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Context to the nugget

Jay talks about how he thinks about the macro discussions he has when he is in Delhi or with an international delegation (which is often about solving for the future) and balances it with the concerns of the here and now that people in his constituency are facing. He talks about he manages to combine the bird's eye view and the worm's eye view.

Transcription

Deepak Jayaraman (DJ): I am curious about how leaders think about Macro and Micro, how do you sort of manage this bird's eye view and worms eye view?

Baijayant Jay Panda (JP): So there has to be some compartmentalization but also with an overlap if any elected representative including me were to get bored of dealing with the median problems of his constituents then he is not going to last for very long and fortunately not only I don't get bored I enjoy meeting my constituents so if you or your listeners have gone to my social media pages you will see that I spend enormous amount of time with my constituents and I post about it all the time and some of my friends have told me that I despite the heat and dust and sweat that goes into this I seemed to be enjoying myself and yes I do, I actually enjoy meeting thousands of people every day and listening to their issues and discussing what's important for them, which are mostly always are local issues and trying my best to help them, I don't always succeed but to the extent that I do succeed people recognize that I am trying and even if it doesn't quite work out, they realize that I am sincerely trying for them and so that is a very important aspect, maybe there are some politicians who feel that, that factor of this is a burden then it can become a huge burden because that essential to get re-elected fortunately I don't feel it a burden I enjoy that, now when I am in Delhi, in Parliament or in some international forum talking about policy issues, it is mostly a different set of issues but not to say that there isn't any overlap, let's say I am talking climate change now it's a very Macro issue you would imagine that there is not that much connect to the local concerns of my constituents and almost never is there any climate change issue discussed in the constituency but I will tell you how it is relevant, so we still have large numbers of people in India who don't have electricity and they don't care how they get it, whether they get it from fossil fuels or whether they get it from solar energy they wanted yesterday and they want it cheap, solar energy is becoming now only the cost effective and alternative energy sources are only now just beginning to become cost effective just in the last couple of years so if we were to have a climate change discussion and for the use of fossil fuels it wouldn't be a very practical discussion in the context of hundreds of millions of people not having electricity you can try to build a bridge to the future which is having a less carbon footprint but you can't ignore the pressures of the present and finding a solution to the present with the bridge to the future is the challenge that politicians must face when grappling with climate changing.

Reflections from Deepak Jayaraman

DJ: One of the biggest takeaways from the podcast from my various guests is the notion of Leadership being a tight rope across multiple dimensions and the notion of AND rather than OR. It was interesting to hear from Jay on how that shows up in the world of politics and how he has to manage the short term AND the long term without necessarily over-indexing on either.

Thank you for listening. If you are new to the podcast and want to get a sense of the nature of content that is covered, you might want to go to YouTube and type "PlaytoPotential Highlights from 2017". I have tried to capture the key takeaways from my various conversations last year with leaders across disciplines. From people such as Zia Mody, Nandan Nilekani, Viswanathan Anand, Vijay Amritraj, Amish Tripathi, Vinita Bali and the like. For more, please visit playtopotential.com where the content is organized by nuggets and they are tagged by themes so that you could get perspectives from multiple individuals on a topic that you care about. If you want to listen offline say during a car ride home or during airplane travel, you could also access the Podcast on iTunes, Stitcher, Saavn and several other podcast apps but that may not give you the flexibility to navigate across speakers by theme. If you find the content purposeful, please go to iTunes, rate the show and share a review. It will help others discover it.

End of nugget transcription

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- 26.03 Baijayant Jay Panda - Resilience
- 26.04 Baijayant Jay Panda - Staying relevant and leveraging technology
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About Deepak Jayaraman

Deepak seeks to unlock human potential of senior executive's / leadership teams by working with them as an Executive Coach / Sounding Board / Transition Advisor. You can know more about his work [here](#).

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