Ajay Banga: the 14th President of the World Bank

May 4, 2023

May 3, 2023, WASHINGTON DC – The Executive Directors of the World Bank today selected Ajay Banga as President of the World Bank for a five-year term beginning June 2, 2023.

The Executive Directors followed the selection process agreed by shareholders in 2011. The process included an open, merit-based, and transparent nomination where any national of the Bank's membership could be proposed by any Executive Director or Governor. This was then followed by thorough due diligence and a comprehensive interview of Mr. Banga by the Executive Directors.

The World Bank Group had discussed its evolution process at its April 2023 Spring Meetings. The new Chairman will have to focus at and to redefine the World Bank's ambitions of solving the challenges facing developing countries.

THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA

The World Bank Group has five arms:

1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD): (Est.1944): It is an international financial institution, and headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States, that is the lending arm of World Bank Group. The IBRD offers loans to middle-income developing countries.

2. International Development Association (IDA): (Est. September 24,1960): It offers concessional loans and grants to the world's poorest developing countries.
3. International Finance Corporation (IFC): (Est. July 20,1956): It offers investment, advisory, and asset-management services to encourage private-sector development in less developed countries.
4. Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA): (Est. April 12,1988): It offers political risk insurance and credit enhancement guarantees. These guarantees help investors protect foreign direct investments against political and non-commercial risks in developing countries.
5. International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID): (Est. October 14,1966): It is an international arbitration institution for legal dispute resolution and conciliation between international investors and States.

The President of the World Bank Group is also the ex officio Chair of the Board of the Executive Directors or Directors of IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA. He is also the ex officio Chair of the Administrative Council of ICSID.

BACKGROUND: Ajay Banga most recently served as Vice Chairman at General Atlantic. Previously, he was President and CEO of Mastercard, a global organization with nearly 24,000 employees. Under his leadership, MasterCard launched the Center for Inclusive Growth, which advances equitable and sustainable economic growth and financial inclusion around the world. He was Honorary Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce, serving as Chairman from 2020-2022. He became an advisor to General Atlantic's climate-focused fund, Beyond NetZero, at its inception in 2021. Banga served as Co-Chair of the Partnership for Central America, a coalition of private organizations that works to advance economic opportunity across underserved populations in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. He was previously on the Boards of the American Red Cross, Kraft Foods, and Dow Inc.

Ajay Banga is a co-founder of The Cyber Readiness Institute and was Vice Chair of the Economic Club of New York. He was awarded the Foreign Policy Association Medal in 2012, the Padma Shri Award by the President of India in 2016, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and the Business Council for International Understanding's Global Leadership Award in 2019, and the Distinguished Friends of Singapore Public Service Star in 2021. By--**Dr K N Mistry**

Reference: *www.worldbank.org*