

# 'Proactive' govt to ready ITIR by '10

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**Nov. 11:** All these years the IT sector had to approach the government for land and infrastructure to start operations in Karnataka but now, the state has decided to adopt a proactive approach, minister for IT & BT Katta Subramanya Naidu claims.

The proof of the pudding, he adds, will be the IT Infrastructure Region (ITIR) which will be offered to the IT industry on a platter. It would be readied at an estimated expense of Rs 1 lakh crore by mid-2010.

The minister was speaking at the 12th edition of ICT event 'Bangalore IT.Biz', an annual showcase hosted by the State department of IT, BT and S&T in association with the Software Technology Parks of India.

The target of mid-2010 could be near but no land has been acquired just as yet. The minister said 50 sq kms of land will be identified within a radius of 14 kms from the Bangalore



**Wipro chairman Azim Premji and minister for IT & BT Katta Subramanya Naidu exchange notes during the opening of Bangalore IT.Biz.**

International Airport for the ITIR. It will be fortified with "infrastructure that will last for 100-150 years".

"This is a concept initiated

by the Government of India in 2008 which requires that not less than 20 sq kms should be included in an ITIR project. There is no

recession in India and in Bengaluru and I am requesting Cisco, Wipro, Infosys, and TCS to expand their base in Karnataka by setting

up operations in the ITIR," he urged.

Naidu said his government will reduce congestion in the city by 30-40 per cent — 500 roads are in the process of being widened. "You will have good roads, good hotels, and good people available to you in Bengaluru along with a positive and proactive government. I urge you to expand operations here," he said.

The minister also asked the IT sector to start 100-200 seater BPO operations in rural India so that around 1 lakh can be employed over the next 12-18 months. "You can either collaborate with the government or do it yourselves," he said.

On being queried about when the government would come out with the much delayed Rural IT Policy, the State's Semiconductor Policy and the Hardware Manufacturing Policy, Naidu said: "The BT policy has been cleared but I am pushing for the other policies to be cleared by the first week of December."