

Small firms to boost second IT wave

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Kolkata: Nasscom, the trade association for information technology (IT) in India, feels that a second IT wave in the country is on the anvil and that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) will play a key role in bringing about the change.

"They (SMEs) need to be promoted. It is important to recognize the new phenomenon of startups. The Centre and the states have to think of a platform that will give a big fillip to smaller companies. We need to build an entrepreneurial ecosystem," Rajendra S Pawar, past chairman of Nasscom and NIFT chairman, said on the sidelines of an event organized by Nasscom on Saturday.

He said the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) schemes have helped many software companies grow. Similarly, it would be beneficial if the government provides infrastructure and other facilities to SMEs in the IT sector.

According to Pawar, the domestic market in India is growing and e-governance programmes by various state



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Rajendra Pawar | FORMER
NASSCOM CHAIRMAN

governments and the Centre is reaching a critical point. He emphasized that these e-governance schemes would provide a massive opportunity for IT companies.

"In the last one year, the domestic market has grown 2-3% higher than the global market. Domestic opportunity in India has just opened up and has massive headroom," Pawar said.

Talking about IT companies and the economic slump in the US and the Eurozone, Pawar said the Indian IT companies are now looking more towards markets in the East, south and southeast Asian countries. "Geographically, Indian companies have actually diversified and it was a proactive diversification," he said.