



Public Affairs Forum of India

PRESS RELEASE

India has ambitions to become the electronic manufacturing hub and trusted player in the global supply chain: Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and IT and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

'Tech space is the beacon for what the women of India can do'

New Delhi, October 22, 2021: India has ambitions to become an electronic manufacturing hub and become a trusted player in the global value chain, and it has been working to create a required ecosystem, said **Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and IT and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India.**

Speaking at the **Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI)'s 8th National Forum** with the theme **"Reviving the Economy: Reimagine. Reboot. Reform"** that was held virtually today, **Mr Chandrasekhar** said "In 2014-15, we had electronic production of Rs 1.8 lakh crore, which now five years later it has reached to Rs 5.5 lakh crore. We were marginal players for decades. But we have grown on the back of precision policy action, target policy action. There is a success story to look at. There is a clamour for a trusted valued chain. It is our intention to be a significant player in that space. Our ambitions are reasonable. By 2024-25, we want electronic manufacturing worth USD 250-300 billion in India," he said.

Explaining India's ability to deliver on the global demand of diversified supply chain, Mr Chandrasekhar said "We see India being very a significant provider of trusted goods and service to the global market. There is an opportunity and we are acting on it. This is Y2K moment digital economy and its stakeholders. There are other countries too. But we are looking for a significant pie."

Mr Chandrasekhar said the government was looking beyond devices and communication, with expansion plans looking at equipment and system, and further to automotive and medical equipment. Stressing on Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi's calls for a mission to make India's "electronic power", he said the approach to making India the electronic manufacturing hub was backed with policy action and a comprehensive ecosystem, which will bring investments and create jobs.

Speaking about the manufacturing of semiconductors, Mr Chandrasekhar said "We have an ambitious vision of becoming electronic manufacturer. It is different from other countries. It is not a headline-grabbing initiative. It is about getting deep, sustainable, competitive in semiconductor and component space for many decades. At some point in not so distant future we will ability to manufacture semiconductors."

Talking about the broad contours of the Data Protection Bill, Mr Chandrasekhar said the government's aim at legislation was on ensuring that what the consumer seeks protection against, and not create any obstacles for the Industry.



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Explaining how young women in Kashmir asked him to start poly technique courses in coding, programming and electronics, Mr Chandrasekhar said “Women in technology is so empowered not just for the tech sector but for the country. Prime Minister and the government has unleashed aspiration and dreams of people wanting to learn, skill, get opportunities that their parents did not have. Polytechnic should start looking at more women-oriented courses. Because they see India’s future being rich and promising in that areas.”

Mr Chetan Krishnaswamy, Managing Committee Member, PAFI and Vice President, Indian Public Policy, Amazon India welcomed the speakers. **Ms Shagufta Kamran, Senior Manager, Public Policy & Philanthropy, Twitter India** presented closing remarks. The session was moderated by **Mr Virat Bhatia, Vice President, PAFI and Managing Director, Apple India.**

Mr. Ajay Khanna, Forum Chairman & Co-Founder, PAFI and Group - Global Chief Strategic & Public Affairs, Jubilant Bhartia Group read out Hon’ble Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi’s message underlining, “As the nation celebrates Amrit Mahotsav of its Independence, our vision to build a glorious India is driven by the collective resolve of 130 crore citizens. The role of valued stakeholders such as PAFI assumes even greater importance in such a scenario to capitalise on the opportunities in the resurgent New India.”

PAFI (Public Affairs Forum of India)

PAFI is dedicated to raise and maintain standards in Public Affairs to enable the profession to attain recognition and credibility by bringing in a paradigm shift in the way businesses engage with stakeholders - Government, Media, Civil Society and Academia. It also endeavors to deepen and broaden the talent pool to create young leaders from diverse backgrounds while planning to expand its footprint across India. Since its inception in 2008, PAFI has been actively promoting and upholding transparency, probity, inclusion, and diversity across the wider remit of Public Affairs Profession Spanning Policy Advocacy, Government Relations, Corporate Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility. It acts as a cross-sector networking platform for public affairs professionals and provides opportunities to benefit from interactions with one other as well as with key policymakers and influencers through evidence-based research, closed-door dialogues, interactive panel discussions, seminars, an Annual Lecture and the National Forum, its annual flagship event.

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