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India will play key role in developing Covid vaccine: PM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK
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New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday expressed confidence that India will have an important role in developing and scaling up production of a Covid-19 vaccine once it is discovered and asserted that the country will play a leading role in global revival.

"Today also, our companies are active in the international efforts for development and production of Covid-19 vaccine," Modi said in his inaugural address at the India Global Week 2020 summit while highlighting the efforts being made by firms to develop a vaccine and the critical contribution of the country's pharmaceutical sector.

The PM's comments come against the backdrop of the global race to develop a vaccine for the deadly virus. Companies in India, like those elsewhere, are racing against time to develop one and clinical trials have begun for a vaccine candidate.

Modi said the pandemic had shown that the country's pharma industry is an asset not just for India but for the entire world. He said the sector has played a leading role in reducing the cost of medicines, especially for developing countries. Vaccines made in India are responsible for



“ When India talks of revival it is revival with care, revival with compassion, revival which is sustainable – both for environment and economy

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

two-thirds of the vaccination needs of the world's children, the PM said.

"India is ready to do whatever it can to further global good and prosperity. This is an India that is reforming, performing and transforming. This is an India that offers new economic opportunities. This is an India that is adopting a human-centric and inclusive approach to development," Modi said.

Stating that while India is fighting a strong battle against the global pandemic, the government is equally focussed on improving the health of the economy and asserted that green shoots are already visible.