Additional India has demonstrated how it rises up to challenges and uncovers opportunities therein, as manifested in the re-purposing of various automobile sector industries to collaborate in the making of life-saving ventilators. The clarion call given by the Hon’ble PM to use these trying times to become self-reliant has been very well received to enable the resurgence of the Indian economy.

The Indian engineering community subscribes to the above philosophy and has done itself proud. “Leadership” in India would come by only when all those who have authority and money, use them not only for their own gains but also for the benefit of those who lack them. Participative “governance”, rather than merely government, can drive the change. Public participation, continuous and tireless hard work, are the instruments that only could provide India the leadership baton where the world will watch the country as an embodiment of vibrancy, equity, and intellect in a market-driven economy in an all-inclusive environment. Redistributions from richer and more powerful groups to poorer groups that may face limited opportunities should be pursued. The ultimate goal should be reduction of poverty through equitable pursuit of prosperity and the engineering community will harness and manage the natural resources with equity lens and demand level-playing field.

Efforts at the required reforms must be accompanied by safeguards as appropriate for a country of the size and income disparity such as India. Also, policy initiatives that contribute to the growth of agricultural and manufacturing sectors, and therefore create employment, must be pursued rigorously.

There is a clear path to lead India to global leadership in engineering and technology and become self-reliant in these spheres. The country has the resources, the institutions and the mindset too. Engineers do need to work towards a fusion of our positive achievements. This is the essential condition for India’s path towards self-reliance and emergent role in global engineering and technology. With the seamless engineering and technology capabilities, tempered by the social and political systems, Indian engineers can be the harbinger to the development of economy of the country in the post-pandemic regime.