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Prior to becoming Executive Director and Chief Executive of the Government of India's National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Dr. Roy has done extensive development work with the United Nations Development Programme by being a Regional Manager; Director of Asia Pacific Regional Centre; Director, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth; Cluster Leader (AI) Strategies and Policies for Poverty Reduction Cluster, Poverty Group Bureau of Development Policy; and, Public Finance Advisor, Poverty Group, Bureau of Development Policy. He also served as Deputy Director and Academic Director of the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies; and, Policy Economist of the University of Manchester's Institute for Development Policy and Management.

Dr. Roy has an MPhil and Ph.D in Economics from the University of Cambridge, UK. In addition, he holds a post graduate degree in Economics from the Jawaharlal Nehru University in India.