



# **Report on the 'Leaders Speak' Series on the theme "Political Administration and Reforms"**



# FOUNTAINHEAD OF EXCELLENCE

## PARTNERS





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# Live Event on ZOOM/MMA Facebook/ Live IBC/YouTube

# Under 'Leaders Speak' Series on the theme

# "Political Administration and Reforms"

# Ву

# **Dr M Veerappa Moily**

Former Chief Minister of Karnataka and Former Union Minister, Government of India

held on Wednesday, 13 May 2020 at 6.00 pm

PARTNERS





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## 'Leaders Speak' Series on the theme "Political Administration and Reforms"

*By* Dr M Veerappa Moily Held on 13 May 2020

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## **Invitation for the event**



\_eaders Speak



You are cordially invited to Watch Live on ZOOM/MMA Facebook/Live IBC under the 'Leaders Speak Series' on the theme

# Political Administration and Reforms

by

**Dr M Veerappa Moily** 

Former Chief Minister of Karnataka Former Union Minister, Government of India

at 6.00 pm Wednesday, 13 May 2020



#### **The Context**

The unabated COVID-19 pandemic raging across the globe is nothing like ever before- the two World Wars, 9/11 and all other comparisons put together. While other disasters, man-made or natural, did impact people across the world, whether or not they were in the core area, this one, like a machine-gun fire, has hit almost every nation and every community, taking a heavy human toll. The most dangerous and noticeable aspect of it is that with no cure in sight immediately, it has led to an economic meltdown, worse than the one that the West faced in the previous decade, or the bench-mark 'Great Depression' some 90 long years ago.

All of it has led to a situation, where the political administration in every country needs to look as much deep inwards as outwards, for designing a future for the nation concerned and its people. While on the face of it, 'Corona Warriors' in medical professionals, aided ably by law-enforcing authorities with great dedication, risk and sacrifice, the focus has always turned to the political leadership, past and present, to guide the future. Expertise and experience count, and they need to be comprehensive, compartmental and combined together to make a new paradigm-shift in terms of the nation's understanding, policies and programmes, much different from what we have got used to - be it under the regime of Democratic Socialism, or of Economic Reforms based on Market Capitalism. But these are only broad-spectrum ideas.

We need to look closer and deeper into each and almost every aspect of societal formation and public administration to provide for the recent transitions that had escaped attention and hence policy-decisions and programme-implementation. The Madras Management Association (MMA), in association with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and Observer Research Foundation (ORF) is organising a series of Online Talks under the title, 'COVID-19: Leaders Speak Series,' aimed at getting experts, especially political administrators from the present and the past, with experience at the Centre and/or in the States, to share their valuable views and ideas, to help enable the nation to take it forward.

#### **Programme Overview**

**MMA-KAS-ORF** in association with **NGPL & Presense** presented a talk under **"Leaders Speak Series"** through Webinar on the theme **"Political Administration and Reforms"** at 6 pm on Wednesday, **13 May 2020** for the benefit of MMA Members and Management professionals.

**Gp Captain R Vijayakumar (Retd),** Executive Director, MMA delivered the Opening Remarks.

**Mr Peter Rimmele,** Resident Representative to India, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung delivered the Introductory Remarks.

**Mr Prime Point Srinivasan**, Chairman & Managing Trustee- DiJAI introduced the Speaker Dr M Veerappa Moily.

**Dr M Veerappa Moily**, former Chief Minister of Karnataka and former Union Minister of Government of India delivered the talk on the theme, **"Political Administration and Reforms**."

In view of the restriction on account of COVID – 19 with relevance to social distancing and keeping in view the safety and well-being of our members, the event was conducted online and beamed live on ZOOM/ MMA Webcast / YouTube and Facebook.

A Q & A session was scheduled where viewers could share their questions by SMS / WhatsApp / Zoom Chat window. This was moderated by Group Captain Mr R Vijayakumar, ED, MMA and Dr Veerappa Moily answered the questions during the programme.

**Mr R Vijayakumar** proposed the **Vote of Thanks** and the event concluded at 7.30 PM.

## **Dr M Veerappa Moily**

**Dr M Veerappa Moily**, is a multi faceted and well known Political Leader, Author, Economist and Administrator. As the Finance Minister and Chief Minister of Karnataka, he was responsible for making Bengaluru as the Silicon Valley of India.

He has also served Government of India as Cabinet Minister in various important Ministries and brought in reforms. He headed the Administrative Reforms



Commission of Government of India and his recommendations are being followed and implemented even now.

Besides being an **administrator**, he is a well known literary person. He is the **author** of epic poem Sri Ramayana Mahanveshanam, written in five volumes containing 42,295 lines in Kannada and translated into many languages. He has also authored many books on Economics. He writes columns in leading newspapers.

He has received several national and international awards for his excellence in governance and literature. He is the recipient of prestigious Sansad Ratna Award for his outstanding performance as Chairman of Standing Committee on Finance in the 16th Lok Sabha.

## Mr Prime Point Srinivasan

Krishnaswamy Srinivasan (also known as Prime Point Srinivasan) (born in 1951) is a Communication strategist, Communication teacher, Digital Journalist, author and social worker at Chennai. He is the founder and chairman of Prime Point Foundation, a non profit public trust promoting Communication awareness. He is also the Publisher and Managing Editor of National eMagazine PreSense.



## **Mr Peter Rimmele**

Peter Rimmele is currently the Resident Representative of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) to India.

He has a First Law Degree from Freiburg University, as well as a Second Law Degree from the Ministry of Justice Baden-Württemberg, Germany and a M.A. in Geography.

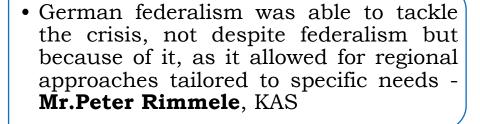


After working as a jurist, judge and lecturer, he took public office as Ministerialrat, Head of Division at the State

Ministry of the Interior in Saxony, Germany, from November 1991 on until 2000. There he first served in the Police and Security and later in the Local Government Department. On behalf of the German Foreign Ministry he served in East Timor as Registrar General, Head of Civil Registry and Notary Services (UNTAET), and became later the principal Advisor for Governance Reform for GIZ (German International Cooperation) to the Ministry of Administrative Reform and the Anti-Corruption-Commission of the Republic of Indonesia, where he served for 7 years. He then moved to Rwanda, also as Principal Advisor Good Governance/Justice Program. Earlier he was Resident Representative to Lebanon, Director of Rule of Law Program- Middle East, North Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

### **Key Statements**









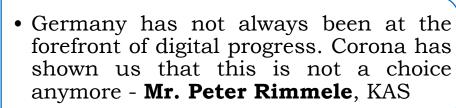
of India. He made a mark wherever he worked -**Mr Prime Point Srinivasan** introducing Dr M Veerappa Moily

making Bengaluru as the silicon valley

• He was the person responsible

• The pandemic management is not just the business of the government of India, the PM or the State CM. The entire country will have to do that -**Dr M Veerappa Moily** 







 Our fight against Covid-19 cannot be half-hearted. It should be on a war footing. It is the Third World War in a different format - Dr M Veerappa Moily

for

### **Key Takeaways**

- The Coronavirus has demonstrated to the whole world just how fragile our societies are. Our political systems have to be like living organisms.
- In the past few years, we have seen social and political upheaval combined with technological advancements, unheard of for the past thirty years.
- E-Governance is no more a luxury. It is a vital necessity.
- Around the world, charismatic leaders have rejected ideas like "institutions" and "rules of the game". They bring in their own agenda of political reforms that seek to do away with all checks on their power.
- While trust in the political system is still high, our politics have started to fray at the edges. Reform is needed before it is too late.
- Historically, a cautious approach to reform has led to a very high trust in Germany's political system. But post COVID, reforms will be required at a faster pace.
- The strategy that the Indian government will have to adopt to combat the present crisis is to establish a political consensus.
- Good governance must happen along with socio-economic development, respect for rule of law, successful countering of community spread and appropriate legal framework coupled with capacity building of the citizens.
- Building social capital is crucial at this juncture.
- Lockdown is only a default measure. Slowly, the Government of India is realizing that it is not going to contain the problems and that it cannot provide a holistic approach for the entire problem.
- Institutional mechanisms will have to be strengthened at all levels. We need to involve the private sector.
- We have to put in mechanism in an organized way, so that the entire gamut of COVID-related problems could be addressed. A Health Emergency Bill should be put in place.
- The World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction was held in Oklahoma in 1924. It's high time to hold a global conference of this kind, to take stock of the situation and work out a plan of action for safer work.

- There are four pillars the policy, institutional framework, technical matrix and financial regime. All should ideally work in tandem towards managing the crisis.
- The country needs immediate succour from hunger. More than 40 crores of people are now suffering. The major issue we need to address is providing food, shelter and jobs to people hit by the crisis.
- The need of the hour is universal testing and arranging COVID-19 protective equipments, testing kits and mobilising professionals – biologists, scientists and researchers.
- The government alone cannot tackle this issue. The entire health sector will have to be mobilised, for which we require a lot of money.
- Our fight against COVID-19 cannot be half-hearted. It should be on a war footing. It is the Third World War in a different format.
- Migration of labourers has become a major problem today. We can't ask the labourers to purchase tickets and travel and to pay for accommodation during their quarantine. The government has to mobilise funds for that.
- Ultimately, the rule of law may turn out to be a real challenge. The government has a responsibility to protect its citizens from the economic impact of the global pandemic.
- The components of the economic packages announced so far may not be adequate to meet the present crisis.
- The state governments are short of funds. With GST regime, the government of India has the responsibility to transfer funds to the state governments in time.
- The data collected on COVID infections is defective and questionable. The testing cannot be done selectively. We need to establish a mechanism. Adhocism will not help.
- The Centre can send the guidelines. But ultimately, the state governments should be empowered, who have to in turn empower the local boards to tackle the problem.
- The World Health Organisation (WHO) may not be able to effectively manage the COVID problem, as its powers are limited. India getting a representation on the WHO Board may not change that situation significantly.
- The government must come out with another package solely focusing on migrant labour. Crores of people cannot be neglected and converted as beggars on the street.

- Some of our COVID warriors health workers and doctors- fight without adequate weapons with them - proper PPEs. This needs to be addressed.
- The Kerala model of COVID management has been commendable. They have done it in a focussed way. They had earlier tackled Nipah virus effectively. It is really a good model for every state.
- The citizens have to be guided. Health literacy will have to be wide spread.

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#### Welcome Address

#### Group Captain R Vijayakumar (Retd), VSM, Executive Director, MMA



**Mr R Vijayakumar, Executive Director, MMA** initiated the online panel discussion organised through webinar and livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. He listed out the series of MMA activities planned over the next few days to keep the members intellectually engaged and provide the policy makers with inputs for decision making.

Mr Vijayakumar extended a hearty welcome to all the viewers, Mr Peter Rimmele, Resident Representative to India, KAS, Mr Prime Point Srinivasan and the key note speaker Dr M Veerappa Moily, former Chief Minister of Karnataka and former Union Minister.

He welcomed the members of KAS, ORF, NGPL and Presense. He introduced Mr Peter Rimmele, KAS, thanked him for the great support extended to MMA and requested him to deliver the introductory remarks.

### **Introductory Remarks**

Mr Peter Rimmele, Resident Representative to India, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung:



**Mr Peter Rimmele** welcomed all the participants, delivered the introductory remarks and set the context for the session.

He underlined the importance of 'Political administration and reforms' and said that Coronavirus has demonstrated to the world just how fragile our societies are. "Our political systems have to be like living organisms. They have to adapt to new technologies and be inclusive to different groups within societies; they have to respond to unforeseen disasters," he said.

On institution building, he said that Germany's founding fathers – among them Konrad Adenauer, after whom KAS is named –decided on a federal and decentralized structure of governance, in which, no single person would wield unfettered power. The institutions built by them have stood the test of time and served Germany well.

But he acknowledged that in recent years, Germany has seen social and political upheaval combined with technological advancements, unheard of in the past thirty years. That has dictated a compulsory shift to E-Governance and embracing digital tools.

He regretted that the new populism of the 21st century has led to charismatic leaders around the world rejecting ideas like 'institutions' and 'rules of the game' and bringing in their own agenda of political reforms that seek to do away with all checks on their power and replace them with an archaic form of personal rule. He said that Germany's politics seem calmer than elsewhere but with changing political landscape and splintered politics, reforms must happen. "While trust in the political system is still high, our politics have started to fray at the edges," he cautioned.

Mr Peter Rimmele remarked that COVID-19 has also put the spotlight on German federalism. "When the pandemic hit Germany hard in mid-March, some in the political sphere and the press urged the federal government to circumvent the States in matters related to 'Health' but luckily, it did not happen. "Doing away with state powers would have done more harm than good in the long run. Reforms always need to be well thought out and well implemented but in the post-COVID phase, they also need to happen at a faster pace," he remarked.

He thanked the Madras Management Association and other partners for their fruitful cooperation. He expressed his eagerness to listen to an enlightening address by the esteemed speaker, Dr M Veerappa Moily.

### Introduction of the Speaker

Mr Prime Point Srinivasan, Chairman & Managing Trustee, Digital Journalists Association of India (DiJAI)



**Mr Prime Point Srinivasan** introduced **Dr M Veerappa Moily**, former Chief Minister of Karnataka and former Union Minister as a most loved and revered personality and as the principal architect of Bengaluru's transformation as the 'Silicon Valley of India.'

He stated that Prime Point Foundation had honoured Dr Veerappa Moily with Sansad Ratna award for his performance. He added that 'Next-gen Political Leaders' is an offshoot of the award, formed with the objective of developing knowledge and skill in young and aspiring political leaders.

He requested Dr Veerappa Moily to deliver his speech on the theme "Political Administration and Reforms."

### Speech by Dr M Veerappa Moily



Dr Veerappa Moily thanked MMA for the opportunity provided to him to share his views through MMA's online platform, on a subject that is very dear to him and, at a crucial period that India is facing.

As head of the Second Executive Reforms Commission of the Government of India, he had provided 15 reports. One of the reports, he said, is about crisis and disaster management.

#### **Need for Consensus and Co-ordination**

He stressed the importance of establishing a political consensus in tackling the COVID crisis. Good governance, he said, must happen along with socio-economic development, respect for the rule of law, successful countering of community spread of the virus and appropriate legal framework coupled with capacity building of the citizens.

He lamented that there is lack of coordination between various agencies. According to him, the pandemic management is not just the business of the Central government, the PM or the State Chief Minister but the entire country will have to do that. "There are four pillars - the policy, institutional framework, technical matrix and financial regime. All these should work in tandem towards managing the crisis," he said.

He pointed out that the lockdown is only a default measure and that the Government of India has now realized that lockdowns cannot provide a holistic approach for the entire problem.

He argued for roping in the private sector. "More than 65% of our health sector is dominated by the private people. Now, only the government hospitals are fully geared

up for COVID treatment, which is not adequate. The whole system will have to respond to the problem. The government has to come out with a new way of governance, particularly during this crisis," he said.

#### **Bill for Emergency Health Measures**

Dr Veerappa Moily recalled that he had proposed a number of measures in the Parliamentary panel report on crisis management submitted to the government. He was very vocal in his address for passing a bill in the parliament for the emergency health measures to be taken during this pandemic. "An Act has to be in place. Adhocism is prevailing everywhere. We have to put in a mechanism, so that the entire gamut of the problems could be addressed in an organized manner, through the proposed Health Emergency Bill," he argued.

He added that there has to be transparency in the COVID related statistics that the government is providing like the actual number of people tested positive or negative. "Standards should be laid down for testing, detention and also to quarantine people," he said

#### **Global Conference**:

Since COVID-19 is not a problem of one state or one nation but a global issue, he stressed the importance of organizing a global conference to discuss COVID-19 related issues. He referred to the 'World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction' held in Oklahoma in 1924 to drive home his point.

"As the cure for the virus or the vaccine is not in sight in the near future, there should be focused testing. Acquiring and distributing protective equipments for frontline workers, providing testing kits and mobilising professionals – biologists, scientists and researchers must happen in full swing. We have to spend money to detect, control, treat and rehabilitate people, with basic facilities. Health spending must happen regardless of where it comes from," Dr Moily said.

#### **Migrant Labour Issue**

Dr Moily dealt at length, on the problems faced by the migrant labourers and those displaced from jobs. "They don't find shelter, food and wages at their place of work. That is why they're migrating. We should either accommodate them in their respective States where they work or facilitate their migration," he said. He suggested that the government needs to provide jobs, food and shelter for the displaced workers. "We just can't leave it to the migrants to purchase tickets for their travel or to pay for their accommodation during their quarantine. The government has to mobilize funds for that," he said.

He regretted that the economic relief packages announced so far are not adequate to meet the crisis and they have not directly addressed the migrant labour issue. He also stated that the state governments are short of funds and the delay in getting their GST dues from the central government adds to the resource crunch.

#### Reforms

Dr Moily admitted that during the UPA Government's tenure, though they had planned to implement reforms in the judiciary, it could not be taken up in a big way as a section of the bureaucracy which was keen on maintaining status quo, obstructed them.

He was against centralized handling of the administration even in subjects like health and education. "The authorities to implement are in the state government or in the local governance. The local governance system should not be taken over. Rather it should be strengthened," he said. He praised the Kerala model of tackling the virus in a focused way and through empowering the local bodies.

On the question of fuel prices in India remaining inelastic even when the international crude prices have crashed, he regretted that the present government is not passing on the benefits to the public, though when he was the Petroleum Minister, he had not only put in a proper pricing mechanism but ensured that petroleum prices were reduced when the international crude prices dropped.

During the Q & A session, Dr Veerappa Moily answered a range of questions posed by the online viewers.

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#### Q & A Session

#### (Answers by Dr M Veerappa Moily)

Mr Vijayakumar, ED, MMA anchored the Q&A session with Dr Veerappa Moily. The questions were raised by guests and online viewers through sms, Whatsapp and online chat.

Questions by Mr Sivaraman, former Revenue Secretary, Government of India



**Q:** Why could you not implement the reforms that you planned for judiciary, despite your party being in power for 10 years?

**A:** Both UPA 1 and UPA 2 constituted GOMs (Group of Ministers) to implement many of the recommendations and they are all in various stages. Reforms wise, the bureaucracy is against it. They are not prepared to change the status quo. We have to deal with that. I don't say all of the bureaucracy, but a part of it wants to obstruct. With all that, some of the reforms have been implemented in the judiciary and administration.

**Q**: The government acted against powerful people under the FCRA. But our judicial system favours the rich and powerful who engage highly paid lawyers to postpone indefinitely any action against themselves. What are your views on this?

**A**: We brought in a national litigation policy. We studied and sent a team of judges and professionals in the law and IT departments to Singapore. In the year 1991, the Singapore system was in a mess and nothing used to move. Later, they changed and have set an example. The judiciary not only reformed themselves but also led the reforms in the government. That is the model we brought about in the government. It is a work in progress. Overnight, it can't be done.

#### Question by Mr Pankaj Madan, KAS



**Q**: You were an energy minister in the central government. Internationally, energy prices are crashing but nothing happens in India. What would you say of that?

**A**: When I was the energy minister, oil prices were at a peak. Today, there is a crash of energy prices internationally but in India, we do not feel the difference because our oil prices have not come down. The government is insensitive on the international price situation.

I had adopted a policy that when crude prices are down, the benefit has to be passed on to the consumers automatically. I practised that also. But now the benefits are not passed on to the public and that is most unfortunate.

#### **Other Questions**

**Q**: What are the lessons learned from the COVID crisis for the administration's handling of emergency situations?

**A**: We can't allow the bureaucracy or the police to deal with it as a whole. Even the data collected here is defective and questionable. I don't think we have the actual figures of the detection of the disease, how many had tested positive and negative and the level of percentage of testing. The testing can't be done selectively by the officers. They want to keep the figures down deliberately for some time. For the officials, it's a prestige issue to say that their area is in the green and not red zone. As a result, the statistical data is not properly selected. We need to establish a mechanism. Adhocism will not serve us.

If the government wants to take revenge on some people, they use testing as a means. Standards should be laid down for testing, detention and also to put people in quarantine.

**Q**: As Chairman of the Administration Reforms Committee, you did some phenomenal work. Is there a case for restructuring the administration of the Centre and States, based on the present situation?

**A**: Yes. The governance during a war situation should be very different. It has to be in emergency mode. Now we run it in a normal way. I have given a number of recommendations in the crisis management chapter of our report. Maybe, the administration can look into this.

**Q**: Do you advise a freeze on recruitment and salary increments till the economy improves? This is what many organizations have done.

**A**: These measures will only worsen the situation. We have to provide people with livelihood and employment. You can't take away these things and create chaos and uncertainty for people. That will be lead to additional problems and crisis.

**Q**: There is a talk about bringing health under the concurrent list? What is your view on this?

**A**: It is possible. But it does not mean that everything will have to be taken out by the government of India. It has to be dealt with, by all the agencies. We have to put a proper system in place.

**Q**: Is centralized handling of decision-making, even on subjects like health care and education, sustainable and advisable?

**A**: No. The authorities who have to implement the system, are in the state government or local governance. The Government of India should be helpful and facilitate the state government and the local bodies to function. The basic policy objective will have to be laid down with details of who should perform, how they should perform and what is the mechanism. Necessary funds have to be mobilized and provided. The local bodies have a great role to play.

**Q**: How do you see the role of WHO in the handling of the crisis, especially in view of the criticism by USA?

**A**: I agree WHO is a bigger platform. But, it is an agency with very generic terms of reference and limited power. They can't effectively tackle this. In a global conference, we can address this question because it is a global problem. It requires true global solutions, both on the research in finding vaccines and dealing with the pandemic.

**Q**: With India going to be part of the WHO board shortly, do you think it will make a difference?

**A**: No, it is not a question of India or any other country coming on the board of WHO. This is a very specific disease that has hit many countries.

**Q**: Where do we fit in the local governments or the panchayat in the emerging situation? Kerala has done some phenomenal work.

**A**: You are right. Kerala has done it in a focussed way. They tackled Nipah virus effectively. It is really a good model for every state. They mobilised the local bodies. Unless the local boards are equipped and empowered to meet the situation, I don't think, we can effectively handle the situation.

**Q**: How do you think that the powers of the panchayat under the 74th and  $75^{\text{th}}$  amendment can be enforced effectively?

**A**: We have addressed these questions. With amendments to the Constitution, we have empowered the local panchayats more than the higher bodies like the taluk boards or the district panchayats. Their power is already there. We have to provide them with appropriate funding. Sometimes, MLAs and the state governments surreptitiously take over their power which is unfortunate.

**Q**: As a veteran administrator, what will be the top 5 actions that you want the Prime Minister to implement in this scenario?

**A**:

 We have to come out with a Medical Emergency Bill. All the criteria will have to laid out. The attributes, various functions and duties of personnel have to be specified.

- 2) The centre can send guidelines. But ultimately, the state governments should be empowered, who in turn must empower the local boards to tackle this problem.
- 3) Testing will have to be done universally. It is not pick and choose as it is done now. There should not be any fear in the minds of the people that testing is done only to quarantine them.
- 4) Citizens have to be guided. Health literacy will have to be wide spread.
- 5) The migrant labour problem has to be tackled on top priority.

**Q**: Will the 20 lakh crore stimulus be an effective answer to the issues?

**A**: I don't think so. This package or the earlier ones are not focused on the migrant labourers. The packages should attempt to retain them in their respective work places. We have to come out with another package solely focussing on migrant labour.

**Q**: How can the central and state government generate more funds, given the current state of the economy?

**A**: We have to either generate fund or borrow money. In a war like situation, the soldiers cannot be left in the lurch for want of funds; they'll have to be equipped, armed and empowered properly to keep the fight on. We see some of our COVID warriors - the health workers and doctors - without any weapons with them, I mean, proper PPEs.

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#### Vote of Thanks



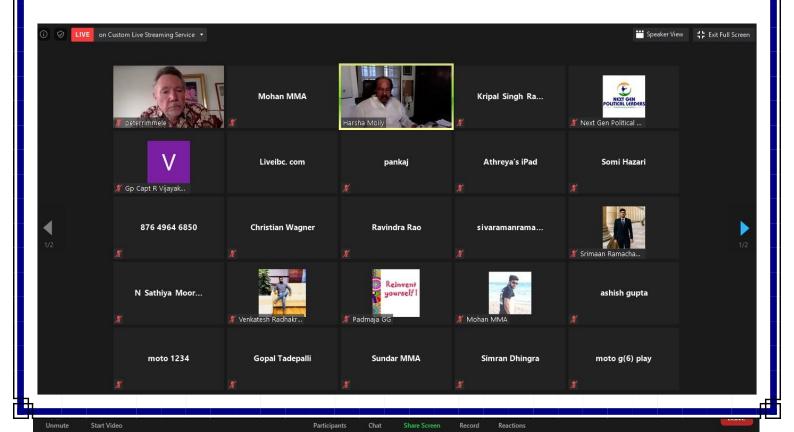
At the end of the Q & A session, **Group Captain R Vijayakumar**, ED, MMA thanked the Speaker **Dr M Veerappa Moily** for his valuable speech enriched with his rich experience in Political Administration and Reforms. He thanked Mr Peter Rimmele, resident representative of KAS in India for his introductory remarks and for being a pillar of support to MMA. He thanked Mr Prime Point Srinivasan for introducing the key note speaker, members of ORF, NGPL and Presense and all the viewers before signing off.

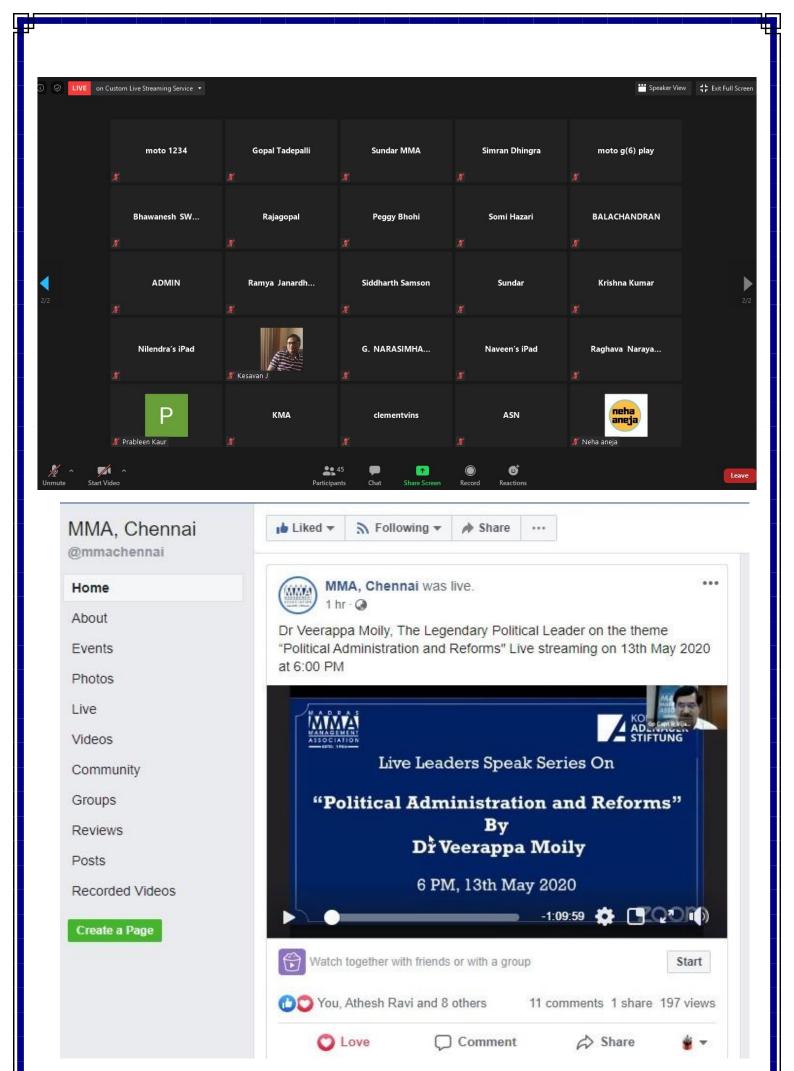
The event concluded at 7:45 PM.

### **Photos**

### Photographs taken during the Live Talk under the 'Leaders Speak Series' on the theme: "Political Administration and Reforms"







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Links for the Recording

### Leaders Speak Series: "Political Administration and Reforms"

We are pleased to share that the recording of the event is available for viewing pleasure through the links indicated below:

# Website: www.liveibc.com/mma/

# YouTube: https://youTube/K0jbNmZpSIs

## **Facebook:**

https://www.facebook.com/mmachennai/videos/32031904 09713146/

The response to the event was excellent and we had larger number of viewers logged in live through Zoom, MMA Live webinar, YouTube and Facebook.

**Total Number of Participants:** 

Zoom: 60

YouTube: 92

Facebook: 295

MMA Webinar: 154

Total number of participants at the event - 551

### The Partners – MMA, KAS and ORF

#### **About Madras Management Association (MMA)**

**Madras Management Association (MMA)** was established in 1956 with the prime objective of promoting management education, training and development activities in this part of the country. The vision of MMA is "To be the Fountainhead of World class Management Excellence in India".

Over the past six decades, MMA has striven for development and nurturing management expertise, combining Indian ethos with International Management thoughts and practices. MMA has contributed immensely to the enhancement of management capability in this part of the country, and in particular Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. MMA has over 7000 corporate houses, industries, professionals, academics and executives on its rolls as members. MMA annually organizes about 725 executive development activities, including seminars for top management with a total participation of fifty nine thousand executives and entrepreneurs.

MMA is the largest affiliate association of All India Management Association (AIMA) in the country and has been adjudged as the Best Management Association in India by AIMA for ten times in a row including the "National Excellence Award" for the year 2017-18.

The activities of MMA are planned to achieve managerial excellence in the functioning of industries and professional managers in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. In this direction, MMA chapters have been established at various towns in Tamil Nadu mainly to cater to the needs of SMEs. Nine such MMA Local Chapters at Ambur, Attur, Erode, Hosur, Namakkal, Salem, Sri City, Trichy and Puducherry are functioning effectively.

Apart from corporate leaders, MMA has, in its Managing Committee, the Vice Chancellors of Madras University & Anna University, the Directors of IIT Madras and IFMR and the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, as members.

#### **OUR VISION**

To be the Fountainhead of World class Management Excellence in India

### **OUR MISSION**

- Synthesise Indian Ethos with international management thought
- Be a reservoir of expertise in management
- Inspire individuals to actualise their potential
- Nurture creativity and originality

#### About Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)

**The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)** is a German political foundation, with a strong presence throughout Germany and all over the world. Freedom, justice and solidarity are the basic underlying principles of the work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

With more than 100 offices abroad and projects in over 120 countries, it makes a unique contribution to the promotion of democracy, the rule of law and social market economy. To foster peace and freedom KAS encourages a continuous dialogue at the national and international levels.

Human beings in their distinctive dignity and with their rights and responsibilities are at the heart of its work. KAS is guided by the conviction that human beings are the starting point in the effort to bring about social justice and democratic freedom while promoting sustainable economic activity. By bringing people together who embrace their responsibilities in society, KAS develops active networks in the political and economic spheres as well as in society itself. The guidance it provides on the basis of political know-how and knowledge helps to shape the globalisation process along more socially equitable, ecologically sustainable and economically efficient lines.

KAS cooperates with governmental institutions, political parties and civil society organizations building strong partnerships along the way. In particular, we seek to intensify political cooperation at the national and international levels on the foundations of our objectives and values. Together with our partners we contribute to the creation of an international order that enables every country to develop in freedom and under its own responsibility.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has organised its program priorities in India into the following working areas:

- 1. Foreign and Security Policy
- 2. Economic and Energy Policy
- 3. Rule of Law and local Self-Government
- 4. Social and Political Training and Development
- 5. Indo-German Parliamentary Dialogue programmes

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's India office takes great pride in its cooperation with Indian partner organisations who implement jointly curated projects and programmes.

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#### **About Observer Research Foundation (ORF)**

#### The Beginning

ORF began its journey in 1990 at the juncture of ideation tempered by pragmatism. During the period of India's transition to a new engagement with the international economic order, several challenges emerged, evoking a need for an independent forum that could critically examine the problems facing the country and help develop coherent policy responses. ORF was thus formed, and brought together, for the first time, leading Indian economists and policymakers to present the agenda for India's economic reforms.

#### What We Are Today

Propelled by the process of reforms initiated in the 1990s, ORF, over the past 30 years of its existence, has effectively narrated and participated in India's story as the country has acquired an unmistakable global footprint. From primarily looking inward and engaging with domestic reforms, to gradually forging global partnerships, ORF today plays a seminal role in building political and policy consensus that enables India to interact with the world.

As new powers re-emerge onto the global stage, existing systems face challenges of agreeing on a new set of rules to control and regulate the new frontiers of space, the oceans, the internet and the human mind. The world continues, also, to navigate persisting concerns related to security and strategy, economy and development, energy and resources. As India begins to play a larger role in the 21st century, ORF continues to push normative boundaries, bring new ideas into the policy discourse and provide a platform to a new generation of thinkers. It is supported in its mission by leading intellectuals, academicians, policymakers, business leaders, institutions and civil society actors.

ORF's aim is to encourage voices from all quarters, geographies and gender, both those that fall in and those that question dominant narratives. It is this plurality of thought and voice — in a country of over a billion individuals — that ORF seeks to carry abroad, while simultaneously bringing contemporary global debates to India.

#### The Mandate

ORF seeks to lead and aid policy thinking towards building a strong and prosperous India in a fair and equitable world. It sees India as a country poised to play a leading role in the knowledge age — a role in which it shall be increasingly called upon to Page **34** of **35**  proactively ideate in order to shape global conversations, even as it sets course along its own trajectory of long-term sustainable growth.

ORF helps discover and inform India's choices. It carries Indian voices and ideas to forums shaping global debates. It provides non-partisan, independent, wellresearched analyses and inputs to diverse decision-makers in governments, business communities, and academia and to civil society around the world.

Our mandate is to conduct in-depth research, provide inclusive platforms and invest in tomorrow's thought leaders today.