



## How Is Wipro Sailing Through H-1B Visa, Trump Headwinds?



The changing technology landscape to current geopolitical developments such as Brexit and protectionist voices against foreign workers in the United States has given birth to multiple headwinds faced by the 150-billion-dollar Indian Information Technology (IT) industry. However, Abidali Z Neemuchwala - CEO of Wipro, is optimistic that the Indian IT sector shall come out triumphant.

Neemuchwala told the media on the sidelines of the annual World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, Switzerland that he had been with this industry for twenty five years, having faced unnumbered challenges. Every challenge had brought an opportunity. The Indian IT industry had been very agile in terms of being able to evolve into something completely different and novel, he added. Throwing light upon the technological changes such as automation, artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud computing, Neemuchwala said that the speed of change this time was much higher than the earlier 3 to 4 earlier evolutions of the Indian IT sector. This was the time for great transformation for the IT industry, he added.



## Has Wipro fastened its seatbelts for the transformation?

Neemuchwala stated that they believe that the future belongs to the bold. They identified capabilities in areas of design, digital, cloud, in areas of business process as a service. They have been predatory in those areas, he added.

Mr Neemuchwala further said that [Wipro](#) also had a venture capital fund. They have made 7 strategic investments in companies in areas like Big Data, cyber security and neural networks, he added. These companies are based around the world, from Silicon Valley to Bengaluru to Tel Aviv.

## H-1B visa, Trump Headwinds and Wipro:

On the proposed H-1B visa limitations by the incoming Trump headwinds, Neemuchwala said that Wipro as part of the Indian IT sector, spearheaded by Nasscom, was participating in representing what was a fair opportunity to compete in any market. He stated that they will continue to pursue that. Wipro has been hiring locally for it. Mr Neemuchwala also cited that Wipro had been associated with many schools and US universities via numerous programmes to boost its local hiring. He further added that they could have hired more (in the US) if STEM - science, technology, engineering and mathematics educated campus recruited in the US.

Abidali Z Neemuchwala also mentioned Wipro's initiative in crowdsourcing. Their crowdsourcing platform had 1.4 million programmers across the globe out of which merely 23,000 were Wiproites, he concluded.

The entire business model of Wipro is undergoing a fundamental shift based on 'how much one can deliver from various locations globally via innovation'.



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