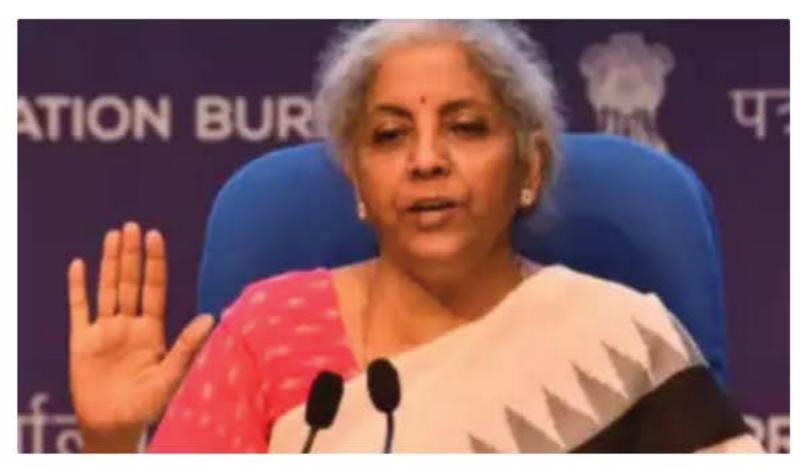
Well-managed cos are able to attract equity investors: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman



NEW DELHI: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said company secretaries' suggestions to businesses are going to make a lot of difference as only "well-managed" companies following good governance practices are attracting investors.

She also said Indian companies have done extraordinarily well in the last year with regard to attracting investments because of their transparency and better compliance.

"In the last few years, the rate at which compliance-related issues have become the main cause for companies to fail to live up to the expectations of investors, well-managed companies, those which are more transparent in its functioning, those which have good governance principles, board-driven principles, are attracting lot of investors, not only big-ticket investors, but also small retail investors," Sitharaman said.

"Therefore, for a company to flourish and expand in its area of operation, the role of company secretary to make it easy, to make it ready for the company to follow the guiding principles that you might advise them with, is going to make a lot of difference," the FM said.

She was speaking at an event to mark the 53rd foundation day of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI). She said at a time when the government is trying to remove archaic laws and bring in amendments to reduce penal provisions in the Companies Act, the scope of work of a company secretary is widening.