

REDUCING BURDEN ON LENDING SECTOR

'More MSMEs Should Get Listed on Exchanges to Fund Their Growth'

Move will boost revenue for country while investors will get good returns, says Union minister Nitin Gadkari

Our Bureau

Mumbai:

Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari on Friday said that more medium and small enterprises (MSME) should get listed on the exchanges to fund growth and reduce the burden on the lending sector.

Such a move would allow the companies to get funds to expand their business globally, bring in more revenue for the country, while investors will get good returns on their investment, he said while speaking at the second foundation day of JITO Incubation and Innovation Foundation (JIIF). JIIF is a subsidiary body of Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO).

The government aims to increase MSME sector's contribution to the GDP to 50% in the next five years and increase its exports exponentially, he said. To achieve these targets, the cost of capital, logistics and power must be brought down for the MSMEs, making them globally competitive.

To ensure easy credit to the sector, developing a digital credit rating system is the need of the hour, Gadkari said, adding that the government is in talks with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and German bank KfW to set up a credit line for MSMEs.

Speaking about the JIIF event, the minister highlighted the importance of investing in knowledge, research, technology and innovation to find viable solutions to India's varied social and economic problems.

"Entrepreneurship is more important than technology and innovation because it has the power to convert knowledge into wealth," he said. JITO members invested a combined ₹27 crore in 16 startups, including Blu Mobility, a ride-hailing company using exclusively electric vehicles in which actress Deepika Padukone's family company Ka Enterprises has a stake.

"If our country has to grow to become a five-trillion-dollar economy, as envisioned by the prime minister, the role of entrepreneurs is very important. With the active help of these wealth creators, revenue generators and employment creators, we are sure we will be able to accomplish this dream," Gadkari said.

NITIN GADKARI

ROADS MINISTER



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