



Public Affairs Forum of India

PRESS RELEASE

“Given the current situation, policymaking will be geopolitically induced”: Shri Sanjay Verma

“This is India's moment and it needs to be competitive. For that we need to create a favourable ecosystem around semiconductors. Policymaking in this has been quite bold.”: Shri S Krishnan

“The revival of electronics manufacturing in the last 5 years is one of the most remarkable stories of our times.” : Shri S Krishnan

New Delhi (Delhi) 27, October, 2023: Speaking at the 10th Annual Forum of the Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI), Shri S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, said, “With emerging technology, we have the opportunity to be at the forefront and lead the revolution. The revival of electronics manufacturing in the last five years is one of the most remarkable factors. Ten years ago, 98% of mobile phones were imported into India, but now we are exporting mobile phones.

Shri Krishnan further said that presently, India is the 5th largest economy in the world, moving towards the 3rd largest economy. When growth in per capita income increases, the best part of it is to give more jobs, which is made possible through technology, and the electronic manufacturing sector has been supporting it. It also supports medical technology, agricultural technology and other similar industries.

On the issue of protectionism, Shri Sanjay Verma, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs Government of India, said, “Geopolitics has thrown a lot of challenges today. Most of the decision-making globally is based on the economy. What is important for the country is de-risking. India is a new China, and 50% of the global growth will be in India and China.”

Talking about the current situation, he asserted, “Policymaking will be geopolitically induced. So somewhere, you will need to de-risk. But it's not a stumbling block. We still have our strength.”

Shri Krishnan said, “This is India's moment, and it needs to be competitive. For that, we need to create a favourable ecosystem around semiconductors. Policymaking in this has been quite bold. Today, we have 10 million semiconductor missions, which is our main focus area.”

Shri Verma further said, “Disruption has started to become the new normal now. We will have to negotiate with unknowns at a more rapid pace.” Explaining further, he added, “The assessment of a foreign affairs officer is done on 3Ts: trade, tourism, and technology”.



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Shri Krishnan further said on semiconductor issue, “*Der Aaye Durust Aaye*” (Better late than never). Shri Krishnan asserted that the challenges for semiconductors are the right technology & right manufacturing of the product, and the Government is putting a lot of funds into this.

Talking about the government’s role in AI, Shri Krishnan said, “We are in the process of consultation with the other governments across the world; the better way to go about it is to go for market research, let the small industries, MSME start up their work.” He further said the advisory on AI support would be publicly out in the next couple of months.

The session commenced with a welcome note by Vinita Sethi, President, PAFI, SVP & Chief Public Affairs, Apollo Hospitals Group and it was moderated by Shweta Rajpal Kohli, Managing Committee Member, PAFI, Chief Public Policy Officer, Peak XV Partners. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Koustuv Kakati, Head, Regulatory Affairs, Tata Steel Limited.

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PAFI (Public Affairs Forum of India)

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For media contact:

Manisha Sharma, Account Director, RV VeKommunicate,
manisha@vekommunicate.com



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Nadeem Anwar, Associate Account Director, RV VeKommunicate,
nadeem@vekommunicate.com