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The Economist Podcast Summary: Growth Negligence India's COVID-19 Failings:

India is in dire need of help after COVID-19 daily cases reach an all-time high not just for India but also the world. 332,503 new COVID-10 cases were reported on April 22nd, yesterday. Even the United States, still the hardest hit country in the pandemic has not reached the amount of cases that India has reported. Estimates also show that in rural towns in India, there could be 20-30 times more cases than what is reported. The government has done little to stop this spread, refusing to enter a lockdown, and encouraging large gatherings and in-person voting. A large religious gathering just occurred bringing the virus back to homes all over India. One of the main shows of the dire straits India is in is the positivity rate. 30% of people being tested for COVID-19 in Delhi, the capital of India, are testing positive. For reference, New York Public Schools will go online if the positivity rate percentage goes above 4%. The oxygen system at one hospital failed for one hour and twenty COVID-19 patients on ventilators died. India *needs* ventilators from the United States. People are dying and more will if we do not provide aid. There has been almost a 10% jump in daily cases every day. The government is mostly to blame for this wave of COVID-19 because they have done little to help their dying people. Since over the last couple of months, there was a drop in cases, India returned to almost normal until this 4th wave hit and everything went downhill. Many health officials are unsure how much of this increased infection rate is to blame on the new mutated strains of COVID-19. India is not very active in the effort to discover different variants, so this is also another governmental funding problem. The government ignored the problem and now it has grown out of control. The government only started to take the second wave seriously in the middle of April (8 Days Ago). The vaccination effort logistically is sound, but the government underestimated the number of people that they needed to vaccinate, so there are many shortages. Only two percent of the population of India has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The government doesn't want to go into another national lockdown to slow the spread of the disease because they attempted a lockdown in the early stages of the pandemic, but it completely destroyed the economy. The first lockdown did slow the spread of the virus, but in the government's eyes, it's not worth it. If the situation continues to decline, they may have to reevaluate their priorities. The United States is obligated to help India because when large populations are unvaccinated and unprotected, new, possibly more infectious and deadly variants of COVID-19. This has happened before as the Great Britain, Brazilian, and South American variants are all now tearing through countries. India is in need of PPE, ventilators, and vaccines from richer countries to try and stop COVID-19 once and for all, not just in the United States for the time being. The United States has kept COVID-19 under control now, but that could change with new variants, so we need to

prevent that from happening. We need to aid India, Brazil, and any other struggling country in the world.