

Ensure safety of employees, NASSCOM chief tells IT firms

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: President of NASSCOM Som Mittal on Friday advised software companies to observe "best practices" in ensuring safety and security of their employees which was a priority for the industry.

He declined to comment on the Supreme Court's order which paved the way for the trial against him to proceed in the case of a rape and murder of an associate of Hewlett Packard in Bangalore, as the "matter is sub-judice."

It may be recalled that the Bangalore police filed an FIR against Mr. Mittal, who was heading HP then, on the charges of not implementing certain regulations of the Karnataka State government. "We need to provide a healthy work environment to all our young employees," he told reporters on the sidelines of the 16th annual awards of Hyderabad Software Exporters Association (Hysea).

Software exports

Software exports from the country were US \$ 41 billion and were growing by 28 per cent every year. The domestic business also grew by 29 per cent.

On the rupee appreciation,



ON THE TOP: NASSCOM chief Som Mittal presenting the special jury award to SQL Star International Ltd in the city on Friday. - PHOTO: K. RAMESH BABU

he said: "Currency movement impacts businesses. But, I don't think they will take the retrograde step to devalue the rupee like China."

Plea to Centre

He urged the Union government to extend the sunset clause under Software Technology Parks of India beyond 2009 to enable small and medium enterprises to

sustain growth.

Number of Hyderabad-based software companies whose exports exceeded Rs. 100 crore grew from 10 to 33 in the last one year.

Awards

The Hysea awards were presented to Amazon Development Centre, Tanla Solutions, AMD's R&D centre, Brigade Corporation, Capital

IQ Information Systems, Effigent India, Wings Infonet, EMBINUX, ValueMinds, TCS (for NREGP initiative), Zen Technologies. Innovation awards were also presented to students.

Satyam Computers director A. S. Murthy, IT Secretary of the State S.K. Joshi, Hysea president Anil K. Jampala and its Executive Director K. Hari Kumar also participated.