achieved our GDP growth rate of 100% which we wanted to. We didn't succeed in eliminating poverty and in the field of literacy also we have got still to do. So we haven't achieved fully achieved the parameters for the developed India. But India has undoubtedly done very well in the technology field.

Coming to the Sustainable Development part, we must acknowledge that if we really need to be developed we need to have Sustainable Development. That is we should have good earth, good bio-diversity and good eco system. Also we have to see that manufacturing becomes one of the very important components of our economy.

We are also doing well in the field of Health; our hospitals are

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very much wanted and Medical Tourism has also started in a big way. Education, Health and Housing has also improved. Security area and Employment area needs to be improved. Rural development is a very important component for our economy. Instead of Smart City (which is also needed), we should go for Smart Rural. PURA Scheme is the best for our country and it will definitely make things very happier.

For an overall societal improvement, we need to improve the educational aspects particularly higher education quality, employment opportunities etc. And healthcare should be less costly. In the matter of electricity, we need clean energy more that is Solar Vision needs to be implemented in a big way. Finally the very important thing is to sustain GDP growth. That only will give a higher position in terms of overall economic situation.

Now, talking about the strategic industries, space has done very well. We had a great Vision of Sarabhai nurtured by Prof. Satish Dhawan and we could see many successful launch vehicles PSLV, GSLV Operations and now we are attempting to put our lander on the moon. Hence, we have achieved self reliance in launch vehicle, Satellite Technology and utilization of space for development. So in sustainable development space becomes a very important part.

When we talk about agriculture today, PF (Precision e the

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Farming) is one the most important technologies which is necessary. It means large utilization of satellites, pictures, high precision positioning systems, variable rate technologies, automated steering systems, geo mapping has to come in if production needs to be better in small areas.

Similarly, tele-medicine to the hospitals is another crucial aspect.

To master fusion energy, we are working with other nations of the world to go for Thermo Nuclear Experiment. In the area of defence we have got strategic missiles like AGNI-5, BRAHMOS (fastest missile in the world).

Development of the nation is not with one organization rather it can happen only if we make an all round progress and involvement of many partners that the GDP growth becomes better.”

