

Calcutta Chamber of Commerce hosts BSE CEO at session on SME IPOs and market development

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The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, one of India's longstanding trade institutions established in 1830, recently organised a focused session on the potential of IPOs for MSMEs and SMEs. The event featured a keynote address by Mr. Sundararaman Ramamurthy, Managing Director and CEO of BSE Limited.

The session opened with welcoming remarks from Mr. Hari Shankar Halwasiya, President of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, who acknowledged Mr. Ramamurthy's participation and contributions. Senior chamber officials, including Mr. Anant Saharia

(Senior Vice President) and Mr. Annurag Jhunjhunwala (Vice President), were also in attendance alongside guests from the business community and media.

In his address, Mr. Halwasiya emphasised the significant contribution of MSMEs and SMEs to India's economy, accounting for around 30 per cent of the GDP and playing a key role in exports and employment. He noted that SME IPOs offer a valuable avenue for small businesses to raise capital and scale operations, while providing investors with opportunities for diversification.

He also highlighted the roles of BSE SME and NSE Emerge—platforms designed

to support smaller enterprises through simplified disclosure requirements, lower entry thresholds, and increased retail participation. These frameworks aim to assist companies in transitioning to the public market while maintaining regulatory efficiency.

In his keynote, Mr. Ramamurthy remarked: "Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are a critical component of India's economic ecosystem. At BSE, we remain dedicated to supporting their growth and access to capital markets. As SMEs consider listing, it is important to balance ambition with governance and credibility."

The event also acknowl-

edged BSE's 150th anniversary, celebrated on April 17, 2025. As Asia's oldest stock exchange, BSE today hosts over 4,100 listed companies, with a combined market capitalization exceeding 419 lakh crore.

The session aimed to provide insights into public listings, equity financing, and strategic growth for small businesses. Mr. Annurag Jhunjhunwala moderated the discussion, ensuring an informative and interactive exchange. The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce reiterated its objective of fostering meaningful engagement, facilitating policy discussions, and supporting enterprises in navigating financial developments and emerging market opportunities.

