Global semicon giants welcome move to support industry

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New Delhi

Global semiconductor ecosystem firms such as ASML, Lam Research, Applied Materials and Micron have welcomed India's move to open up manufacturing facilities, and said they are ready to work hand-in-hand to shape the future of technology from India.

Christophe Fouquet, Chief Executive Officer, ASML, said that countries around the world are racing to secure their technological future, and the company applauds India's ambition to emerge as a leader in this space, "an innovation powerhouse unleashing the potential of a billion minds".

"It is not only an opportunity for economic growth and job creation, but also important for national resilience. By developing semiconductor manufacturing and design capability, India can secure its supply chains, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and a lot of new opportunities in research and education," he said.

TECH INVESTMENT

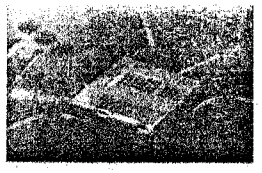
Similarly, Tim Archer, President and CEO, Lam Research, said that the company was committed to drive in the success of its customers and as the industry grows towards the $1 trillion market (globally) and beyond, it will continue to invest in technology, talent and supply chains around the world, including here in India.

"The future of the Indian semiconductor industry is bright. This is an emerging market with a deep talent pool and the government is actively enabling progress through incentives and policy," Archer added.

POISED FOR GROWTH

Kai Beckmann, CEO at Merck, a Germany-based advanced materials and solutions provider, said with advancements in artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, robotics and other emerging tech, India's semiconductor industry is poised for growth.

"In these challenging times, we need not less but collaborate more... The semiconductor industry is a



team sport and we can only be successful together. India will not only contribute to the global semiconductor industry, but will play a key role in shaping our digital future," he said.

Similarly, Prabhu Raja, President, Semiconductor Product Group at Applied Materials, said that for AI to reach its full potential, the semiconductor industry needs to solve fundamental problems, which is how to innovate more powerful and energy efficient semiconductors.

CRITICAL ROLE

"This is where innovations in semiconductors will play a critical role. This is the highest-value problem the industry needs to solve, and Applied Materials and India have an essential role to play in making this possible. Part of the challenge is about competing on where the chips are made, and the 'Make in India' mission focuses on bringing chip manufacturing in India... We believe invent in India can make this possible," he said.

Meanwhile, Ajit Manocha, President and CEO of Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International, said that the current geopolitical issues may have some impact, but the semiconductor industry will continue its work to shape up the semiconductor ecosystem in India.

KEY INCENTIVES

From the government's side also, critical semiconductor production projects may continue to get up to 70 per cent of the total project cost as incentive from the Centre as well as States, said S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT.

Krishnan said that the government is looking to expand benefits under the design-linked incentive to support larger domestic companies as well as enhance the grants provided under it.